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CAIRNE Launches New Office in Guimarães, Portugal

The Confederation of AI Research Networks in Europe (<u>CAIRNE</u>) proudly announces the launch of a new regional office in Guimarães, Portugal. This milestone reflects CAIRNE's ongoing commitment to promoting European excellence in trustworthy and human-centred AI. The Guimarães office is hosted by the <u>Associated Laboratory of Intelligent Systems (LASI)</u> / <u>ALGORITMI Centre at the University of Minho</u> — one of Portugal's leading institutions for innovation in intelligent technologies.

Positioned within this dynamic research ecosystem, the Guimarães office will serve as a collaborative hub connecting academic researchers, industry actors, policymakers, and civil society. It will deepen CAIRNE's engagement across Portugal and the Iberian region, strengthening national and European efforts to develop responsible AI that benefits society at large. With LASI's extensive network of 13 research institutions across the country, the office will explore collaborations that enhance interdisciplinary cooperation and expand the impact of CAIRNE's mission.

The Guimarães office will support advanced AI research in Portugal in close partnership with LASI and ALGORITMI, with a strong emphasis on applying AI to address real-world challenges. It will act as a platform for public engagement, organising lectures and community events to raise awareness about the societal impacts of AI and foster inclusive dialogue. Industry collaboration will also be central, with the office facilitating partnerships and providing expert consultancy to accelerate responsible AI adoption across sectors.

Additionally, the office will champion entrepreneurship and innovation by supporting AI startups and hosting an environment conducive to creative exchange. It will serve as a knowledge hub, publishing research outputs, contributing to international conferences, and offering mentorship to emerging talents. By integrating these diverse activities, the Guimarães office will contribute to several UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in areas such as sustainable industry, health, mobility, governance, and education.

This expansion also enhances CAIRNE's operational capacity across Europe. As with other regional offices, the Guimarães location will support community outreach, event organisation, and strategic collaboration within its geographical scope. It will work closely with CAIRNE's main office and partner institutions to deliver time-critical support and serve as a local point of contact for research, innovation, and media engagement.

Ultimately, the Guimarães office will be a cornerstone for realising CAIRNE's vision of "AI for Good" and "AI for All." It brings together a vibrant research community, a strong societal mission, and the infrastructure to turn ideas into impactful solutions, ensuring that Europe remains at the forefront of responsible AI development.



About CAIRNE

The Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe (CAIRNE) was established by the European AI community to strengthen European excellence in AI research and innovation, with a focus on human-centred AI. Launched as CLAIRE on June 18, 2018, with a vision supported by over 600 AI researchers, CAIRNE officially incorporated as an international non-profit association (AISBL) in 2020. CAIRNE's mission is to promote European AI, foster cross-border collaboration, and position Europe as a global leader in AI innovation. The CAIRNE Network now includes over 500 research groups and companies, covering 27,000 employees across 39 countries. CAIRNE also maintains offices across Europe in The Hague, Saarbrücken, Prague, Rome, Brussels, Paris, Oslo and Zürich.

To find more relevant information, including the Vision, recommendations to the EC, and the proposal for a Moonshot in Artificial Intelligence developed with euRobotics, please visit https://cairne.eu/documentation/.

Contact

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About the Associated Laboratory of Intelligent Systems (LASI) and the ALGORITMI Centre at the University of Minho

<u>The Associated Laboratory of Intelligent Systems (LASI)</u> is a leading Portuguese research consortium focused on intelligent, sustainable, and human-centred technologies. Bringing together 13 top institutions across Portugal, LASI addresses key societal challenges through interdisciplinary research in areas such as smart cities, health, mobility, public services, and industrial innovation. LASI is committed to advancing responsible technology that aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

<u>The ALGORITMI Centre</u>, based at the University of Minho, is one of Portugal's foremost research units in the fields of information systems, computer science, and engineering. Known for its strong collaborations with industry and public institutions, ALGORITMI plays a key role in digital transformation and intelligent systems development, fostering innovation through cutting-edge research and training of highly qualified professionals.

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