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EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

Erasmus+

Breakout session 2.1: Alliances role in strategic sectors for EU competitiveness

2.1

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Chair: Stefan Zotti

Deputy Head of the Higher Education Unit, EAC/B1, European Commission

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Francesca Maltauro

Deputy Head of Unit DG EAC/C4, European Commission “European STEM Strategic Education Action Plan”

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Sofia Costa D’Aguiar

Executive Director EELISA alliance

“STEM talent attraction and retention”

Co-funded by
the European Union

Engineering in Europe and European Universities Alliances: from Strategy to Implementation

14 APRIL | 2026

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

ECLISA
European University

Europe’s bottleneck
Implementation and talent capacity

EELISA European University

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Co-funded by the European Union

Innovation exists

Industrial transition required

Skills adaptation challenge

Fragmented deployment across Member States

From education providers to drivers of transformation

EELISA European University

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Co-funded by the European Union

TRADITIONALY

- Degrees
- Courses
- Mobility

WORKING TOWARDS

- Competence ecosystems
- Industrial integration
- Pan-European operation and recognition

European Universities Alliances: from Strategy to Implementation

EELISA European University

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Co-funded by the European Union

	POLICY RELEVANCE	DEMONSTRATORS
1	**Skills Acceleration**	Sustainability and Digital skills; Challenge based education aligned with SDGs and EU skills targets
2	**Education Transformation**	Joint degrees; European Degrees in STEM in key priority areas ; Harmonised programmes and practices
3	**Innovation & Ecosystem Uptake**	Connecting Europe ecosystems and diffusing Innovation and entrepreneurship education
4	**Workforce Ups*killing at Scale***	Scaling lifelong learning and micro-credentials

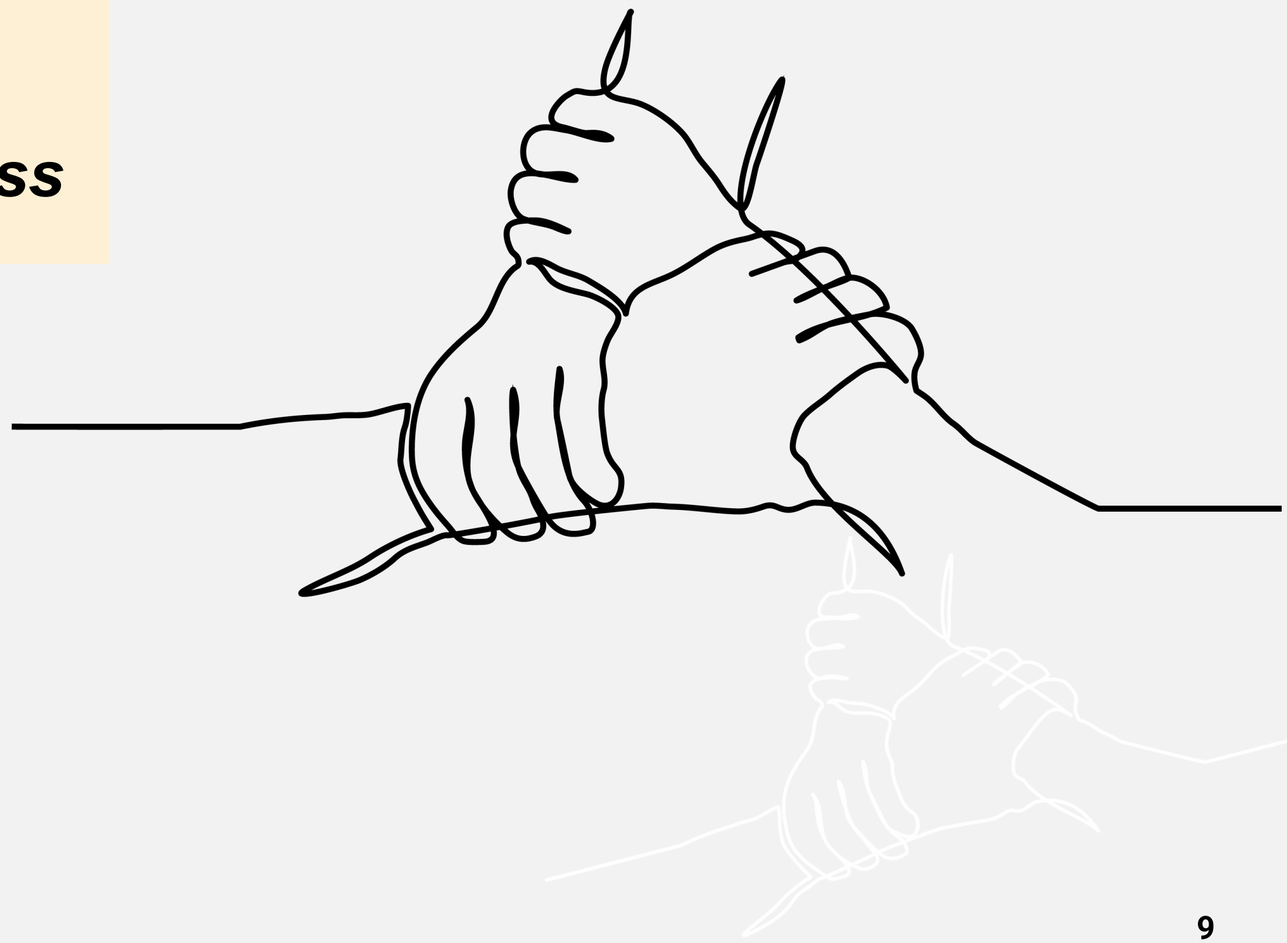
The alliances: a new form of collaboration at European level

EELISA European University

EUT+ EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Co-funded by the European Union

> ***Embracing a systemic approach at both EU and Alliance levels to accelerate Europe's competitiveness***



Addressing together:

- Strategic sector skills acceleration
- Innovation diffusion
- European Degree deployment

2.1

Martin Prchal

Vice-principal Royal Conservatoire the Hague,
IN-TUNE alliance, FOREU4All
STEAM Topical group Chair “STEAM Approaches”
”

Don’t forget the ‘A’

Martin Prchal

Innovative Universities in Music & Arts in Europe – IN.TUNE Alliance

FOREU4ALL Topical Group on STEAM

Co-funded by the European Union

STEAM as a way to....

IN.TUNE
Innovative Universities
in Music & Arts in Europe

improve or innovate teaching

support critical and creative thinking

involve the artistic sector

support diversity and inclusion – especially gender balance

FOREU4ALL
EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCES

Co-funded by
the European Union

Let’s build…

IN.TUNE
Innovative Universities
in Music & Arts in Europe

Future engineers → think like designers

Future coders → collaborate like composers

Future scientists → reflect like writers

Co-funded by
the European Union

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EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

Erasmus+

Timothée Toury

Secretary General EUt+ alliance, Technical University Troyes “European Degree in Engineering”

THE PLURINATIONAL EUROPEAN DEGREE IN ENGINEERING

Europe’s competitiveness depends on its ability to produce, circulate and retain engineering talent at large-scale.

THE PLURINATIONAL EUROPEAN DEGREE IN ENGINEERING

ESLISA European University

EUT+ EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Co-funded by the European Union

Europe’s competitiveness depends on its ability to **produce, circulate** and **retain engineering talent at scale**.

Industry demands **European*ised* Engineers**, but engineering education and degree recognition remain too fragmented.

This issue goes beyond education: it directly affects productivity, innovation and investment.

The Fifth Freedom becomes real when skills have really no borders.

Europe needs solutions that are credible, scalable and affordable: recognition is not enough.

No technological sovereignty without massive talent circulation across Europe.

THE PLURINATIONAL EUROPEAN DEGREE IN ENGINEERING

ESLISA European University

EUT+ EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Co-funded by the European Union

Europe's competitiveness depends on its ability to produce, circulate and retain engineering talent at large-scale.

