



Final Conference: European Ecosystem of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence

Date: Monday, 3 November 2025

Time: 14:00 - 18:00 (followed by a networking cocktail)

Location: Place du Congrès 1, 1000, Brussels (CEPS)

Background:

CEPS launched its European Ecosystem of Excellence in AI project in January 2024 to develop practical ideas, recommendations, and actions for building a European approach to AI. The project set out to provide better evidence and data for future EU policy, helping to boost Europe's sustainable competitiveness through coordinated initiatives at the EU, national and regional level, while exploring pathways towards future high-quality jobs and skills.

Over the course of two years, CEPS developed key outputs, laying the foundations for a ground-breaking, future-proof industrial strategy on AI, encompassing infrastructure and compute, technological sovereignty, talent and skills, as well as ideas for the deepening of AI uptake in key industry verticals. Our work also led us to developing a comprehensive, interactive and constantly updated Atlas of AI (aiworld.eu), which maps global landscapes and leading global AI hubs. Throughout the project, we have disseminated our findings through papers, explainers, reports, conferences and podcast episodes.

The final conference will present these project findings and policy recommendations, as well as explore ideas for future steps to boost Europe's competitiveness in the age of AI. The discussion will focus on how industrial policy, skills development, and labour market changes can work together to make Europe a global AI leader without undermining job security or social stability.

Agenda:

Time	Activity
13:30 – 14:00	Arrival, registrations
14:00 – 14:20	Welcome and framing of the event <i>Welcoming words and framing of the event:</i> Andrea Renda, Director of Research Keynote: Aldo Faisal, Professor of AI & Neuroscience at the Dept. of Computing and the Dept. of Bioengineering at Imperial College London
14:20 – 14:50	Stock-taking: What does the data tell us and how to re-design the European industrial strategy Speakers: Andrea Renda, Director of Research Pierre-Alexandre Balland, Chief-Data Scientist
14:50 – 15:35	Discussion: Competing in the AI Era: Europe's Industrial Policy and Strategic Advantage Moderator: Andrea Renda Speakers: • Holger Hoos, Alexander von Humboldt Professor of AI at RWTH Aachen University, Professor of Machine Learning at Universiteit Leiden, and Adjunct Professor of Computer Science at the University of British Columbia

	• Martin Hullin, Director of the Digitalisation and the Common Good program at Bertelsmann Stiftung • Bart Groothuis, Member of the European Parliament • Marta Przywała, Lead AI and Cybersecurity Policy, EU Government Affairs, SAP • Gaspard Demur, Deputy Head of Unit, AI Innovation and Policy Coordination, European Commission • Michael Schönstein, Head of Digital Policy, German Federal Chancellery
15:35 – 15:50	Q&A
15:50 – 16:20	Coffee Break
16:20 – 16:50	Stock-taking: What does the data tell us about AI jobs, skills and careers? Speakers: Laura Nurski, Head of Programme on Future of Work at CEPS Elena Magrini, Head of Global Research at Lightcast
16:50 – 17:35	Discussion: Beyond tasks & skills: how AI is transforming organisations and what that means for workers Moderator: Laura Nurski Speakers: • Andrea Glorioso, Policy Officer at European Commission’s Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion • Elena Magrini, Head of Global Research, Lightcast • Katarzyna Ellis, EY People Consulting Partner, EY • Alex Petropoulos, Advanced AI Researcher – Policy, Centre for Future Generations • Andreas Aktoudianakis, Lead EU Public Affairs, Google
17:35 – 17:50	Q&A
17:50 – 18:00	Closing: From ideas to impact, Europe’s AI execution plan
18:00	Networking cocktail