

# Dispatches from the Digital Planet

May 2021

## RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT



### “More data privacy protections and less data protectionism” is the mantra for digitally evolved economies

The growing trend of data localization laws raise barriers to data accessibility and are not only a hindrance to global growth but often diminish the competitiveness of the country. Explore the Digital Intelligence Index to analyze how economies score on openness to data flows, while providing adequate privacy protections for their citizens.

[Explore Interactive Dashboard](#)

## PERSPECTIVES



### You Say ‘Coup,’ I Say ‘Koo’

Foreign Policy | April 12, 2021

Developments in India will have a global impact on the three most crucial tech policy questions: content, data, and competitiveness. The implications should give U.S. policymakers both a global frame of reference and a cautionary tale of the unintended consequences of policy that fails to look ahead and anticipate its repercussions.

## OFF THE CHARTS



### Big Tech’s Opportunity for Inclusive Growth

The work from home experiences from the pandemic could serve as a catalyst for the tech industry to narrow its large disparities in geographic and demographic diversity, if it chooses to take those lessons to heart.

## ANALYST OF THE MONTH



**Patrick Béliard Delbrey**  
Tufts A&S Class of '21  
Undergraduate  
Research Analyst,  
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#### I’VE BEEN WORKING ON

Assessing government preparedness to handle the burgeoning AI industry; measuring country data production for an upcoming piece on the “New GDP” (Gross Data Product).

#### AN INSIGHT I DISCOVERED

The long-term digitalization of medical appointments (i.e. telehealth) can help eradicate medically underserved areas in the US by facilitating interaction between doctors and patients who are geographically distant. Thus, if telehealth is permanently adopted, then increasing broadband connectivity in marginalized communities could decrease negative health outcomes.

#### I’M PASSIONATE ABOUT

Disambiguating the intersection between digitalization and socioeconomic inequalities.

## IN THE NEWS

**Biden’s Plan for Broadband Isn’t Bold Enough: Bhaskar Chakravorti** | Bloomberg Opinion

**You Say ‘Coup,’ I Say ‘Koo’: Bhaskar Chakravorti** | Foreign Policy

**Considering a move for remote work? Check for broadband first** | ABC Denver

**Health + Wealth Day 3: How Data is Revolutionizing Society** | Techonomy

**Designing Better Contact-Tracing Apps for the Next Pandemic** | Tufts Now

**Creating ‘intentional pipeline’: Raytheon supporting STEM program for students of color to help diversify workforce** | USA Today

## ABOUT DIGITAL PLANET

Digital Planet is an interdisciplinary research initiative of The Fletcher School's Institute for Business in the Global Context (IBGC) dedicated to understanding the impact of digital innovation on the world and providing actionable insights for policymakers, businesses, investors, and innovators.

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