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Horizon 2020: an EU perspective on data and computing infrastructures for research

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Through joint efforts between the HEP community in the early days of the EU DataGrid project, through EGEE, and via EGI-InSPIRE today, the European Commission has had a profound impact in the way computing and data management for high energy physics is done.

Kostas Glinos, Head of Unit eInfrastructures of the European Commission, has been with the European Commission since 1992. He leads the eInfrastructures unit of the Directorate General for Communications, Networks, Content and Technology since 1 January 2009. From 2003 to 2008 he was Head of the Embedded Systems and Control unit and interim Executive Director of the ARTEMIS Joint Undertaking. Previously he was deputy head of Future and Emerging Technologies. Before joining the Commission Kostas worked with multinational companies and research institutes in the U.S., Greece and Belgium. He holds a diploma in Chemical Engineering from the University of Thessaloniki, a PhD from the University of Massachusetts and a MBA in investment management from Drexel University.

As identified e.g. by the High Level Expert Group in their “Riding the Wave” report (October 2010), the emergence of “big data” in research triggered by ever more powerful instruments (in HEP, bioinformatics, astronomy, etc.) demands advanced computing resources and software to increase the available capacity to manage, store and analyse extremely large, heterogeneous and complex datasets. We should support integrated, secure, permanent, on-demand service-driven and sustainable e-infrastructures to tackle this challenge.

Our vision is a pan-European e-infrastructure that will cover the whole lifecycle of scientific data and provide the necessary computing resources needed by researchers to process information. All components of the e-infrastructure should expose standard interfaces to enable interoperation with other relevant e-infrastructures.

Summary

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