

☰ Menu

Europe

Feb 27th 2020 edition



Return of the geeks

An unexpected tech boom in Serbia

And there's lithium too

Feb 27th 2020

BELGRADE



— ~~BY ALEXANDER JAWORSKI and the Serbian capital was covered in toxic smog~~

We use cookies to tailor your experience, measure site performance and present relevant offers and advertisements. By clicking on 'Allow' or any content on this site, you agree that cookies can be placed. You can [view our policies](#) or [manage your cookies](#) here.

Allow

was arriving, as things had just been added to Google Maps, years after most other European capitals. The digital revolution is at last arriving for Serbs. And as Europe goes green, more good news may be on the way. Serbia is sitting on one of the continent's largest reserves of lithium, an essential ingredient for the batteries of electric cars.

Tech accounts for at least 6% of Serbia's GDP. It employs some 45,000 people. Foreign firms have spent more than \$500m on Serbian startups in the past six years, says Zoja Kukic of the Digital Serbia Initiative (DSI), which champions the sector's interests. Last year's exports are expected to have reached €1.4bn (\$1.5bn), an increase of 55% on 2017. The real figure could be much higher, says Nebojsa

This material is distributed by Yorktown Solutions, LLC on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Already signed up? [Log in](#)

Choose us for news analysis that respects your time and intelligence

Get up to **80% off** a quarterly subscription with *The Economist*

First 12 weeks for ~~\$69~~ \$12

[View subscription options →](#)

Cancel at any time. Subscription auto-renews every 12 weeks at full price.

 We filter out the noise of the daily news cycle and

We use cookies to tailor your experience, measure site performance and present relevant offers and advertisements. By clicking on 'Allow' or any content on this site, you agree that cookies can be placed. You can [view our policies](#) or [manage your cookies](#) here.

Allow