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Technological development, digitization, artificial intelligence, and algorithms are reshaping our living environment irreversibly. This brings many benefits, but in many respects, it also involves changes that require both transparency and regulation. Therefore, it is important for society to take control of the development before the development takes control of us. Digitization must be under democratic control and guided by principles that promote societal development.

Digitization has created efficiency, productivity, and thus economic success, but not without problems. Major companies in the digital economy have gained a dominant position globally through platforms and artificial intelligence, among other things. Data and the artificial intelligence that utilizes it already affect the workplace. New technology is used in all types of workplaces, often without employees being aware of and understanding its impact. Increased opportunities for automation need to be managed properly so that it can be used to improve workplaces and employees' tasks. Properly used, digitization can enable a better working environment, more time for human interaction, and improved operations. Artificial intelligence also enables a new type of management, task allocation, and monitoring of employees and subcontractors, which in turn requires strengthened ways to ensure that workers' rights can be secured.

Digitization in its various forms is part of our lives – whether we want it or not. As is so often the case with new technology, it must be used to benefit all people and societies in a fair and secure manner. This requires transparency, regulations, control, and that our societies and workplaces are digitized with people at the center. It also requires us to create good conditions for all people to develop their own digital skills so that they can keep up with the development instead of being left behind.

The way forward is not about saying no to development. Instead, the goal is for everyone to share in the benefits of development on fair terms.

The Nordic countries have a strong labor movement and are at the forefront of technological development. The Nordic model is well suited to manage major technological shifts in a way that safeguards the interests of wage earners. Therefore, the Nordic labor movement should take the lead in ensuring that digitization is fair and secure.