

06 October 2011

Prof. Dr. Dirk Helbing

ETH Zurich
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Chair of Sociology, in particular of Modeling and Simulation
Clausiusstrasse 50
8092 Zurich
Switzerland

Collaboration with FuturICT's Innovation Accelerator

Dear Prof. Helbing,

I am writing on behalf of Mendeley to express our strong support for the FuturICT FET flagship project and our interest in collaborating with it, particularly in the focus area of the Innovation Accelerator.

I have founded Mendeley in 2008. Since then, it has become the world's largest research collaboration platform with more than 1 million users, as well as the world's largest research database with more than 110 million uploaded documents. Via its Open API, Mendeley has also developed into a platform for third-party developers who are now building research discovery, evaluation, visualization, and collaboration tools on top of Mendeley's data.

Mendeley is very active in advancing the management of research documents and academic social networks that can help scientists and innovators organize their research workflow, collaborate with others online, and discover the latest findings. Mendeley is partnering with leading external research groups to address scientific, engineering and societal questions, which increasingly lie at the intersections of traditional disciplines.

Having read a number of the FuturICT project documents, I am impressed by the underlying concept and innovative approach of this project and its ambitious goals. I strongly believe that this cross-cutting, interdisciplinary concept will allow us to understand and manage our complex global systems more successfully by bringing together the fields of ICT, Complexity Science and Social Science. We consider this integrative approach as one of the main research trends in eScience and computational research, as well as in creating Web platforms to support innovation. This is precisely the kind of project we fully support and wish to contribute resources to in order to maximize its success.

In this connection, we are offering to provide Big Data from Mendeley for the development of FuturICT's Innovation Accelerator (IA), in exchange for early access to the methods being developed by the IA. We have a strong interest in such an exchange of data and methods in order to make quicker advances towards our common goals in the framework of a private-public partnership, which can create new services to the benefit of society. We are convinced that this collaboration can be a cornerstone in Europe's strategy to become an Innovation Union, and that our innovative methods and tools have the potential to re-invent, if not revolutionize innovation.



Dr. Victor Henning
Co-Founder & CEO

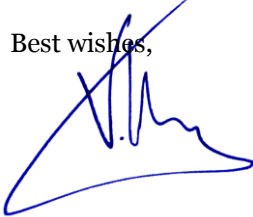
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In conclusion, the research agenda of the proposed FuturICT flagship initiative is well aligned with the strategic goals of Mendeley, and therefore we offer our strong support of this work. We are also extremely interested in actively collaborating with the research teams involved in FuturICT's Innovation Accelerator.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'V. Henning', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the left and bottom.

Dr. Victor Henning