- Shortages in STEM graduates and not good prospects in specific critical sectors
- Growing skills' gap
- Lack of adaptable moving graduates
- Higher Education design and recognition fragmented

→ **Quality** needs to meet **Quantity**

Highly Europeanised engineering quality

We raise the standards

A scalable solution for all

We widen access

A degree format which grants **additional rights** and provides both a **strong European pathway** and quality signals for the labour market while remaining accessible to **most students**

ESLISA European University

THE PLURINATIONAL EUROPEAN DEGREE IN ENGINEERING

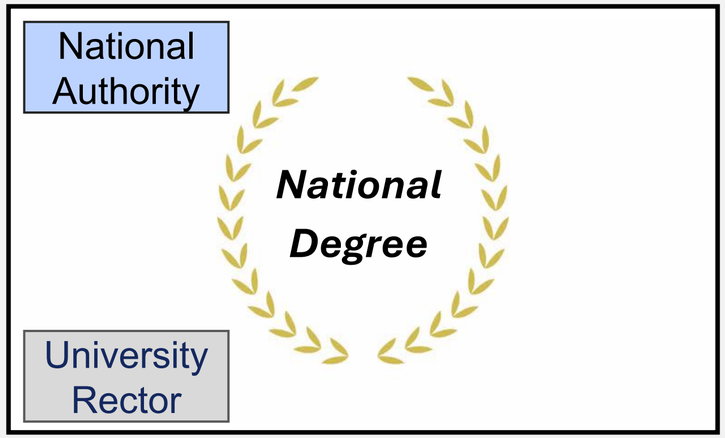
ECLISA European University

EUT+ EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Co-funded by the European Union

Recognition

Country of the university



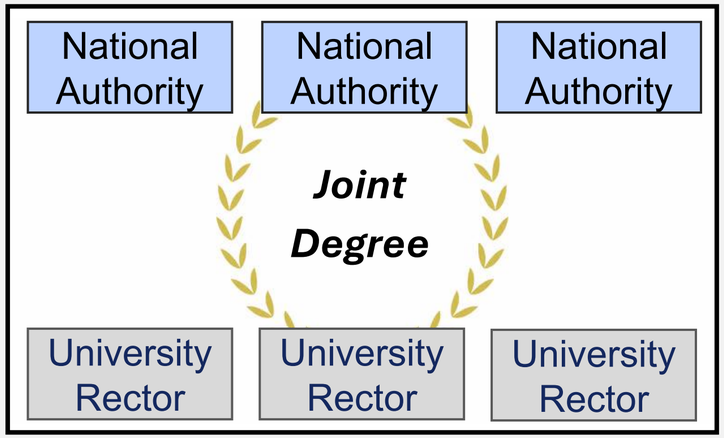
Delivery

One university

Accredited by one agency

Recognition

Degree participating countries that validated the accreditation process



Delivery

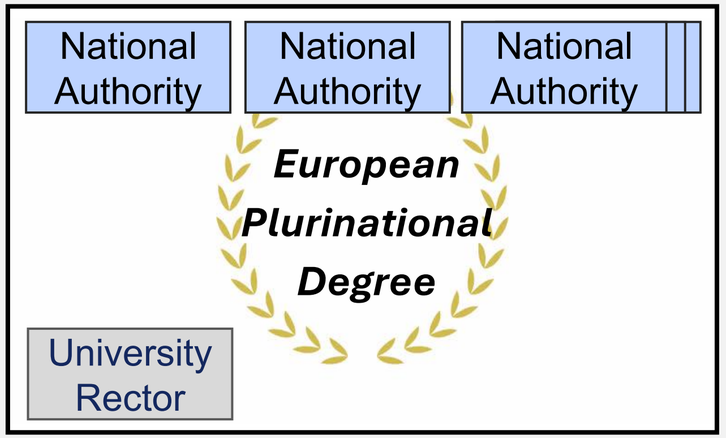
A few universities

Accredited by agreeing or multiple agencies

Must meet all different national regulations (joint admission)

Recognition

Countries participating in the coalition of the willing



Delivery

All combinations that meet the given criteria

Accredited by one agency

One national system and admission

ECLISA European University

THE PLURINATIONAL EUROPEAN DEGREE IN ENGINEERING

Co-funded by the European Union

A degree format that provides a strong European pathway and quality signals for the labour market while remaining accessible to most students

Built upon exiting legal frameworks in France and Spain

Aligned by design with relevant Engineering actors and professional bodies

National access. Guaranteed international physical experience and multilingualism.

Beyond recognition: pre-approved validation by participating Member States and Accreditation Agencies joining the coalition of the willing

THE ROLE OF ALLIANCES IN ADVANCING COMPETITIVENESS

ESLISA European University

EUT+ EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Co-funded by the European Union

Alliances are delivery platforms for Europe’s strategic sectors.

They are ideal pioneers and incubators for this endeavours and developments.

Beyond cooperation, we provide trusted European talent pipelines, this aligns with Europe’s emerging competitiveness priorities.

Engineering is where Europe’s strategic sectors converge.

Strategic sectors need strategic talent pipelines.

- cybersecurity
- advanced materials
- sustainable infrastructure
- AI
- semiconductors
- clean energy

2.1

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

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Mark Vlek de Coningh, Secretary
General NEUROTECH alliance
“The Mind, the Machine and Europe.
And why the time to act is now”

