



Technology & Innovation

Technological advances transform the human experience and improve peoples' lives. We believe that these advances are best enabled by a policy framework that embraces a culture of innovation while not hindering that progress. We focus on three areas of technology and innovation:

Cultural Impact of Innovation

Technology has the potential to continue providing dramatic improvements to Americans' lives, but not all innovation is welcomed. Increasing automation, shifting norms regarding employment, artificial intelligence, and other changes can lead to public concern. How our culture embraces innovation, or rejects it, will influence what futures are possible.

Digital Free Speech & Free Association

Access to information is a critical element of a free society. As conversations continue to move online, the design, structure, and legal rights and obligations of those forums should enable free speech and civil discourse. Meaningful free speech requires privacy from unwarranted government surveillance and strong encryption. Individuals must be able to communicate legally and securely through digital means. Without appropriate limits on intermediary liability and protection from lawsuits that chill public participation, the incentives to create and utilize forums of speech will be improperly curtailed.

Barriers to Innovation

Many areas of our economy are ripe for technological disruption, but outdated legal frameworks often hinder potential advances. We focus on four areas: competition, health care, transportation, and the private sector's use of data.

- **Competition:** Functioning markets with robust competition produce the best outcomes for society over the long term. The rapid rise and decline of technologies and firms is a sign of a dynamic market. We have an opportunity to study how new digital markets function in the digital age.
- **Data:** Data are clearly an essential element of the modern economy, but we often struggle to understand what happens when events go awry. How do individuals and firms value privacy? Building a better understanding of consumers' preferences and economic tradeoffs can inform how we understand our increasingly data-driven economy.
- **Health Care:** All too often, current medical regulations limit potentially life-saving technologies such as wearables, virtual reality, and genetic testing. Better understanding which policies allow patients and their doctors to make responsible choices for individual circumstances will help lead to better outcomes for all.
- **Transportation:** Driverless cars, drones, and transportation network companies are just some of the significant recent developments in transportation. As those technologies expand, the potential benefits to individuals and firms can be stymied by outdated regulatory barriers and crony opposition. Clear, technology-neutral rules for the 21st century road can help spread the benefits of improved transportation solutions across society.

Learn more at www.ckf.org/tech or by emailing jesse@cki.org