Keys to interpreting the future

The adoption time of technology is getting ever shorter, and its impact now reaches practically all areas of our lives. It is therefore important to analyse its possible effects from different perspectives and disciplines. We propose two ways to observe and better understand both the present and the future.

Data show us how we are increasingly using our mobile phones, becoming more connected and embracing new online services more quickly. Data also point us to the historic moment when this process accelerated at an unprecedented speed: lockdown. In the first five weeks of the Coronavirus pandemic, the emergency situation hastened developments that in a normal context would have taken an estimated five years to happen. By examining and interpreting these data, we realise that we are living more and more through telecommunications.

Beyond the figures, lie the knowledge and analysis of technicians, specialists, and thinkers. To better understand the huge paradigm shift we are facing — a shift that could involve unprecedented transformations — we here share the reflections of four people who have a lot to say about how the future of technology may impact on our lives.