14-04-2026

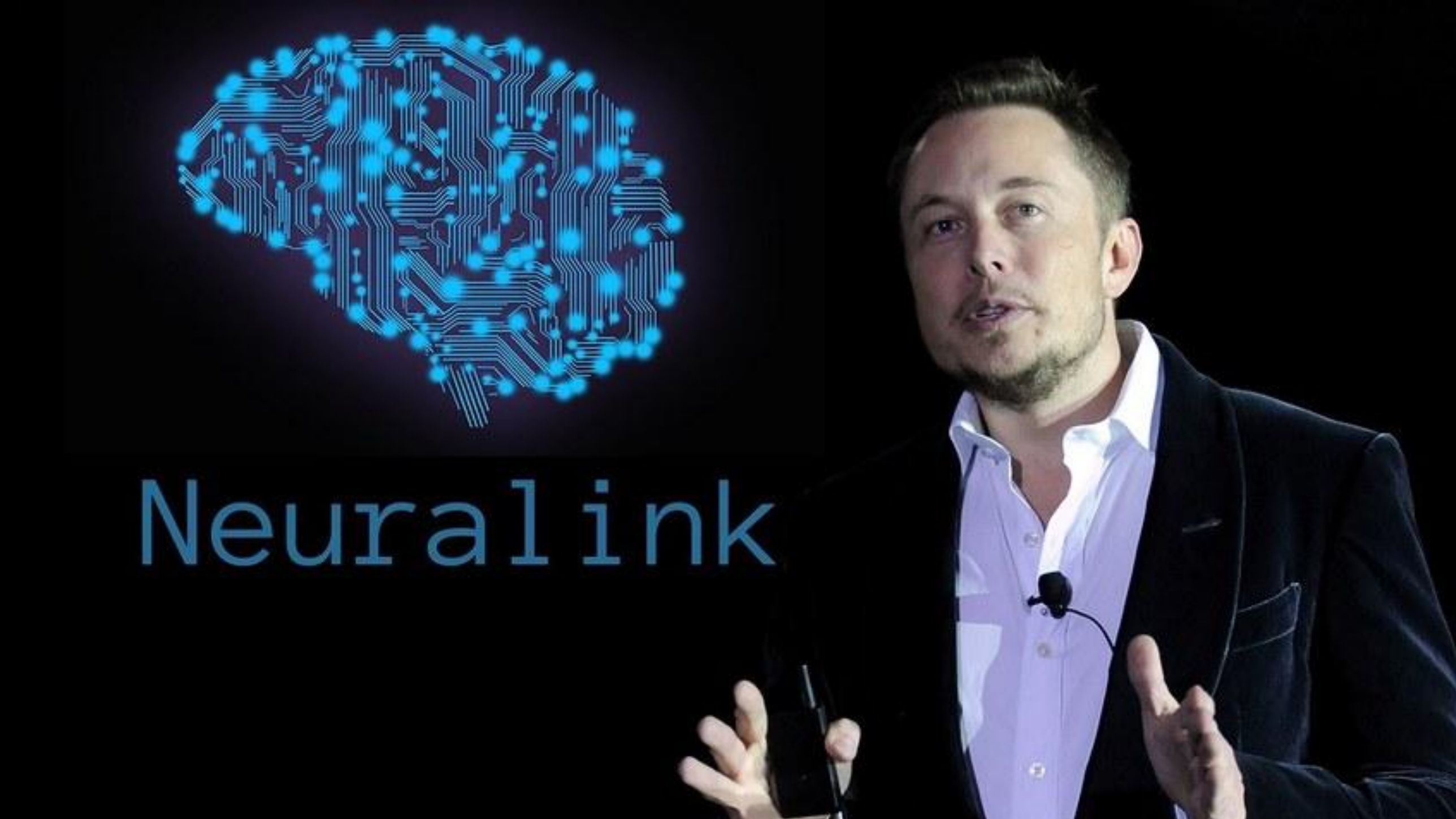
The Mind, the Machine and Europe

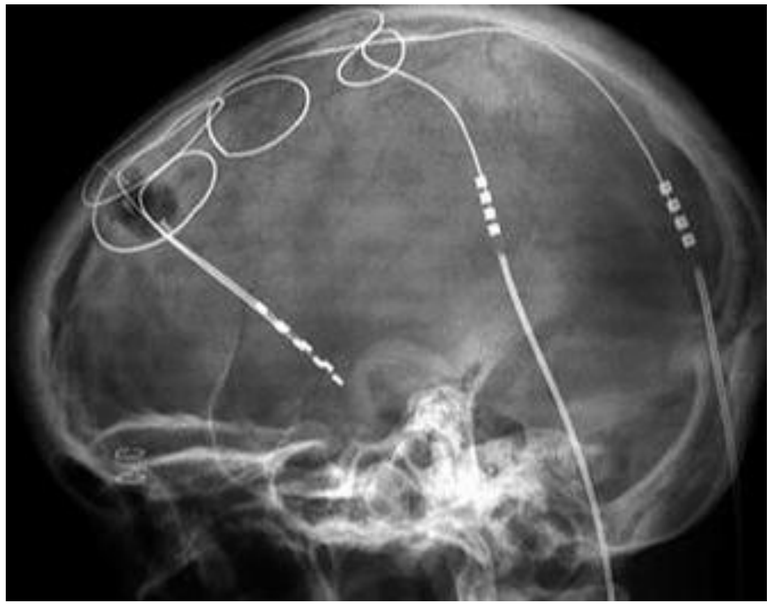
And why the time to act is now

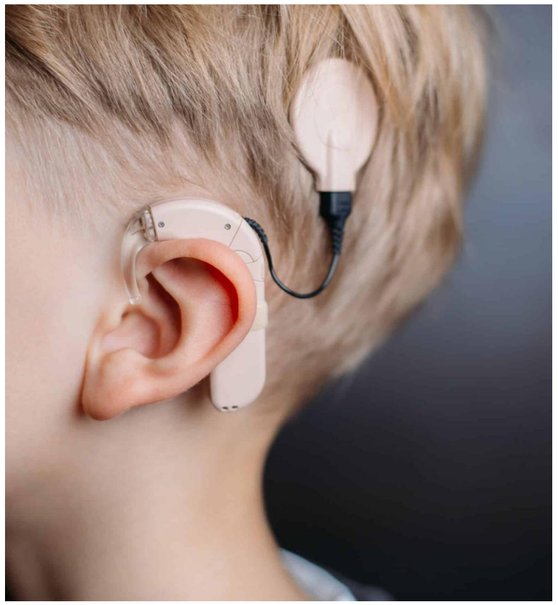
Mark Vlek de Coningh
Secretary General - NeurotechEU

NeurotechEU
The European University
of Brain and Technology


softsys
CYBERPUNK
2077
KIROSHI アイ・インプラント


Neuralink



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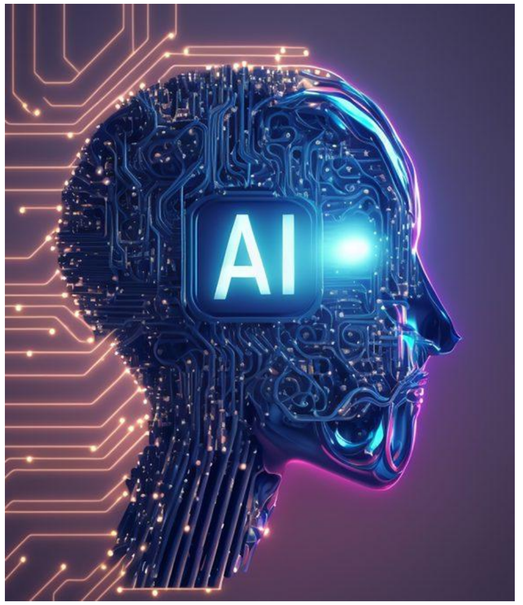
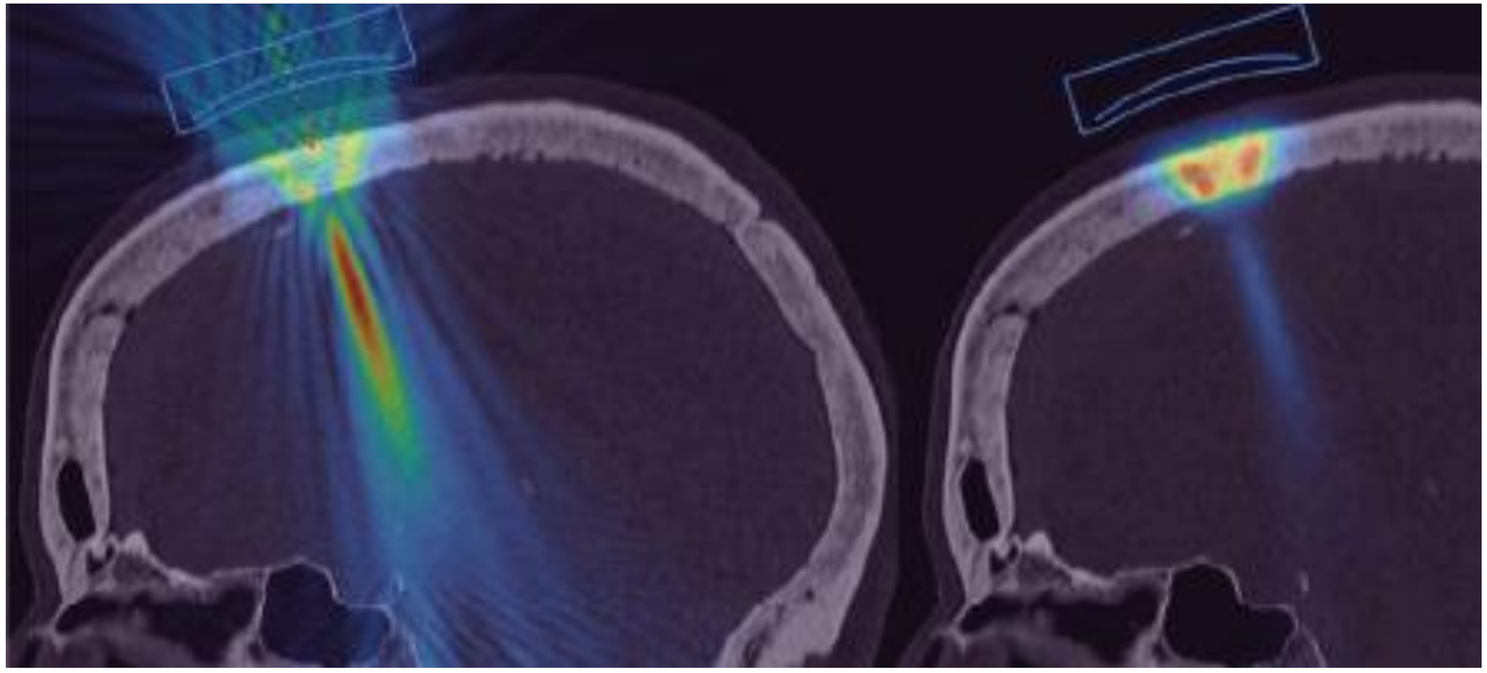
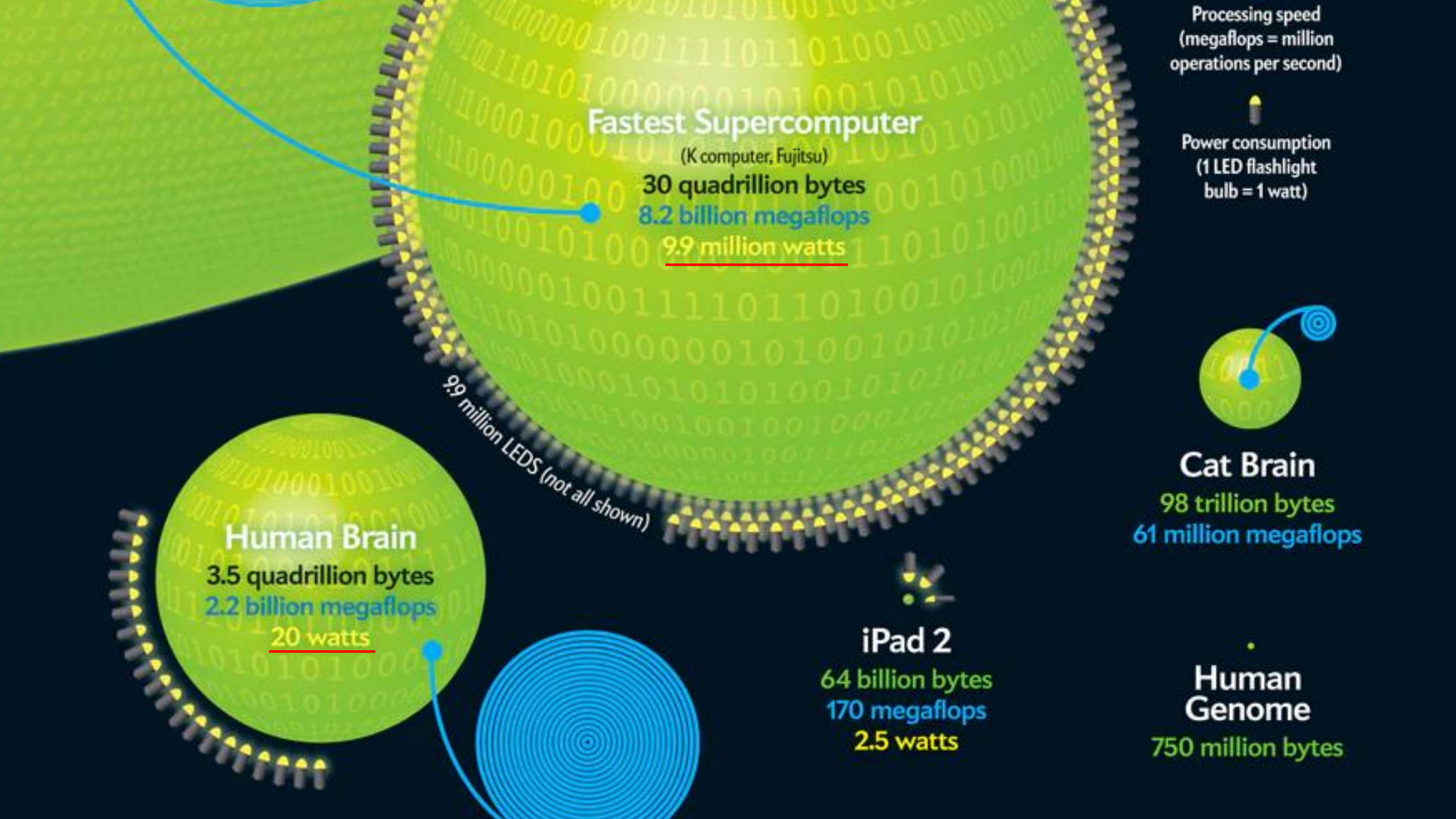

