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EU-US collaboration on Research and Innovation

Next Generation Internet (NGI)

Oslo, 3 February 2022

Concerns: **Award for the Best Collaborative US Partner**

Dear Professor Boscovic,

In recognition of your distinguished work and support in creating the NGI Explorers Programme, the NGI Explorers Consortium is honoured to inform you that Arizona State University, including Blockchain Research Lab, was awarded as the *Best Collaborative US Partner* among 30 US Nodes actively engaged in the Programme.

The NGI Explorers Programme was a 3-year project starting in January 2019 with an aim to reinforce the EU-US cooperation and strategic partnerships in Next Generation Internet (NGI), to establish a continuous dialogue among the key actors in the US and European programmes and to implement focused projects for joint developments.

The success of the Programme reflects the ever-increasing dedication, interest, and professionalism, you display on a continual basis. Through your investment of time, knowledge, and enthusiasm, the Programme managed to match in total 49 successful EU-US project collaborations that exceeded the expectations. Five out of them were hosted by ASU and supervised directly by you. The feedback from these Explorers and results achieved through the collaborations were the key factors that the ASU nominee was selected as a winner.

We would like to thank you for your outstanding contribution to encouraging, developing and facilitating cooperative activities in fields of common interest, research and



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development activities in science and technology, particularly in better understanding of the fundamental properties of computer and network systems.

The NGI Explorers was a resounding success but we could not have done it without you! It was accomplished during the extraordinary challenging years of COVID-19. Our world was struck by a global pandemic, not the best time to execute an international mobility programme. And yet, despite—or even because of—this challenge, your commitment to addressing the difficult conditions, and remaining flexible for remote collaboration kept the programme going.

Your efforts help to execute the agreement '*Implementing Arrangement between the European Commission and the Government of the United States of America for cooperation between researchers funded separately by the European Union's and the United States Framework Programmes on Research and Innovation*¹ signed on 17 October 2016 by Commissioner Moedas and Anthony L. Gardner, the US Ambassador to the EU.

We are grateful for you being part of our collective journey towards enhancing transatlantic cooperation on science, technology, and innovation.

Sincerely,



Iwona Stefanik

Project Coordinator signature

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<https://explorers.ngi.eu/>

¹ <https://useu.usmission.gov/u-s-eu-sign-implementing-arrangement-horizon-2020/>

