ACM Europe and Informatics Europe Statement on the Informatics for All Initiative

Today's world is digital and Informatics is the science underpinning the development of the digital world, which in turn has brought about the radical and transformational development of professions, scientific disciplines, and social life. As a distinct scientific discipline Informatics is characterised by its own concepts, methods and body of knowledge.

The purpose of the Informatics for All initiative is to establish Informatics as an essential discipline for all, a subject available at all levels throughout the educational system. The vision is that learning Informatics will enable all students to understand, participate in, influence and contribute to the development of the digital world in general; simultaneously, it will provide a significantly improved opportunity for recruiting and educating the large number of IT specialists Europe needs to maintain and improve its position in the digital world economy.

Informatics is essential to education in the twenty-first century. It supports research, innovation and development across all sectors and provides radical and enhanced opportunities for the teaching of all disciplines, and for education in general. It is important to take advantage of this, even for children at an early age. As a consequence, all students and teachers have to be not only digitally literate, but also educated in fundamental aspects of Informatics.

Moreover, it is important that all citizens receive an appropriate level of Informatics education, enabling them to actively participate in the digital society in an informed way. They will thus be able to more safely and critically navigate and contribute to a rapidly expanding infosphere consisting more and more of algorithms that may be biased or information that may be flawed or incomplete.

The Informatics for All initiative is based on the long-term recommendations of the report *"Informatics Education in Europe: Are We All in the Same Boat?"* which presents the state of computing education, and related teacher training, across Europe. Its conclusions highlight the serious need for an initiative such as Informatics for All.

acm Europe Council

INFORMATICS EUROPE