AI




Processing speed
(megaflops = million
operations per second)
Power consumption
(1 LED flashlight
bulb = 1 watt)
Fastest Supercomputer
(K computer, Fujitsu)
30 quadrillion bytes
8.2 billion megaflops
9.9 million watts
9.9 million LEDS (not all shown)
Cat Brain
98 trillion bytes
61 million megaflops
Human Brain
3.5 quadrillion bytes
2.2 billion megaflops
20 watts
iPad 2
64 billion bytes
170 megaflops
2.5 watts
Human
Genome
750 million bytes

European awareness is increasing

European Commission

EMERGING APPLICATIONS OF NEUROTECHNOLOGY AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR EU GOVERNANCE

A technology foresight study

EU Policy Lab

1.5. Bio-inspired AI for emerging self-organising and resource-efficient systems

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Chapter 1 / Digital & Space Technologies

What is it?

Bio-inspired AI refers to approaches that draw on principles from neuroscience, cognitive science, and evolutionary biology to design artificial neural networks with enhanced adaptability, robustness, and resource efficiency. Unlike early biologically inspired models that relied primarily on loose metaphors, current bio-inspired AI focuses on implementing specific mechanisms observed in biological intelligence, such as hierarchical and distributed processing, synaptic plasticity, structural diversity, and adaptive information encoding. These approaches address persistent challenges in artificial neural network design, including sensitivity to local optima, high computational cost, and limited understanding of the relationship between architecture and function. By leveraging how biological systems learn, represent time, and adapt through interaction, bio-inspired AI aims to support continual learning and open-ended adaptation under changing conditions. This makes such systems particularly relevant for non-stationary, adversarial, or long-duration settings, where conventional deep learning approaches often depend on extensive retraining, static architectures, or external intervention to maintain performance.

What is new?

Recent advances increasingly translate biological principles into formal, implementable AI learning and optimisation mechanisms rather than high-level inspiration. Theoretical frameworks such as the Free Energy Principle inform models of perception, learning, and action as continuous processes of uncertainty reduction. In parallel, evolutionary algorithms and neural architecture search are used to explore structural diversity and functional specialisation beyond manually designed topologies. New neuroscience findings also motivate new approaches to temporal learning. Recent work suggests that temporal representations are not hard-wired but learned during interaction and reward-driven adaptation, as illustrated by frameworks in which cue-specific temporal basis functions emerge through localised neural populations and synapse-specific eligibility traces. Complementary efforts focus on systematic evaluation of cognitive capacities in large models, using cognitive science-inspired protocols to probe planning, causal reasoning, or theory of mind. While these developments open pathways toward more adaptive and potentially more controllable AI systems, they also introduce challenges related to interpretability, verification, and stability as architectures become more dynamic and less explicitly specified.

How could it matter for Europe's resilience and strategic autonomy?

Bio-inspired AI is relevant for European priorities on sustainable, responsible, and sovereign AI development, particularly as current scaling-based AI approaches face growing efficiency, control, and governance constraints. By emphasising learning efficiency, adaptive structure, and explicit cognitive evaluation, these approaches align with Commission objectives under the AI Act and the European approach to Trustworthy AI, which stress robustness, transparency, and human oversight. From a strategic autonomy perspective, advancing European capabilities in bio-inspired optimisation and architecture design may reduce reliance on highly resource-intensive AI models developed outside Europe, supporting more diverse and controllable AI development pathways. At the same time, the adaptive and self-modifying nature of these systems raises challenges for evaluation and assurance, reinforcing the need for advanced benchmarking and validation approaches aligned with evolving EU regulatory and scientific capabilities.

EIC Deep-Tech Taxonomy: AI, Data & ICT (Artificial Intelligence; Neural & Cognitive Networks / Machine & Deep Learning)
Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP): Artificial intelligence technologies (AI algorithms and models)

3.8. Noninvasive and minimally invasive brain interfaces for adaptive therapeutic modulation

42

Chapter 3 / Biotechnologies & Health

What is it?

Noninvasive and minimally invasive brain interfaces are technologies designed to interact with neural activity without requiring highly invasive neurosurgical procedures. These systems combine sensing modalities such as electroencephalography, functional magnetic resonance imaging, functional ultrasound, and near-infrared spectroscopy with effector technologies including transcranial magnetic stimulation, targeted electrical fields, and focused ultrasound. By integrating neural sensing and stimulation, closed-loop brain interface systems can be established to monitor brain dynamics and modulate neural activity in real time. Therapeutic applications include treatment of epilepsy, psychiatric disorders, and neurological conditions, as well as emerging approaches for tumour targeting. Minimally invasive variants extend these capabilities through miniature implants with autonomous power supply and wireless communication, enabling more precise targeting while preserving limited invasiveness. Beyond medical applications, brain interfaces are also explored for human–machine interaction in areas such as robotics, vehicle control, and immersive digital environments. Innovation increasingly arises from combining established neurotechnologies with adaptive computational approaches.

What is new?

Recent advances are driven by the convergence of multimodal neural sensing, adaptive stimulation, and artificial intelligence into integrated brain interface platforms. Combined acquisition of electroencephalography, functional magnetic resonance imaging, transcranial functional ultrasound, and near-infrared spectroscopy improves both spatial and temporal characterisation of neural activity. Parallel progress in effector technologies enables more precise, adaptive focused ultrasound and closed-loop transcranial magnetic or electrical stimulation, allowing stimulation parameters to respond dynamically to ongoing brain states. Minimised, wireless implants further extend minimally invasive approaches by enabling targeted intervention with reduced procedural burden and continuous operation. AI-based methods are increasingly applied to decode complex neural dynamics, identify pathological patterns, and adjust stimulation strategies in real time. Together, these developments move brain interfaces from open-loop or episodic use toward responsive systems capable of monitoring and modulating neural activity continuously across a broader range of neurological and neuropsychiatric conditions.

