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The study is published by the Organization for Cooperation and Economic Development, set up in Paris in 1960 and aiming at promoting the policies on:

— the achievement of a powerful economic expansion of the member and non-member countries, by this, contributing to the development of world economy;

— the contribution to the expansion of world trade on a multilateral basis and without discriminations, in keeping with international obligations.

The study is elaborated by the Informatics group of the Organization for Cooperation and Economic Development, set up in 1968, upon the recommendations of the third Ministerial Conference on science and whose programme includes studies on the following domains: data banks, the interaction between computers and telecommunications, the training of specialists in informatics, inquiries into the use of computers, the control of the efficiency of informatic systems in urban and regional planning, etc.

The present report is devoted to the extremely complex field of the ever closer interaction between the two technologies: that of computers and of telecommunications.

The report is made up of two parts, namely:

1. The report and the conclusions adopted by the subgroup on the political questions put by the interaction between computers and telecommunications.

2. The basic report elaborated by Dieter Kimbel, advisor of the Organization for Cooperation and Economic Development, who outlines the problems with an economic, technical and institutional character.

As to the basic report, it should be said that the points of view expressed here are proper only to their author and they do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the members of the subgroup or of the Secretariate of the Organization for Cooperation and Economic Development.

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