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Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Dirk Helbing  
ETH Zurich, Room CLU E1  
ClausiusStrasse 50  
8092 Zurich  
Switzerland

OUR REF. GB20101102  
YOUR REF.  
HEVERLEE 2010-11-02

**Subject: FuturICT FET Flagship proposal**

Dear Prof. Helbing,

As Chair of the K.U.Leuven ICT research center (LICT), I would like to express our strong interest in participating to the FuturICT FET Flagship proposal. LICT (Leuven Centre on Information and Communication Technology) is a cross-departmental research centre within the K.U.Leuven that bundles the complementary expertise of electronic engineers, computer scientists, sociologists and law experts from the K.U.Leuven (and its association partners) who are active in the area of ICT research. The mission of the centre is to "coordinate and promote top-level research on the design and application of ICT systems, both hardware and software, in support of industry and society". It currently represents about 50 professors and more than 350 researchers from multiple research groups and is organised around seven research lines: 1) wireless communication systems, 2) mixed-signal interface systems, 3) embedded systems and software, 4) distributed software, 5) ICT security, 6) human-machine interaction, and 7) knowledge technologies. For more information we refer to the flyer that is added to this letter, and to our website [www.kuleuven.be/LICT](http://www.kuleuven.be/LICT).

Looking into the challenges that need to be overcome when trying to reach the FuturICT overall objective of developing a new planetary-scale data science, there are several research subjects that match with the expertise and interests of LICT members. More specifically K.U.Leuven can contribute largely in the areas of knowledge representation and data/text/image mining, management of and access to large-scale data collections, user-oriented design and user experience evaluation, user interfaces, data security & privacy (both on a technical as well as on a legal level) and distributed software architectures.

Taking into account the intense participation of LICT members in EU projects as well as our access to K.U.Leuven researchers from the Humanities Faculties, we are convinced that we can provide added value to the FuturICT FET Flagship Initiative and are willing to contribute in making it a success.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Dr. ir. Georges Gielen, Chair Leuven ICT Center (LICT)