

Ministry of Economic Affairs
and Climate Policy

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Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe
(CLAIRE)
Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science (LIACS)
Attn Prof. Holger Hoos
Niels Bohrweg 1
2333 CA Leiden
The Netherlands

Date 8 October 2019
Re Support for AI Centre of Excellence

Dear Professor Hoos,

The Dutch government strongly acknowledges the importance of artificial intelligence in increasing economic growth, prosperity and well-being in the Netherlands. To this end, it has formulated a National AI Strategy that sets out how the Netherlands can take advantage of societal and economic AI opportunities, how it can foster a fertile AI climate for the economy as well as society and how it can protect the fundamental rights of its citizens. The National AI Strategy will be published on 8 October.

As the Dutch government recognises that international cooperation is essential to foster a fertile AI climate, we intend to position the Netherlands as a leading country for AI research in Europe. In this respect, the Netherlands supports the CLAIRE initiative as one of the major initiatives for broad European cooperation in AI, including other international academic initiatives such as ELLIS. We strongly support the key points of CLAIRE: support for European research and a focus on human-centered AI. As a result, we welcome and support the choice of CLAIRE to establish its European headquarters in The Hague.

These initiatives can boost AI research in the Netherlands through regional centers of excellence. We can therefore promise you that the share of Dutch knowledge institutions and companies in larger AI-related European programmes will be strengthened in the coming years, while we will also support cooperation with other Member States on AI research and programmes.

Yours sincerely,



M.C.G. Keijzer
State Secretary for Economic Affairs and Climate Policy

**Directorate-General for
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