How could it matter for Europe's resilience and strategic autonomy?

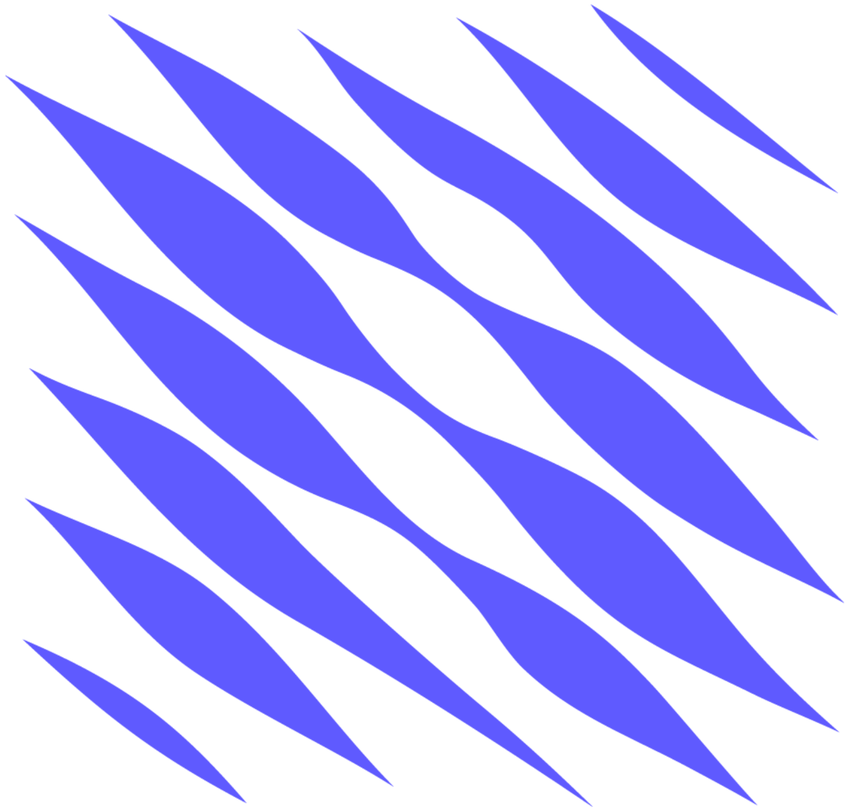
Non-invasive and minimally invasive brain interfaces are relevant for European priorities where advanced neurotechnologies must be deployed safely within existing healthcare systems. Their development aligns with requirements under the Medical Devices Regulation, particularly for high-risk devices combining sensing, stimulation, and adaptive software. The integration of AI-driven decoding and closed-loop modulation also intersects with the AI Act, where transparency, human oversight, and post-market monitoring are central. From a health-system perspective, brain interfaces that reduce reliance on highly specialised neurosurgical infrastructure could support more resilient and distributed care models, including neurology and mental health. At the same time, their reliance on sensitive neural data makes alignment with the European Health Data Space essential, reinforcing European control over neurodata governance, clinical validation pathways, and ethical deployment standards.

EIC Deep-Tech Taxonomy: Medical Technologies (Non-invasive Medical Devices / Digital Health; Patient Monitoring Systems, Neural & Cognitive Networks, Artificial Intelligence)
Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP): Advanced sensing technologies (Magnetometers and magnetic gradiometers)

NeurotechEU’s premise

NeurotechEU was founded with this context in mind

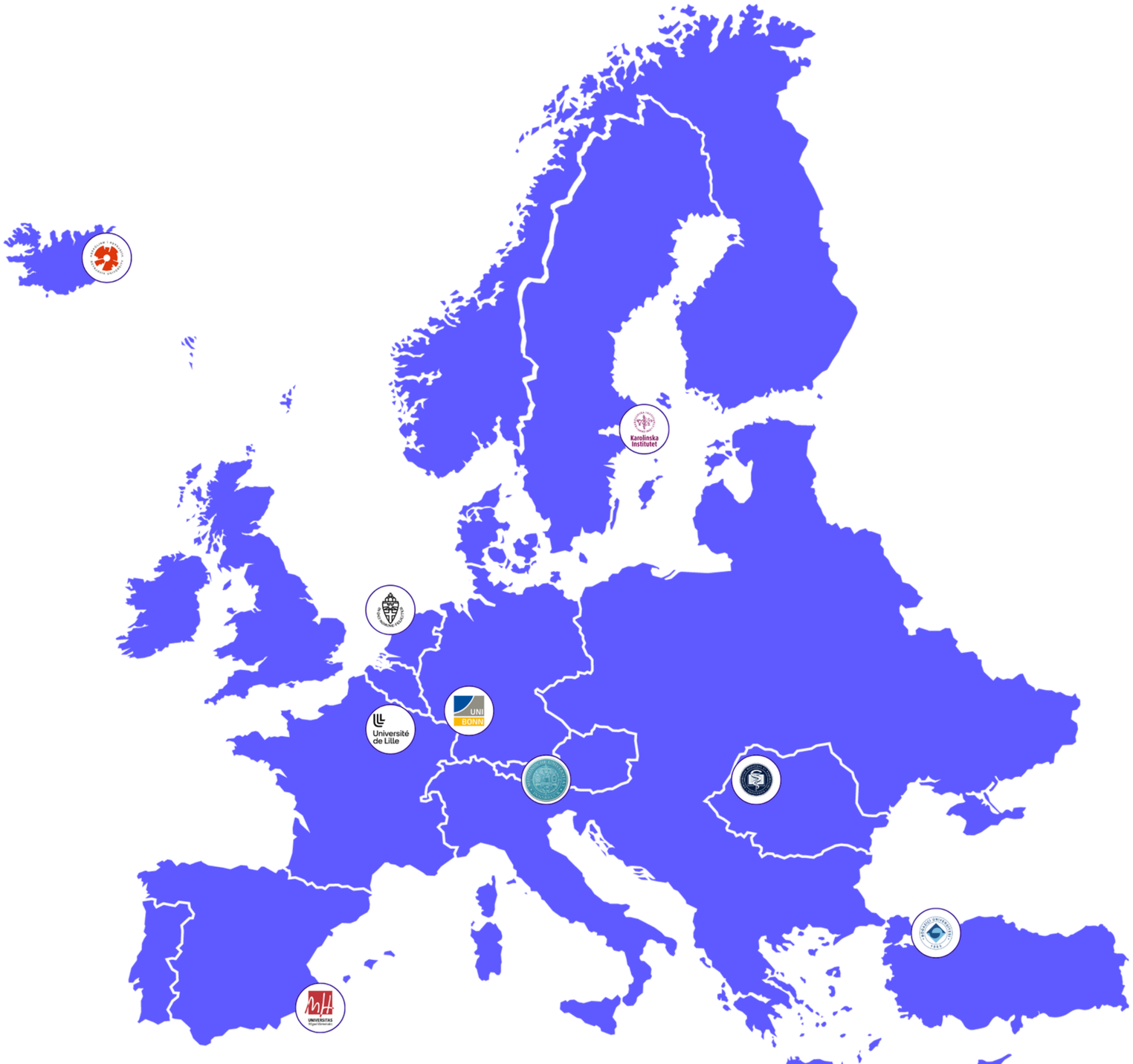
- Neurotechnology is a **deep tech with significant implications** for Europe’s economy, health and society
- **It is of crucial importance** to develop neurotechnology in Europe, based on European values due to the fundamental ethical and philosophical consequences of neurotech
- In other words: we need to educate **Europe’s neurotechnologists of tomorrow**



What we do

NeurotechEU is connecting leading European universities working on topics of brain and technology. We are building networks and connecting ecosystems, supporting excellence in teaching and research.

Our **Joint Master's Programme in Neurotechnology**, the first one in Europe, is currently being accredited and will launch November 2027 to educate Europe's Neurotechnologists of tomorrow.



