



## Quote Sheet - 'Digital Nation: An Internet-Enabled Recovery'

**Andrei Cazacu, Policy Manager at BritishAmerican Business said:** "Over the past 5 months we have seen just how important the internet is: it allowed many people to switch to working remotely, it's helped to keep our pantries stocked and our children entertained; it has helped keep entire communities together in a time of crisis. Our digital infrastructure has kept large parts of society running. Harnessing the digital revolution will speed up the post-COVID19 economic recovery. We very much welcome Internet Association's report, which provides a roadmap to a thriving UK digital ecosystem, of which digital trade will be a cornerstone."

**Matthew Lesh, Head of Research at the Adam Smith Institute said:** "In this year's darkest hours the internet has allowed us to connect with loved ones, strengthened our communities and enabled small businesses to thrive against adversity. We have stayed physically apart but socially connected thanks to the internet. This crisis has shown the internet is simply too important to undermine with new red tape — it's time for a rethink about how we can best enable the sector."

**Victoria Hewson, Head of Regulatory Affairs at the Institute of Economic Affairs said:** "While government says it values and supports the digital sector in the UK, and recognises its huge and wide-ranging contribution to our economy, actual policies on tax and regulation sometimes act in opposition to that. The IA's proposal for an audit of current tech policy and regulation could help address this, and discourage potentially damaging ideas for taxes and regulations that could have unintended consequences and far from supporting local businesses or levelling up across Britain, could hold back small businesses and disadvantage consumers. Better coherence across government could help avoid a patchwork of new taxes and regulations on internet companies, that is unlikely to benefit the high street, and would impose costs on end users and consumers, so this is a welcome recommendation."