

For immediate release

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European Researchers organise the “European Vision for AI” event for the General Public about the Present and Future of Artificial Intelligence in Europe

The need to share with the general public how the European scientific community is currently acting to move European Artificial Intelligence (AI) forward, to future success in a growing competition environment with countries such as the US or China, has led scientists to organise the “European Vision for AI” event. The online discussions are scheduled for Thursday 22 April 2021 and organised by the [VISION project](#) partners in cooperation with four networks of AI centres of excellence (AI4Media, ELISE, TAILOR, Humane-AI-Net). These networks were launched within the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Programme in September 2020 and are bringing together scientists across Europe. [CLAIRE](#) has also been involved in this effort.

In the event, European citizens with an interest in AI will gain an overview of Europe's position in the field of AI and how this impacts Europe's economy and society. Europe is at a crucial milestone in technological revolution. Artificial Intelligence is at the core of technological developments world-wide. The "European approach to AI" that is currently being promoted brings together excellence and trust, with the goal of creating a world-leading ecosystem committed to the "AI for Good" and "AI for All" concepts. Since this event is coordinated with, and closely linked to, the official announcement on new regulations and further investment in AI, scheduled by the European Commission for next week, the event will represent one of the first opportunities for public discussion on these new plans at the European level.

Holger Hoos (Leiden University, Netherlands), coordinator of the VISION Project and Chair of the Board of Directors of CLAIRE sees this event as a step towards closer communication of the European AI community with the general public: *“We aim to get young people, researchers, innovators, companies, and policy makers, at least virtually, around one table and discuss ambitious European plans for AI as well as the emerging ecosystem of AI excellence.”*

Many top CLAIRE supporters are involved in the event. These AI experts including, Barry O'Sullivan (University College Cork, Ireland), Paolo Traverso (FBK, Italy), Kristian Kersting (TU Darmstadt, Germany), Emanuela Girardi (POP Ai, Member of MiSE, Italy), and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of CLAIRE Philipp Slusallek (DFKI, Germany) will attend as panelists or act as moderators.

Starting at 11am, with a roundtable discussing the EC’s new plans regarding AI regulation announced the day before, the event offers the first chance to hear directly from AI experts and EC/EP representatives, including Vice-president of the European Parliament Dita Charanzová. Afterwards participants will get the opportunity to choose from three parallel sessions focusing on **society, industry, and skills & training**, depending on their particular interests. The event will be fully online, streamed at event.vision4ai.eu for free and with no prior registration needed. The program will be conducted in English. The public will be able to enter discussions via chat.

About organisers

This event is organised by the consortium of partners of the project VISION (www.vision4ai.eu), the coordination and support action (CSA) awarded under the [H2020-ICT-48-2020 call](#). The aim of VISION is to reinforce, interconnect and mobilise Europe's AI community. Europe has been investing in the European model of AI, with a new set of four [European networks of AI excellence centres](#).

Launched in September 2020, these four networks of excellence centres - AI4Media, ELISE, HumanE-AI-Net and TAILOR - are now working on various aspects of trustworthy, human-centric AI. In parallel to these efforts, the VISION project aims to create connections, synergy and joint initiatives between these networks as well as with key stakeholders across Europe. These projects are key components in the European Commission's AI strategy.

About CLAIRE

The Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe (CLAIRE) (<https://claire-ai.org>) is an organisation created by the European AI community that seeks to strengthen European excellence in AI research and innovation, with a strong focus on human-centred AI. CLAIRE aims to ensure that societies and citizens across all of Europe, and beyond, benefit from AI as a major driver of innovation, future growth and competitiveness, and to achieve world-wide brand recognition for "AI made in Europe".

CLAIRE, founded in 2018, has garnered the support of more than 3700 AI experts and stakeholders, who jointly represent the vast majority of Europe's AI community, spanning academia and industry, research and innovation. Among them are more than 140 fellows from various key scientific associations. CLAIRE has opened administrative offices in The Hague (HQ), Brussels, Oslo, Paris, Prague, Rome, Saarbrücken and Zürich.

CLAIRE's membership network consists of over 390 research groups and institutions, covering jointly more than 22,000 employees in 36 countries. Furthermore, CLAIRE is currently in the process of setting up an Innovation Network that, together with the established Research Network, will foster a strong link between research and industry.

The CLAIRE vision is officially supported by the governments of nine European countries, 28 scientific associations across all of Europe, the European Association for Artificial Intelligence (EurAI), the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), and the European Space Agency (ESA).

CLAIRE is also actively liaising with other important AI-organisations, including ELLIS, the HumanE AI consortium, the Big Data Value Association, euRobotics and AI4EU.