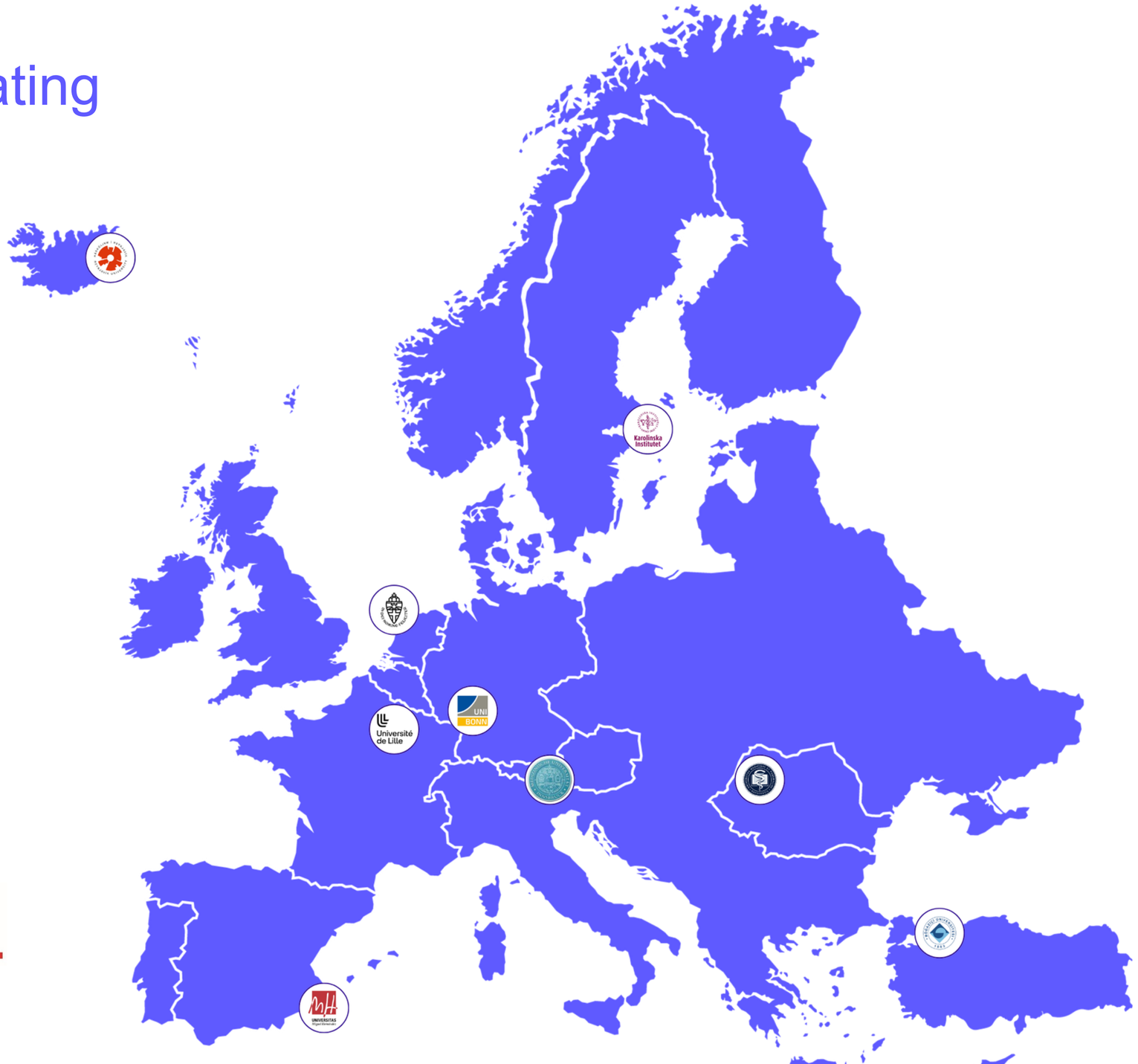
This approach is resonating beyond education

imec

Western UNIVERSITY · CANADA

DZNE
Deutsches Zentrum für Neurodegenerative Erkrankungen in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

MED EL



How European Universities can contribute to competitiveness

- **Alliances can become prominent coordinating mechanisms on scientific research and innovation**
  - Providing a structure through which to bundle excellent research and innovation networks, to jointly work on emerging technologies
- **Alliances are uniquely positioned to connect Europe's scattered ecosystems**
  - An alliance approach magnifies synergies, increases precompetitive coordination and bundles Europe's strengths in clear operational structures
- **Alliances are attractive for economic actors**
  - Build upon existing university-business/industry relationships
  - Provide a pipeline and access to talent across Europe
- **Development of deep tech happens at universities, not on the market**
  - If Europe wants to develop its deep tech capabilities, universities and industry need to work together and develop joint pathways

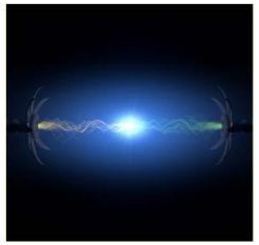
So, what’s next for Europe?

NeurotechEU
The European University
of Brain and Technology


NASA

Where’s neurotechnology?

Moonshots



Future Circular Collider

What: Sustain Europe’s leadership in particle physics by investing in CERN’s next-generation collider.

How: Co-invest with other CERN countries, leveraging Horizon Europe funding.

Clean Aviation

What: Lead the world in developing the next generation of CO_2-free aircraft.

How: Bring together industry and scientific capacities to achieve breakthroughs in clean aviation.

Quantum Computing

What: Make Europe the first continent with fully integrated quantum computing in daily life.

How: Develop applications from medicine to climate, solving previously impossible problems for 450 million citizens.

Next Generation AI

What: Model the new AI on the laws of nature and grounded in physics and biology.

How: AI developed by, with, and for European scientists and industry, drawing to Europe the world’s best minds.

Data Sovereignty

What: Make Europe the global leader and safest hub for critical research data.

How: Provide access to critical data for researchers, universities and companies, offering competitive advantage in tackling global challenges.

Automated Transport and Mobility

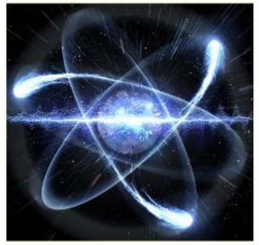
What: Advance safe, inclusive, and emission-reducing automated transport and mobility in Europe.

How: Invest in smart transport systems to improve traffic, reduce emissions, and enhance access.

Regenerative Therapies

What: Deliver breakthrough therapies to improve people’s health and lives.

How: Harness Europe’s scientific strengths to treat incurable diseases and personalise medicine.



Fusion Energy

What: The first commercial nuclear fusion power plant, generating safe, consistent, and reliable electricity.

How: Overcome the scientific and technological challenges necessary to put fusion on the grid in Europe by 2034.

Space Economy

What: Make Europe the leader in the space economy.

How: Develop the next generation launch vehicles such as reusable rockets, able to deploy massive cargo by 2040.

Zero Water Pollution

What: Move towards zero pollution of water in the EU.

How: Stimulate innovation to build a true water-smart economy which secures sufficient, clean and affordable water and sanitation to all at all times.

Ocean Observation

What: Achieving strategic autonomy in ocean observation infrastructure, data and information services.

How: Developing, connecting, governing and securing the next generation of European ocean observing technologies

Three takeaways for Europe

- **The best time to invest in these technologies was 10 years ago, the second-best time is now.** Every year we wait we lag behind the US and China further. We are still in time to become globally leading in these kinds of deep techs.

- Neurotechnology is not the only deep tech. **Solutions we find to develop neurotechnology can be applied across the board and to scale.**

- **Neurons that fire together, wire together.** The only way forward for Europe is collaborative and coordinated.

2.1

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

Erasmus+

Emmanuel Zenou

Coordinator UNIVERSEH alliance, ISAE – SUPAERO Toulouse

UNIVERSEH

April 2026

UNIVERSEH

What is UNIVERSEH?

