

Dear Readers,



Society is changing — and with unprecedented dynamism. Driven by digitalization, artificial intelligence and robotics, whole areas of life are transforming: employment, industry, education and the economy. But where will this journey take us? We will look into this question in this edition of *commerce germany*.

The famous science journalist Ranga Yogeshwar discusses the impact machines have on our daily lives and why a digital agenda is necessary to strengthen democracy in the era of digitalization. In keeping with this digital focus, our dossier takes a look at how digitalization is transforming the working world. Reiner Hoffmann, Federal Chairman of the German Federation of Trade Unions, answers these questions while also focusing on developments in the US. In addition, Michael Hüther, Director of the German Economic Institute (IW), comments on the introduction of a solidarity-oriented universal basic income in a digitalized working world.

Frank Sportolari
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But that's not all we're looking at in this issue: Our Board member Dinko Erer explains how new technologies such as artificial intelligence and robotics will change the way we live and work in the next decade. What does digitalization mean for mobility in big cities? Frank Ruff from Daimler AG expounds on this topic. The automotive group from Stuttgart uses artificial intelligence to ease traffic flow and create mobility options using "learning mobility systems." In light of global challenges, such as world hunger and overpopulation, US agricultural engineering company John Deere presents its concept of smart farming.

But it is not only society that is changing: Transatlantic relations are also undergoing change, if not disruption. We talked with former US Ambassador to Germany John B. Emerson about the current transatlantic relationship. One of Ambassador Emerson's predecessors, John Kornblum, is sharing his view on the German-American partnership. He argues that not only the US, but also Europe holds a responsibility for redefining transatlantic relations. And Stefan Niemann, Director of the ARD studio in Washington, DC, provides insights into the current political situation in the US before the November midterm elections.

In these turbulent times, *commerce germany* offers food for thought beyond day-to-day politics and provides a platform for discussions on fundamental questions surrounding transatlantic relations.

Enjoy reading the magazine,

Frank Sportolari