



MINISTÈRE  
DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR  
ET DE LA RECHERCHE

Paris le 3 AVR. 2012

Direction générale  
pour la recherche  
et l'innovation

*Le Directeur général*

Affaire suivie par :  
Robert Plana  
Responsable par intérim  
du service de la stratégie de  
la recherche et de l'innovation

Tél. 01 55 55 91 02  
Courriel:  
Robert.plana@recherche.gouv.fr

1 rue Descartes  
75231 Paris Cedex 05

Dear Professor Dirk Helbing

On behalf of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, I would like to confirm that France will strongly support the new instrument launched by European Commission referred as « Flagship Initiative ». The ICT department of Ministry of Higher Education and Research is actively working on defining the most efficient rules implementing this instrument.

Among the different Flagship that have been selected as prefiguration projects, the initiative you are coordinating untitled Futur ICT that will explore and manage our future, based on a fundamental understanding of the institutional and interaction-based principles that make connected systems work well.

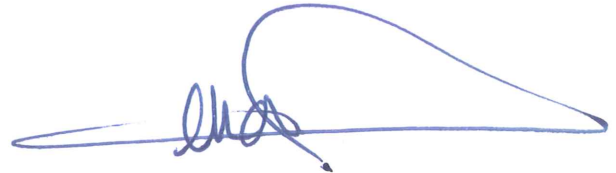
The French strategic agenda has put ICT as a top priority together with Social Sciences and the convergence between ICT and Social Sciences will allow to address new scientific and societal challenges linked to complexity of the future systems. In order to coordinate our efforts, we have created two alliances on digital Sciences named ALLISTENE and on Social Sciences named ATHENA and it has been asked to the main actors represented by CNRS, INRIA, and Universities to get involved in this initiative and consequently, these organisms committed to engage significant human resources in the project building. We have furthermore asked national research agency to be prepared to launch a specific call for project aligned with the topics of the flagship in order to leverage the scientific activity and to get Europe at the top level of the worldwide competition.

Monsieur le Professeur Dirk Helbing  
Chair of Sociology, in particular of Modeling and Simulation  
ETH Zurich  
Clausiusstraße 50  
CH-8092 Zurich

I would like to express by this letter the strong support of French ministry of Higher Education and Research and we hope that the efforts we commit in a very rough economical situation will serve the project to be selected. However, we expect that our research community will have an appropriate position in the consortium in line with its excellence and critical size.

Dear professor, on behalf of the ministry of Higher Education and Research, I wish a great success in this new adventure.

Sincerely Yours.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke that ends in a small arrowhead pointing to the right.

Roger GENET