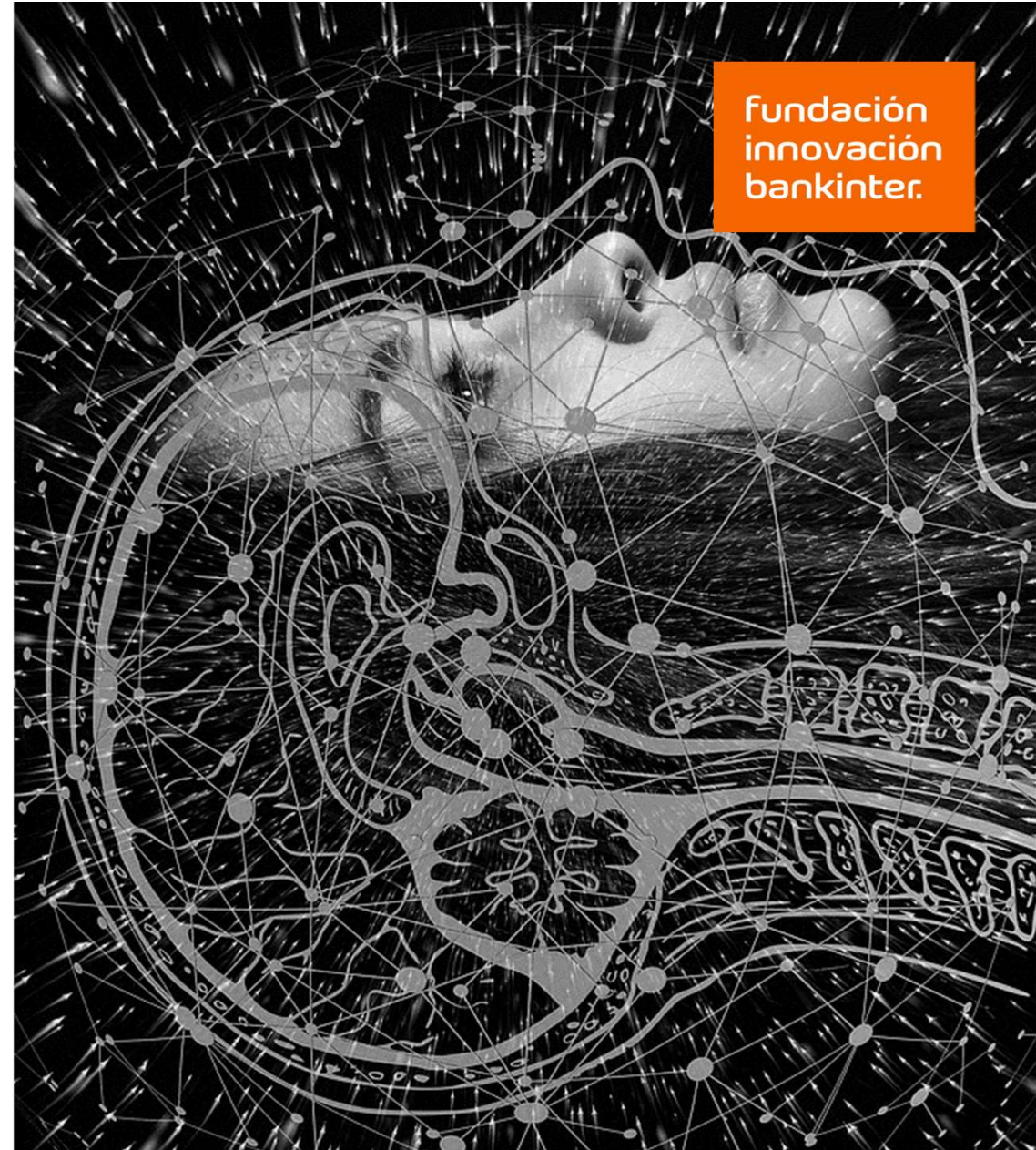


# The future of computing

## Scope Document

November, 29<sup>th</sup> – December 1<sup>st</sup>  
Madrid



## Future Trends Forum. **The future of computing**

We are facing a global paradigm shift, as new computing models develop the potential to transform systems of production, management and governance and redraw geo-political power lines. Large companies and entire countries are engaged in **a technological arms race**, even as ethicists question how lightning-fast analysis will be combined with secure communication, equity and sustainability.

Quantum technologies and advanced AI promise to outsmart classical computing through their ability to handle huge amounts of data. The evolution of existing AI-driven imagers such as DALL-E and MidJourney offers real-time insights into how rapidly and radically the technological landscape can shift.

November's meeting will explore the exciting future of computing and the perils it brings.

### Goal

Participants will help separate the hype from the opportunity, while exploring the ethical and educational challenges that lie ahead.

Over two days, they will examine the potential for quantum computing and advanced AI to solve specific challenges, showcasing the key ideas that will accelerate the path ahead.

### Key questions

#### Technologies and innovations

How will classical technology, quantum technology and advanced AI co-exist and are they complementary? Is early access to the best and most advanced materials such as specialised chips key to success?

#### Communication and Security

Will the rules of communications change, and what advances are needed in cybersecurity and cryptography?

#### Key sectors

New technologies promise to revolutionize everything from energy markets to vaccine development. But in which sectors will we start to see the first breakthroughs? And where will the most revolutionary ones occur?

#### Society and Talent

How should we prepare the next generation? Should quantum concepts be part of tomorrow's elementary school curriculum?

Do companies have enough qualified talent to move forward?

What are the ethical implications? Will we have the capacity to protect sensitive data and to ensure that these developments benefit all of society.

## Future Trends Forum. Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the Future Trends Forum?

Every June and December the [Future Trends Forum](#) (FTF) convenes a diverse, global group of about twenty-five experts in Madrid to discuss an issue of importance to the future of the world economy. The meeting is a two-day discussion among colleagues—there is no audience in the room.

### Who sponsors the FTF, and why?

[Bankinter](#) created the [Fundación Innovación Bankinter](#) in 2003 “to transform society through innovation” The Foundation pursues this mission through several programs: a course on entrepreneurship now taught at nine universities in Spain; engagement with federal and regional policy makers; a program to bring investors to entrepreneurs; a community to support Spanish entrepreneurs; and the Future Trends Forum, to raise awareness of important innovations. The Foundation’s Board is listed [here](#).

### Who attends?

We aim to approach each topic from many different angles. Most sessions include people from Europe, the United States, the Middle East, and increasingly Africa and Latin America. We invite individuals who combine expertise with an open and experimental mind, in order to create a group in which each person learns from the others; this attitude promotes rapid synthesis of new thinking.

### How is the FTF conducted?

We try to be flexible, original, provocative, and fun. Each agenda is different, but we always create the opportunity for experts to share their knowledge to create a common level of understanding and then try to synthesize a view of the implications for the future. We use technology to support a mix of small group work and plenary discussion. There are no keynote speeches; but several participants will be asked to offer five or ten minute introductory talks to start discussions.

### What is the FTF output?

The conclusions of the meeting are documented and distributed across Spanish society, keeping the public up-to-date through conferences throughout Spain and publishing the findings of the experts with an online report and videos. Often there is press coverage as well. The material also forms part of the curriculum of a course on innovation taught in nine universities.