



Northeastern University

October 3, 2012

Prof Dirk Helbing,
Coordinator of the FuturICT proposal

Dear Dirk,

The FuturICT project is unique scientific endeavor that has the potential to change our understanding of socio-technical systems and provide applications and quantitative results that will allow us to deal with problems ranging from urban development and human mobility to global health and crisis management. At the same time we live in an interconnected world where novel ICT technologies are defining socio-technical networks and systems of unprecedented complexity and whose understanding, management and planning requires the foundation of a novel large-scale scientific coordinated effort. FuturICT is an extraordinary opportunity that will place Europe at the forefront of a true scientific revolution.

The selection of FuturICT as one of the flagship program would be an unprecedented opportunity to which I would be glad to commit my time in Europe and support as an internationally active researcher, as the newly elected president of the Complex Systems Society and through my present role of Scientific director of the Institute for Scientific Interchange Foundation in Italy.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alessandro Vespignani".

Alessandro Vespignani

Sternberg Distinguished University Professor

Department of Physics,
Department of Health Sciences
College of Computer and Information Sciences