

# 5G in the EU

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Speech

by **Abraham Liu**,

Chief Representative to the EU Institutions, Huawei

16.00-18.00

**European Parliament, Strasbourg,**

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Members of the European Parliament, Director of the European Commission,  
distinguished representatives from Industry,

I am honored to speak on behalf of Huawei at this roundtable here in Strasbourg, about the **opportunities and also the challenges** facing **all of us**, as we enter the 5G Era.

Strasbourg is a unique place. This historic city, at the junction of France and Germany, has always played a key role in driving forward European integration. The European Union itself has rightly been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, for over 6 decades of advancing peace, reconciliation and democracy across the continent. Huawei is a vocal supporter of a strong and united Europe and of these values. Together, Europe and Huawei have already achieved a lot in the last 20 years in the 3G and 4G eras. We successfully helped Europe to launch its first 4G network. Now we are ready to bring the same success to Europe in the 5G era.

By now, I think you all know about the great potential 5G has to transform industry, the economy, business practices and consumer habits. And transform them all for the better.

In the brief time I have, I'd like to concentrate on two aspects of how Huawei can help make 5G technologies commonplace for the benefit of Europe and its citizens:

One concerns Europe's **Digital Sovereignty**, and the other the deployment of **Green 5G**.

### **First, Digital Sovereignty**

Digital Sovereignty needs to be understood on various levels. First, it refers to decision-making independently of political pressure from other world regions and players. Secondly, it means developing alternatives to the already dominant providers in the sector.

It is currently non-European companies that dominate many areas of the digital realm. Europe needs to take back that control. How does it do that? By creating true European competitors and partnering with global tech leaders – like Huawei – to create genuine alternatives to the US companies who currently seek to control the world's digital destiny.

It is about staying true to principles of openness, competitiveness and fair trade – values which Huawei shares. These principles have contributed to interconnected, global markets for which 5G is perfectly designed.

Indeed, the 5G supply chain is one of the most integrated supply chains in the world. Ours is truly a global industry. Healthy competition helps all vendors become more innovative and competitive, and Huawei can help Europe in this through our willingness **to share and transfer** our most innovative technologies.

For Europe, not to seize this opportunity would be a tragedy, and a betrayal of the great industrial and innovation history that this continent has. It would be giving up the possibility of leading the 4th Industrial Revolution.

Digital Sovereignty can and should be a win-win situation for both Huawei and Europe. Without it, Europe will find it difficult to achieve other goals, too, such as its “European Green Deal”.

Let me be clear: Huawei fully supports Europe being an early adopter of the latest technologies. Europeans rightly deserve this!

5G and with it AI technology can bring huge advantages to smart industry and smart living which in turn can reduce the burden on the planet’s scarce resources and fragile climate situation. Smart cities enabled by 5G technology can operate and organize their resources with an efficiency that saves energy and reduces waste.

Smart farms can reduce over production and maximize the earths’ resources for efficient food production. Smart factories can cut their fuel use and adapt to demand without over production.

So 5G can have a positive environmental impact on all sectors, facilitating all kinds of industrial, automotive and Smart City platforms aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions by factories, vehicles and consumers alike.

And indeed 5G itself is Green. It uses **just 10 percent** of the energy that 4G uses to transfer the same amount of data.

So, to conclude, I would like to leave you with this thought:

That Huawei, with its innovative solutions based on Intelligent Connectivity, can contribute to the implementation of the European Green Deal, helping make Europe not just “fit for the Digital Age” but also **climate neutral** by 2050.

And we can help Europe achieve its true digital sovereignty, giving Europeans genuine choice of tech suppliers in the future.

Thank you for listening. I hope you enjoy the rest of this stimulating debate.