

DIGITALEUROPE welcomes the European Commission coordinated plan on Artificial Intelligence

Brussels, 7 December 2018

DIGITALEUROPE welcomes the [new coordinated plan on Artificial Intelligence](#) released by the European Commission today to foster the development and use of AI in Europe. We see this plan as a great step forward in reinforcing cooperation with European Member States on the path to AI development and deployment in Europe.

"The AI coordinated plan has a huge potential for Europe, as AI can deliver on key societal challenges such as the reduction of carbon emissions or the improvement of personalised healthcare, and we now need a common strategy on skills and investment as well as trust for European society, research and industry to flourish globally", said Cecilia Bonefeld-Dahl, Director-General of DIGITALEUROPE.

"Time has arrived to embrace AI with confidence and to maximise the technology industry know-how as well as Europe's capacity to innovate in the respect of high ethical standards and in a safe and secure way. All policy-makers and stakeholders now need to focus on what future we want to create, and not what we want to prevent from happening", she added.

DIGITALEUROPE supports the call for stronger coordination between Member States and EU funds, to build synergies and scale across public and private sector investment. We also welcome the establishment of a roadmap to bridge the funding gap in AI between Europe and other regions of the world.

The other measures in the plan, such as on digital innovation hubs, testing facilities and sandboxes, and pooling data-set availability are very encouraging and pave the way towards AI research excellence and talent retention in Europe.

DIGITALEUROPE's Director-General, Cecilia Bonefeld-Dahl, is a Member of the European Commission's High Level Expert Group drafting Ethics Guidelines and Policy & Investment Recommendations. DIGITALEUROPE recognises the leading and facilitation role of the European Commission in defining today's coordinated plan on AI with Member States, and in convening AI experts on a regular basis to discuss and advance these issues.

DIGITALEUROPE released its policy recommendations on Artificial Intelligence on 7 November 2018: <http://ow.ly/rmee50jBVH4>

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ABOUT DIGITALEUROPE

DIGITALEUROPE represents the digital technology industry in Europe. Our members include some of the world's largest IT, telecoms and consumer electronics companies and national associations from every part of Europe. DIGITALEUROPE wants European businesses and citizens to benefit fully from digital technologies and for Europe to grow, attract and sustain the world's best digital technology companies. DIGITALEUROPE ensures industry participation in the development and implementation of EU policies.

DIGITALEUROPE's members include in total over 35,000 ICT Companies in Europe represented by 66 Corporate Members and 40 National Trade Associations from across Europe. Our website provides further information on our recent news and activities: <http://www.digitaleurope.org>

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