

PRESS RELEASE

Tuesday, 19 April 2021



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.

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 this week, the event will represent one of the first opportunities for public discussion on these new plans at the European level.

Ms Dita Charanzová, Vice-President of the European Parliament, and **Ms Lucilla Sioli**, Director for Digital Industry within Directorate-General CONNECT at the European Commission, stand out prominently among the speakers together with other high-level experts and stakeholders.

Holger Hoos (Leiden University, Netherlands), coordinator of the VISION Project 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.”* Hoos also highlights the speakers: *“Personalities who have something to say about artificial intelligence were selected for the programme to represent different areas, both professional and geographical.”*

VISION – Value and Impact through Synergy,
Interaction and coOperation of Networks of AI
Excellence Centres



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Starting at **11am CEST**, the event will be fully online, streamed at event.vision4ai.eu for free and with no prior registration. The program will be conducted in English. The public will be able to enter discussions via chat. Participants will also get the opportunity to choose from three parallel sessions focusing on **society, industry and skills & training**, depending on their particular interests.

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.



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