

For immediate release

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## **Ethical, Legal and Societal Aspects of AI: CLAIRE and ELSA Labs work together to ensure the development of human centric AI in Europe**

CLAIRE and the ELSA Labs recognise their shared interest to support each other's activities and will work together to ensure the expansion of the ELSA Labs to a European wide network is successful.

Both parties recognise the massive impact of AI on people's everyday lives and in addressing society's grand challenges, and the need for the involvement of all relevant stakeholders (government, industry, academia and the general public) in the development of human centric AI with clear ethical and legal frameworks and helpful regulations within the European context, ensuring that AI becomes a benefit for all of society.

*"The NL AIC further developed the concept of ELSA Labs that strive for a human centric approach for new lean AI applications to be developed in consultation with end users and citizens", says Emile Aarts, chair of the working group Human Centric AI of the Netherlands AI Coalition (NL AIC). " This new, application-oriented development is not limited to Dutch initiatives, but has also the potential to be applied on a European scale, because the approach fits perfectly with the EU vision in the field of reliable AI. We want to expand the ELSA Lab concept to a European level together with CLAIRE. The highly regarded status and reputation of CLAIRE makes this organisation an optimal partner for the NL AIC in realising our European aspirations"*

This partnership outlines a shared approach to fostering collaboration within the AI community; enhancing the visibility of each other's activities within their communities and to the general public, including events and open calls; maximising knowledge transfer; and advancing the uptake of human centric AI throughout Europe.

*"CLAIRE warmly welcomes the opportunity to provide support and insights to the NL AIC on the effective building of a European network based on the ELSA Labs concept", says Prof. Holger Hoos, Chair of the Board of CLAIRE and Alexander von Humboldt-Professor for AI at RWTH Aachen University in Germany. "This is an excellent fit with the CLAIRE vision, and there is great potential for major benefits at the European level."*

## About CLAIRE

CLAIRE (Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe, [claire-ai.org](http://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, representing the vast majority of Europe's AI community, spanning academia and industry, research and innovation. 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 445 research groups, institutions and companies, covering jointly more than 25,000 employees in 37 countries, fostering close links between non-profit research and impactful industrial applications.

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. 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.

## About the Netherlands AI Coalition and ELSA Labs

The Netherlands AI Coalition is a public-private partnership in which the government, the business sector, educational and research institutions, as well as civil society organisations collaborate to accelerate and connect AI developments and initiatives. The ambition is to position the Netherlands at the forefront of knowledge and application of AI for prosperity and well-being. The NL AIC is continually doing so with due observance of both the Dutch and European standards and values and functions as the catalyst for AI applications. More information can be found on [nlaic.com](http://nlaic.com).

ELSA Labs are essentially teams working within a quadruple helix model, consortiums of different institutions collaborate in the co-creation process. These include not only scientists but also the governmental authorities, industry, social partners, knowledge institutions and above all residents. The aim is to ensure that companies, governmental authorities, centres of expertise, civil society organisations and the general public develop responsible applications of AI jointly. This involves solutions for both social and business problems, focusing on honesty, fairness, security and (above all) trustworthiness. The approach addresses human values as well as public values. Please visit the NL AIC [website](#) for more information and an overview of the current ELSA Labs.

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