

For immediate release

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We need to get serious about "AI made in Europe"



Five years after the European Union unveiled its AI strategy, Europe has fallen further behind its main competitors. CLAIRE, the world's largest network of AI research groups and organisations, calls for a major course change to ensure the success of "AI made in Europe", including the establishment of a "CERN for AI".

The impact of AI technologies on our society and on all sectors of our economy can hardly be overstated. As European dependence on AI technologies made elsewhere deepens, all sectors of our economy will be affected, along with the public services that form the basis of our society and way of life.

In June 2018, 600 leading European AI researchers unveiled the [CLAIRE vision](#) for ensuring the success of "AI made in Europe". Within ninety days, support of that vision had already grown to over 2100 AI experts, and, as of 2023 has the support of about 4 000 supporters and over 460 members, representing research groups and research institutions, startups and large companies, that develop and apply AI, covering jointly more than 25 000 employees in 37 countries.

As AI is shaping our future, we must shape AI to enable the future we want for Europe today, and for the generations that will follow. Five years after the EU AI strategy was first revealed, "AI made in Europe" has failed to generate global headlines and societal impact, and the European AI ecosystem has fallen further behind compared to its competitors. *"Today, the CLAIRE vision, including a CERN for AI and supported by one of the world's largest research networks, is as timely as it was five years ago."*, says Prof. Dr. Holger Hoos, Chair of the Board of Directors of CLAIRE, *"The time has come to make this happen. It would be tragic if Europe missed its chance to lead this effort"*.

While companies doubtlessly have an important role to play, AI is too important to leave to industry alone. However, what's needed now is a large-scale and effective investment into publicly owned and operated AI infrastructure, along with cutting-edge research and pre-competitive development capabilities. We therefore urgently need a massive, well coordinated, public effort on AI, with the goal of ensuring that state-of-the-art AI research and technology is available broadly and publicly.

Most importantly, there is a dire need for effective, top-level leadership on AI within the European Commission, a focussed strategy and the resources required for its realisation. We are at a critical junction. Now is the time to change course to achieve the success of "AI made in Europe" envisioned by the European Commission – a success that will greatly impact our economy, our society and our future.

The full CLAIRE statement "AI made in Europe: Boost it or lose it" can be found at <https://claire-ai.org/ai-made-in-europe-2023/re>.

About CLAIRE

CLAIRE (Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe, 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 establish a world-wide brand recognition for "AI made in Europe" (at the level of CERN), and to position Europe in control of its own future.

CLAIRE was launched in June 2018 and now has the support of more than 4,000 people, most of them scientists, technologists, and researchers in Artificial Intelligence. The supporters represent the vast majority of Europe's AI community, spanning academia and industry, research and innovation. Among the supporters are more than 140 fellows from various key scientific associations. CLAIRE has opened administrative offices in The Hague, Saarbrücken, Prague, Rome, Brussels, Oslo, Paris and Zürich. Furthermore, nine advisory groups with 48 members from 18 countries have been established, covering all areas of AI, along with the topics of ethical, legal and social implications of AI. CLAIRE's membership network consists of over 460 members, representing research groups and research institutions, startups and large companies, that develop and apply AI, covering jointly more than 25,000 employees in 37 countries.

The CLAIRE vision for excellence in European AI has received official letters of support from the governments of nine European countries, from over 30 scientific associations across all of Europe, from the European Association for Artificial Intelligence (EurAI, which is the key European association for AI researchers), from the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI, the key international association for AI), and from the European Space Agency (ESA). CLAIRE is also actively liaising, on an ongoing basis, with other important organisations, including ELLIS, the HumanE AI consortium, the Big Data Value Association, euRobotics and AI4EU, and cooperates closely with ESA.

For more information and for interview requests, contact the CLAIRE

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