
Artificial intelligence, or AI, is emerging as the most important technology in a new wave of digital innovation that is transforming industries around the world. Businesses in Europe are at the forefront of some of the latest advancements in the field, and European universities are home to the greatest concentration of AI researchers in the world. Every week, new case studies emerge showing the potential opportunities that can arise from greater use of the technology. Yet the best evidence suggests that Europe is losing ground to its American and Asian competitors. That is why the EU and its member states have been pursuing strategies to bolster the development and adoption of AI. But to fully realize its ambition to become a global leader in AI, Europe needs to attract an influx of resources and talent, focus on the building blocks essential to AI, such as data, talent, and research, implement important policy changes, and earn support from its citizens.

This day-long conference will bring together leading voices in AI from across Europe to discuss why European success in AI is important, how the EU compares to other world leaders today, and what steps European policymakers should take to be more competitive in AI.

Topics will include:

- Where does Europe have a competitive edge in the global AI economy?
- Which sectors of the economy present the greatest opportunities for AI disruption?
- How can Europe promote AI leadership in strategic sectors?
- How are businesses, universities, and governments using AI for social good?
- What progress are researchers making in building secure, safe, and trustworthy AI?
- How can Europe remain at the forefront of AI development and adoption?
- Which policies will ensure AI delivers benefits for all of Europe?
- How can policymakers strengthen the building blocks for Europe to succeed in AI?
- How can Europe enhance international cooperation on research and data sharing?

Location: Renaissance Brussels Hotel (19 Rue du Parnasse, 1050 Brussels, Belgium)

To learn more about the conference, please visit the event’s website aipolicyconference.org or contact info@datainnovation.org. You can also follow @datainnovation on Twitter for news and updates, and register for the Center’s weekly newsletter.
WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH

08:30 - 09:00  Registration and Welcome Coffee (Foyer)

09:00 - 09:05  Introduction by the Center for Data Innovation

BRUSSELS BALLROOM

09:05 - 09:45  OPENING SESSIONS — Keynotes

BRUSSELS BALLROOM

9:05 — 09:25  KEYNOTE

Dita Charanzová  
Member of the European Parliament, Renew Europe Group  
Vice-President of the European Parliament

9:25 — 09:45  KEYNOTE

Sana Khareghani  
Deputy Director and Head of Office for Artificial Intelligence  
UK Government

09:45 - 11:15  PANEL DISCUSSION — How Can Europe Spread the Benefits of AI?

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All European countries are developing their national AI strategies, but capabilities vary widely across member states. To remain competitive in the global race for AI, the EU will need more investment, more workers with AI-relevant skills, more shared resources including data, and a regulatory environment that will foster the development and use of AI. What progress have EU member states made in the past year to enhance European AI? How should policymakers ensure no European countries are left behind in AI? What policies are necessary to ensure AI contributes to prosperity for all Europeans?

Speakers:

CENTER FOR DATA INNOVATION  
datainnovation.org
Elijus Čivilis, Vice-Minister, Ministry of the Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania
Dragos Tudorache, Member of the European Parliament, Renew Europe Group
Prof. Dr. Sepp Hochreiter, Professor at Johannes Kepler University Linz and Founding Director of IARAI (Institute of Advanced Research in AI, Vienna)
Philip Malloch, Director Economic and Social Policy, Facebook
Dr. Magdalena Piech, Head of Regulatory Affairs, Allegro & Chair, European Tech Alliance

Setting the Scene & Session Chair: Eline Chivot, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for Data Innovation

11:15 - 11:30 Networking and refreshments break (Foyer)

11:30 - 12:30 BREAKOUT SESSIONS — Unleashing European AI Leadership in Strategic Sectors

Many industries are beginning to show how using AI can support innovation and unlock significant benefits. In healthcare, doctors are using AI to deliver faster and more accurate diagnoses, and researchers are using AI to discover life-saving drugs. In the financial sector, institutions are using AI to prevent and detect fraud. And AI is at the core of many promising solutions to create safe autonomous driving and improve transportation networks. Three breakout sessions will delve into the various ways organizations are developing and applying AI in healthcare, financial services, and mobility; explore the benefits AI applications can deliver; and consider the policies that can best support industries’ use of AI.

Breakout 1: Healthcare

LISBON ROOM

AI is enabling rapid strides in healthcare, and in Europe the digital health industry is booming. Both established companies and start-ups are developing AI-powered applications to perform diagnostics, analyze medical images, and deliver personalized healthcare. This session will discuss how AI is unlocking insights and supporting data-driven decisions to reduce costs and improve health outcomes for patients. Speakers will explore what the health-care industry needs to develop more of these innovative applications, and how policymakers can support these efforts to ensure Europe delivers on the promise of delivering better health care with AI.

