

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR JOINT ACTIVITIES

BETWEEN

Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe aisbl (CLAIRE) (<https://claire-ai.org>)

and

euRobotics aisbl (euRobotics) (<https://www.eu-robotics.net>),

together referred to as the Partners.

1. Common goal and objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding

CLAIRE is a non-for-profit 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 secured 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's Research Network consists of over 430 research groups and institutions, covering jointly more than 24,000 employees in 37 countries. Furthermore, CLAIRE has recently set 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 significant AI-organisations, including ELLIS, the HumanE AI consortium, the Big Data Value Association and AI4EU.

euRobotics is an international non-profit association for all stakeholders in European robotics. It was established in September 2012 and continues to serve its founding purpose: to strengthen Europe's competitiveness and to ensure industrial leadership of manufacturers, providers and end-users of robotics technology-based systems and services. It forms the largest network of

roboticists and business in Europe with about 250 institutional members, covering small and large companies, associations and institutions, universities, laboratories and RTOs. The objectives of euRobotics are to boost European robotics research, development and innovation, to foster a positive perception of robotics, to support the widest and most effective uptake of robotics technologies and services for professional and private use, and to ensure the excellence of the robotics science base in Europe is maintained. euRobotics coordinates some 30 Topic Groups. These “grass roots” groups cover a wide range of robotics-related themes including: perception, mechatronics, AI and Cognition, but also standardisation, ethical and legal issues, etc. euRobotics also organises major European robotics events including the European Robotic Forum (ERF) and the European Robotics Week (ERF) as well as workshops and Topic Group events, all of which attract interest and participation from across Europe. euRobotics was the private side partner with the European Commission in the SPARC cPPP under Horizon 2020 and is a Founding Member of Adra the AI, Data and Robotics Partnership in Horizon Europe.

Through this partnership, euRobotics and CLAIRE recognise their shared interest to support each other's activities and to develop and promote research, innovation and deployment at the intersection of AI and Robotics.

This memorandum establishes a shared understanding for how the Partners can collaborate towards creating activities that benefit both the European AI and Robotics research and innovation ecosystems.

The Partners will work together to establish joint activities, with the aim of developing and promoting research and innovation at the intersection of AI and Robotics, by establishing a comprehensive understanding of the overlap of each other's areas of research and application, through the creation of better mutual recognition and appreciation of the interaction between AI and Robotics, and by fostering collaboration within the communities, maximising knowledge transfer and minimising the duplication of efforts.

2. Joint activities

The nature and format of these activities will be decided in further agreements and may include, but are not limited to joint working papers, workshops, seminars, and the exchange of expert advice. They may contribute to this by providing expertise, resources, competencies and best practices.

Specific agreed upon joint activities currently include:

- **bi-directional information channels**
 - establish protocols for cross-collection and dissemination of information

- cross-promotion and dissemination (upon request and mutual agreement) of activities, information and posts originating from the other party that are relevant to the goals of this MoU
- **joint events and workshops**
 - joint sessions in events that promote and explore activities, advances and challenges at the intersection of AI and Robotics
 - strategic workshops, e.g., to develop a roadmap of the overlapping communities research interests
 - Theme Development Workshops, bringing together the different stakeholders to jointly identify the strategic research areas and challenges (i.e., Smart Robots and Trust and guarantees for AI systems) at the intersection of AI and Robotics, to develop specific targeted joint activities and to set up lasting connections and collaborative structures for further addressing these challenges
 - community building and networking, either as part of the above described events or as separate events in order to foster greater connection between the people and organisations in each community
- **strategic communication channels between the Partners**
 - exchange information at a strategic level between the two organisations
 - consider joined responses to the EC
 - develop joint strategy and approaches on subjects of common interest

3. Miscellaneous

3.1. Liability and binding effect

The present MoU serves as a declaration of intent and formalises the cooperation between the signing organisations and their representatives. Compliance with the provisions described herein is based on mutual trust, the liability of all Partners is excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law. The present MoU does not create any legally enforceable obligations.

The Partners agree to refrain from supporting, entertaining or initiating projects that conflict with or impede this aim.

Signature of this partnership will be featured in the corresponding communication channels of both organisations.

3.2. Duration of Memorandum of Understanding

The partnership between the individual Partners described in this MoU begins on the date of signatures and lasts until one of the individual Partners withdraws from the MoU in writing. An email satisfies the written requirement.

4. Signatures

The Partners agree that this document can be either signed physically or electronically.

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