UNIVERSEH 2.0

UNIVERSEH

Mission statement 2.0

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"The dinosaurs became extinct because they didn't have a space program."
Larry Niven

Vision

*UNIVERSEH will be the only European University in a changing Space sector, offering an **innovative**, **cross-science**, **multilingual**, **multicultural**, **inclusive**, **research-based**, and **sustainable learning environment** with excellence and passion.*

Eight pillars

- Higher education for all
- Space and Societies
- Space and Economy
- Space and Life
- Space for all
- Space and Sustainability
- Space crew
- UNIVERSEH as One Entity

Space Sector: A Strategic Sector for Europe

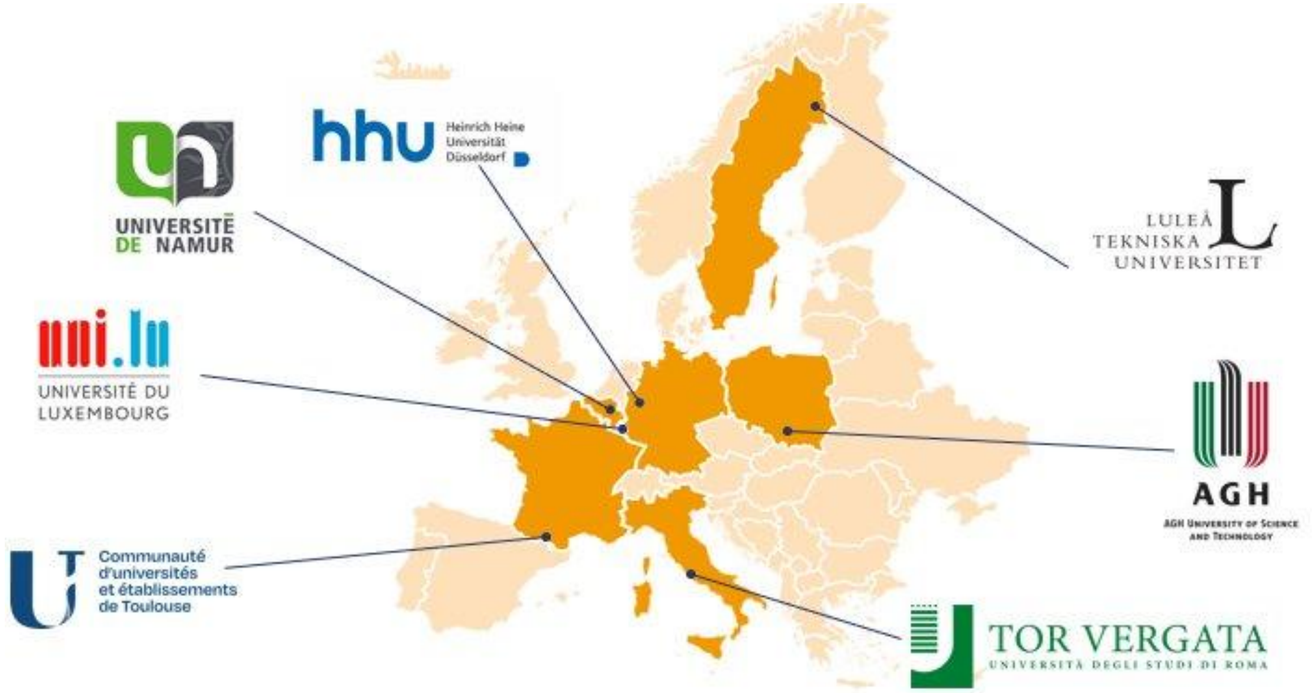
UNIVERSEH 2.0

- **Space** sector: a field of the **Future**, with a very long **cultural** and **scientific** history
- A **multicultural sharing**: all civilisations are concerned
- Very present **today**: communication, navigation, Earth monitoring… At a world scale
- Many **discoveries** are a **direct result** of space technology in all domains: ITs, materials, medicine, textile, food & nutrition, water & air purification, sport… The space sector has many **other sectors** behind it
- The space sector is an **application field** for many academic disciplines
- Rapidly **changing** industry, with many **new actors**
- A highly **dynamic sector** for research, innovation & entrepreneurship
- A source of **new jobs** and **new skills** in all disciplines
- Considerable **economic**, **(geo)political** and **(geo)strategic** issues
- **Dual use**: from space to defence & security
- …
- A sector that continues to make young and old **dream!**

The UNIVERSEH Alliance

7 European Partner Institutions

UNIVERSEH



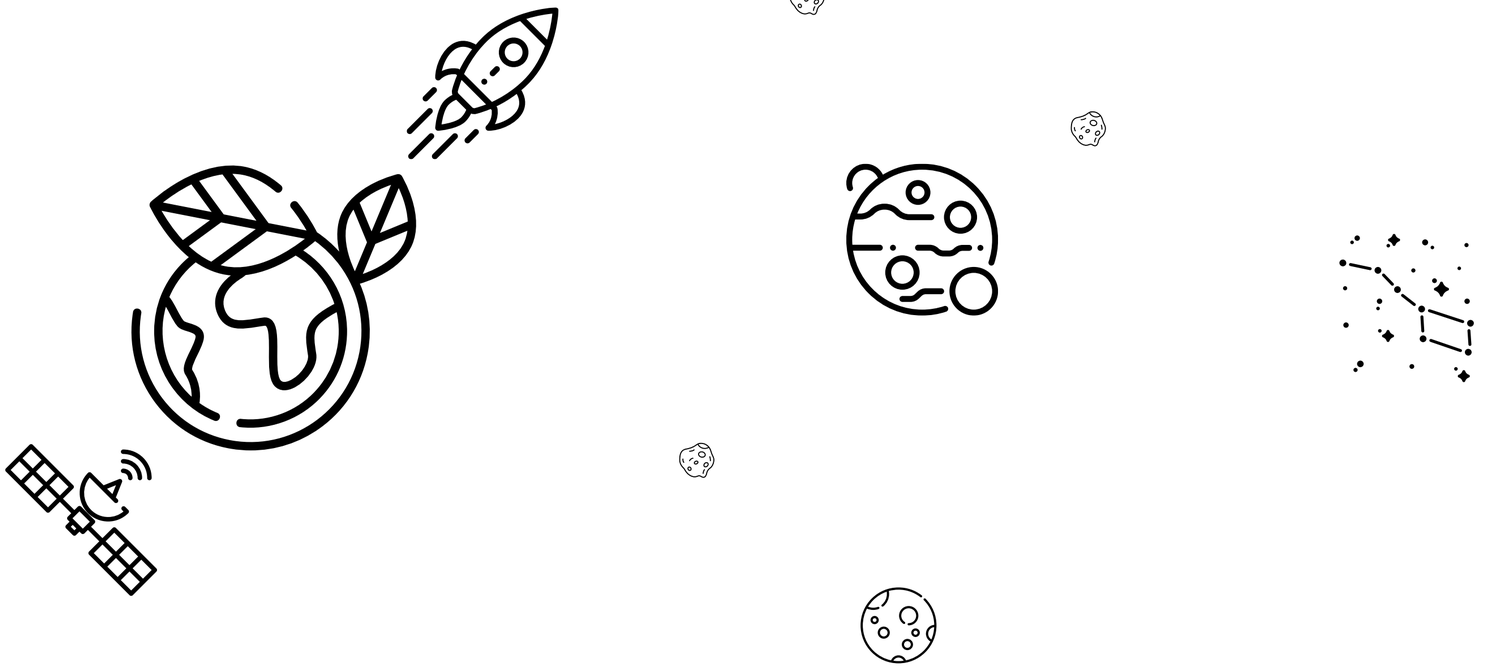
The **UNIVERSEH Alliance** was established in 2020. The name **"UNIVERSEH"** stands for *"The European Space University for Earth and Humanity."*

The European interdisciplinary Space University alliance is composed of 7 partners.

Université de Toulouse · Toulouse INP · isae SUPAERO · tbs Education · Université Toulouse Jean Jaurès

Adressing the Space sector

A 4-segment approach



A comprehensive University

6 disciplines

Science & Engineering

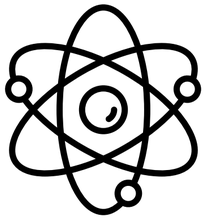
Economy, Business & Finance

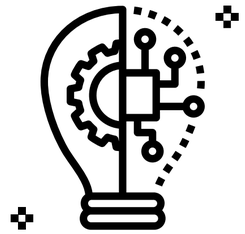
Medicine & Health

Human & Social Sciences

Art & Cultural Studies

Innovation & Entrepreneurship





UNIVERSEH 2.0 Master’s Degree Programmes

Interdisciplinary Space Master Program

"Space Technologies" Master’s Degree Programme

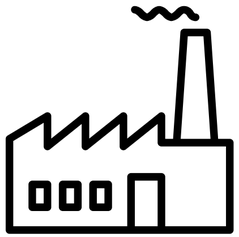
Launched in 2025

Expectected Programmes to be launched:

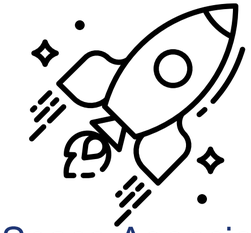
- **“Space sustainability” Master’s Degree Programme**
  Expected launch: 2026
- **“Space Health Engineering” Master’s Degree Programme**
  Expected launch: 2026
- **“Space Telecommunications” Master’s Degree Programme –**
  Expected launch: 2028
- **Transversal Space Programme**
  Expected launch: 2027

A wide range of partners…

In 7 countries, and more !