Speakers:

• Ceri Thompson, Deputy Head of the eHealth, Wellbeing and Ageing unit, DG CNECT, European Commission
The financial services sector was an early adopter of AI, using the technology for a range of operations including credit underwriting, conversational banking, personalized finance, and fraud detection and prevention. This session will explore how the financial services industry is ensuring responsible use of AI and building secure models, as well as how existing financial services organizations are collaborating with the next generation of payment innovators. Panelists also will discuss policies and industry best practices for sharing data securely in a regulated sector, and steps policymakers can take to make the EU and its member states more attractive destinations for investment in fintech.

Speakers:

- Elijus Čivilis, Vice-Minister, Ministry of the Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania
- Jan Ceyssens, Head of the Digital Finance Unit, DG FISMA, European Commission
- Representative from Visa (name to be confirmed)
- Representative from TransferWise (to be confirmed)

Setting the Scene & Session Chair: (to be confirmed)

Breakout 3: Mobility

MADRID ROOM

AI is among the most promising solutions to make urban mobility more effective and driving safer by reducing human error and improving efficiency in transportation networks. But realizing the potential of this technology will require more data, better analytics, and increased testing. This panel will discuss the potential role of AI in mobility solutions and where Europe stands with smart cities, as...
well as autonomous and semi-autonomous vehicles. Panelists will also discuss the development of safety standards and best practices, the creation of innovative transportation services, and the policies necessary to support existing solutions and the transition to safe mobility in the EU.

Speakers:

- Claire Depré, Head of Sustainable and Intelligent Transport Unit, DG MOVE, European Commission
- Marian Gläser, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Brighter AI & Spokesperson for Privacy of the German AI Association
- Dr. Michael Kopp, Director of Data Science and Head of Research, HERE Technologies
- Laure Wagener, Senior Advisor Data Regulation, Vodafone

Setting the Scene & Session Chair: Matthew Newman, Chief Correspondent Europe, MLex

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch (Foyer, The Hague & Luxembourg Room)

13:30 — 14:00
KEYNOTE

Marco-Alexander Breit
Head of Germany’s AI Task Force, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy

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14:00 - 15:15 PANEL DISCUSSION — Building Blocks for European AI

BRUSSELS BALLROOM

Succeeding in AI requires more than just encouraging leading companies to make investments. It requires a healthy ecosystem of AI companies, robust AI inputs—including skills, research, and data—and organizations that are motivated and free to use AI. All of that requires policies that support the development and adoption of AI. How can European policies promote and support data, talent, research, and the other building blocks of AI in Europe? What are the EU’s key assets when it comes to AI, and in which areas is it lagging? Finally, how can policymakers create a policy framework that is future-proof and equipped to support AI?

Speakers:
Setting the Scene & Session Chair: Daniel Castro, Director, Center for Data Innovation

15:15 - 15:30 Networking and refreshments break (Foyer)

15:30 - 16:30 PANEL DISCUSSION — How can Europe Enhance Data Sharing Cooperation With its Allies?

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Despite the distinct benefits that provide incentives for nations to be innovation hubs, the “AI global race” is not always a zero-sum game. Researchers from different parts of the world collaborate to develop AI-related technologies, benefitting multiple nations in the process. In particular, broader access to data can support organizations in developing AI. But there are a number of challenges to sharing data responsibly, such as how to make datasets usable for applications and how to ensure openness does not expose sensitive information or threaten the security of platforms. Closer partnerships with economic allies can provide important solutions to these challenges. They can also foster the development and use of AI by pooling resources and increasing investments. This session will examine the various policies and proposals on data and AI in Europe, the United States, Canada, and Japan, and speakers will discuss how Europe and its allies can work together to develop common infrastructure to ensure responsible data sharing and joint investment in AI.

Speakers:

- Chris Cooter, Ambassador, Embassy of Canada in the European Union
- Bruno Gencarelli, Head of the Unit International Data Flows and Protection, DG Justice, European Commission
- Sue Daley, Head of Program for Cloud, Data, Analytics and AI, TechUK
- Guido Lobrano, Vice-President Europe, ITI

Setting the Scene & Session Chair: Lara Natale, Co-lead of Technology Media Telecoms (TMT) & Senior Director Strategic Communications at FTI Consulting EU

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16:30 — 17:00
KEYNOTE
Margrethe Vestager
Executive Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Europe Fit For The Digital Age
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17:00 - 17:55 CLOSING SESSIONS — Keynote and Conversation
BRUSSELS BALLROOM

17:00 — 17:15
KEYNOTE
Anna-Michelle Asimakopoulou
Member of European Parliament, EPP Group
Vice-Chair of the Committee on International Trade (INTA)
BRUSSELS BALLROOM

Moderated by Eline Chivot, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for Data Innovation
With Carla Hustedt, Project Lead AI, Bertelsmann Stiftung.

17:55 - 18:00 Closing Remarks by the Center for Data Innovation
BRUSSELS BALLROOM

18:00 - 19:00 Cocktail Reception (Foyer, The Hague & Luxembourg Room)