

tnc25

Brighton, UK | 9-13 JUNE 2025

BRIGHTER TOGETHER

The EU's Bid to Become An AI Continent

The AI Continent Action Plan

Tanja Maier (GÉANT)

3rd SIG-AI "Advancing Research Through AI: NREN
Services and International Perspectives"

9 June 2025



Co-funded by
the European Union



“The global race for AI is far from over”



AI Innovation Package January 2024

Strategic Agenda 2024-2029

- A free and democratic Europe
- A strong and secure Europe
- A prosperous and competitive Europe

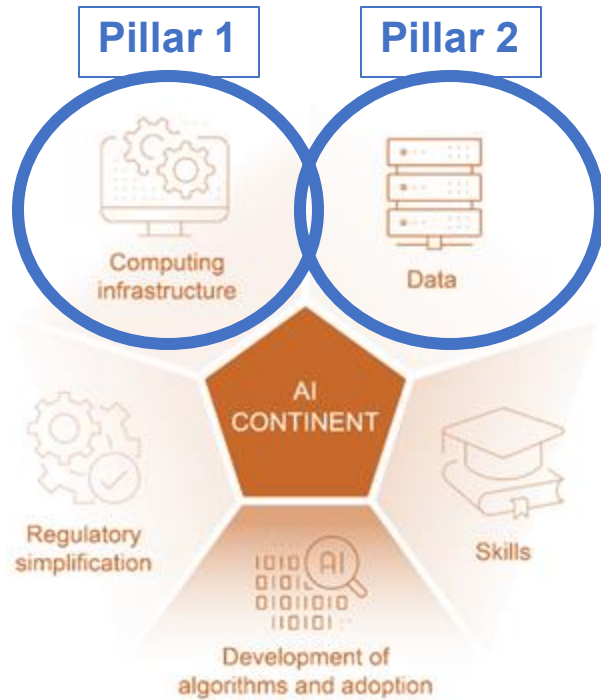


June 2024

November 2024

January 2025

AI Continent Action Plan

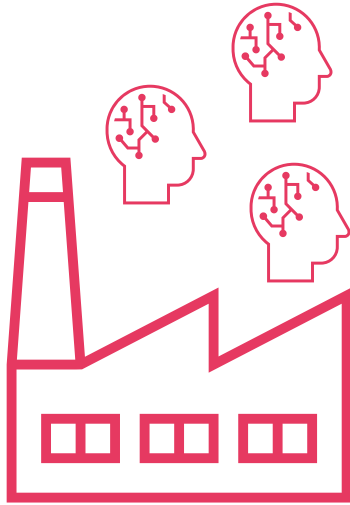


Launched 9 April 2025

Vision for the EU to become a leader in AI
European values

Action Plan = precursor to actual policies

Building Infrastructure for AI



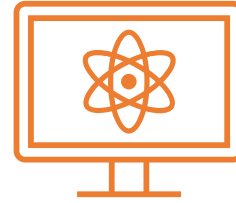
AI Gigafactories

Official EuroHPC JU Call –
Q4 2025



AI Factories

Operational end of 2025





AI Factory Antennas
Operational end of 2025



Data Labs
Q3-Q4 2025



**EU Cloud and Data
Centre Capacity**
Q1 2026 - Proposal
for Cloud and AI
Development Act

	AI Factories	AI Gigafactories	Data Labs	AI Factory Antennas
When announced	January 2024	April 2025	April 2025	April 2025
Total investment	Co-financing EU and MS of 10 billion EUR	Mobilise 20 billion EUR by InvestAI	/	Total budget max. 70 mil EUR (max. 5 mil EUR HE contribution p/A)
Participants	Currently 15 MS and 2 EuroHPC countries	Public-Private-Partnership	/	If you do not partake in AI Factory
Project Scope	AI-optimised supercomputer	New builds > 100,000 GPUs	Pool and federate data -> AI Factories, link to CEDS	Access to an AI Factory, services nationally
Governed by	 EuroHPC Joint Undertaking 			

Shortcomings

- The plan does not acknowledge the need for downstream support - > backbone connectivity.
- The plan commits insufficient funding to accomplish Europe becoming an AI Continent
- Action Plan = just a plan :/

Opportunities?

- NRENs involved in AI Infrastructure initiatives
- Chance to influence tangible policies -> Data Union Strategy consultation (open until 18 July 2025)
- The plan... gives us an idea of where the money will be going
 - EuroHPC JU re-allocated DEP and CEF funding to AI (Giga)Factories

Canada to Drive Billions in Investments to Build Domestic AI Compute Capacity at Home

December 5, 2024

OTTAWA, Ontario, Dec. 5, 2024 — Compute is the technology that powers artificial intelligence (AI). It's the chips and the data centers, the backbone of this transformative new technology. Access to cutting-edge compute infrastructure is crucial for securing Canada's AI advantage, empowering researchers and industries to thrive.

India announces \$1.2 bln investment in AI projects

By Reuters

March 7, 2024 3:50 PM GMT+1 · Updated a year ago



Australia Unveils National AI Plan to Boost Investment and Capabilities

Published December 18, 2024



Written by
Ben Abbott

Trump announces private-sector \$500 billion investment in AI infrastructure

By Steve Holland

January 22, 2025 4:42 AM GMT+1 · Updated 5 months ago



AI

America crafts an AI action plan

Tech platforms got a rare opportunity to present President Trump with a wishlist — and they're using DeepSeek's success to push for controversial policies



Casey Newton

Mar 18, 2025 — 11 min read

What do you think?



Do you know more about the AI infrastructure plans in your world region?



Where do NRENs see themselves in these plans? Are they relevant to you?

[Link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14541-European-Data-Union-Strategy_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14541-European-Data-Union-Strategy_en)

Thank you

Any questions?

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