



To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my full support and interest in collaboration in the FuturICT flagship initiative, which is coordinated by Professor Dirk Hebling of ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

My position in the Yahoo! Research is senior research scientist and I am coordinating a group in social mining in the Barcelona lab. Yahoo! Research promotes technology generation and development; research and creativity; transfer of research results to industry; promotion of the research results to society at large; training in all areas of communication; and social awareness of the communication industry in a culture of innovation. The activities of the social mining group in Barcelona include social aspects of computing, understanding how information propagates in social networks, discovering communities, forming teams to cooperate and accomplish a number of tasks, and understanding how users behave via analysis of huge amounts of log data.

Hence, I find that the research agenda of the proposed FuturICT flagship initiative meets the research pursuits of our group and I would be extremely interested in participating in such an interesting project.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Gionis", with a large, stylized flourish on the left side.

Aristides Gionis, PhD
Senior Research Scientist
November 25, 2010