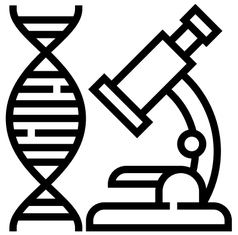


Industrials



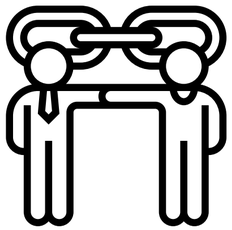
Space Agencies

Public Authorities

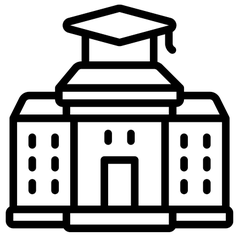


Labs

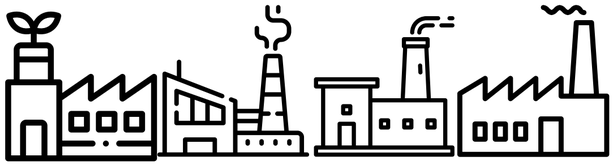
Students



Associations



Academics



SMEs

The Alliance eco-system

90+ Stakeholders across Europe

Advisory Board

Members

- Audrey Berthier - MEDES
- Denis Bousquet - AXA XL
- Yves Bausch - SES
- Isi Casas Del Valle P. – SGAC Europe
- Thierry Cotelle - NEREUS
- Maxime Delmée – AM4AM
- Jean-Claude Dardelet - Toulouse Metropole / Cité de l'Espace
- Christophe Grudler - European Parliament
- Stefan Hackländer - WKW Group
- Tomasz Jadczyk - Medical University of Silesia/Intern. Clinical Research
- Eric Lardinois - SpaceBel
- Kevin Ramirez – Climate KIC
- Giorgio Saccoccia - ESA
- Elizaveta Shashkova - UNIVERSEH Alumni / Pioneers
- Philippe Trillat - AIRBUS
- Jean-Claude Traineau - Club Galaxie

UNIVERSEH and European-Scale Actors

Ongoing strategy

- One University / One country **cannot address all** challenges and stakes @European level alone
- UNIVERSEH has developed **strong relationships** with European-scale institutional actors
    - DG DEFIS
    - ESA – European Space Agency (and national agencies)
    - EUSPA – EU Space Academy
    - European Space Policy Institutes (ESPI)
    - European Center for Space Economy and Commerce (ECSECO)
    - Network of European REgions Using Space technologies (NEREUS)
    - SPACE4GEO (exEO4GEO)
    - EIT Climate Kick
    - SGAC
    - International Astronautical Congress (Poznan 2027)
    - …
- Working with SH is challenging in terms of resources (people, time…)

Working with our AB & SHs

Beyond Academia

- Working on **strategic vision & position** of the UNIVERSEH Alliance
- Working on the **UNIVERSEH 2.1 / 3 vision and objectives**
- Building jointly **micro-contents, courses and programme** for students & professionnals
- Working jointly on **European-funded projects** and submitting proposals to European Commission calls
- **Events, workshops & seminars** (e.g. on the place of humanities is space, CIME congress on Extreme worlds, Space weeks in Namur & AGH, etc.)
- Working on **skills & competences** for the future
- **Mentoring programs** (esp. with entrepreneurs)
- **Hackathons** (e.g.ActInSpace, Spacehack…)
- Etc. etc.

Building together UNIVERSEH 2.1/3.0 and beyond

What are the overall challenges in the space sector?

How UNIVERSEH can contribute to it?

Working Document I
Ongoing strategy

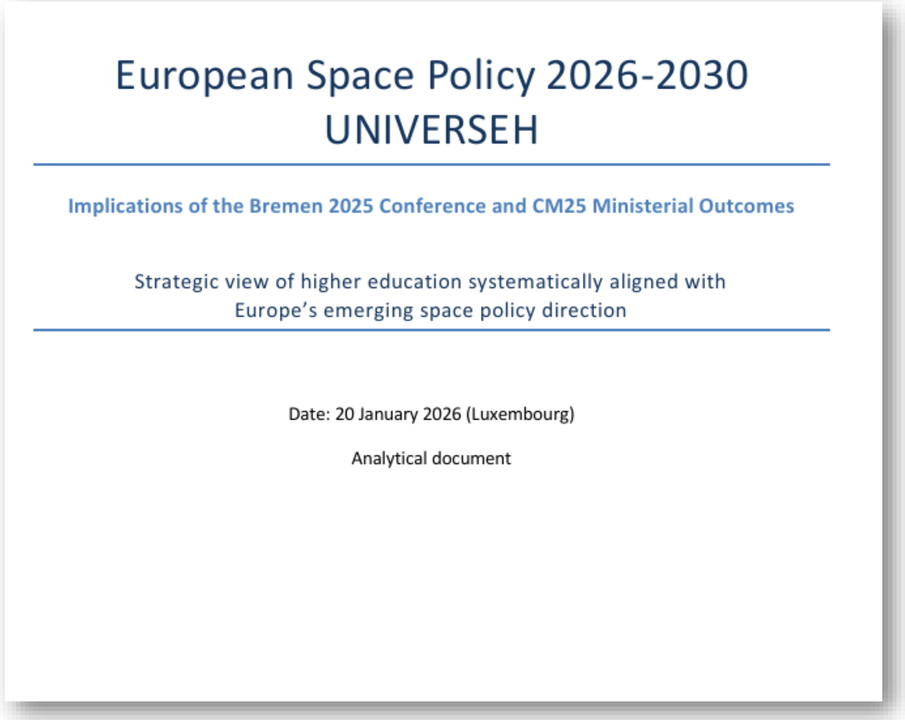
- *UNIVERSEH's Contribution to Strenghtening Europe's Position in the Space Sector*
- Written by Emmanuel Zenou
- This document aims to highlight the **major challenges** facing the **European space sector**, to **categorize them**, and to assess how the UNIVERSEH **Alliance** and its **stakeholders** can **address them** in the short, medium, and long term.
- Status: DRAFT

UNIVERSEH's Contribution to Strengthening Europe's Position in the Space Sector

Ten Key Challenges in the European Space Sector

1. Policy Challenges
2. Sovereignty & Autonomy
3. Military & Defense Concerns
4. Innovation & Entrepreneurship
5. Industrial Challenges
6. Scientific & Technological Challenges
7. Societal Impact, Education & Workforce Development
8. Human Spaceflight & Crew Health Challenges
9. Cultural Awareness & Public Perception of Space
10. Environmental Challenges

1


European Space Policy 2026-2030
UNIVERSEH

Implications of the Bremen 2025 Conference and CM25 Ministerial Outcomes

Strategic view of higher education systematically aligned with Europe's emerging space policy direction

Date: 20 January 2026 (Luxembourg)

Analytical document

Working Document II

Ongoing strategy

- Written by Eric Tschirhart from the University of Luxembourg
- Context: drafted following the ESA ministerial Council last November 2025
- Status: DRAFT

Building together UNIVERSEH 2.1/3.0 and beyond

What should UNIVERSEH 2.1/3.0 look like in concrete terms?

Academic activities

- Education
- Research
- Innovation
- Service to Society

Non academic activities

Networking / Relations with…

- private sector (Industries, SMEs…)
- Public authorities
- National, European & EU institutions
- Other academic entities
- Non European actors
- Etc.

What are the priorities ? What are the resourses ?

UNIVERSEH (Local) Topical Groups France

Cooperation with our stakeholder community

- **TG1: UNIVERSEH Strategy :** main objectives for UNIVERSEH - Long-Term Vision - Interactions with Society
- **TG2: Competence & Skills for the future :** map of the needs - LLL - Participation to courses (lecturers) - Participation to programmes - Pedagogical Innovation - Building micro-contents
- **TG3: Student activities :** Employment Opportunities - Mentorship - Internships - Hackathons, Challenges, Workshops, Conferences ect. - SH interaction with students
- **TG4: Space for all :** Interactions with Society - Outreach Activities & Dissemination Events - DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) : Events, informations, Promotion, ITWs…
- **TG5: Human Sciences, Social Sciences & Humanities in Space :** Law, Economics and Political Sciences - Anthropology, Psychology, Cognitive Science, Linguistics, Education Studies - Arts, Culture and Humanities
- **TG6: Research & Innovation :** Develop Networking - Joint answers to Calls - Creation of Consortia - From Research to Innovation - Mentoring & Training Programmes - Innovation & Entrepreneurship Curriculum

Conclusion

- Space sector is **too wide for single university / state** (knowledge, knowhow, facilities…)
- Need to **strengthen cooperation** among academics but also **with society**
- Need to **strengthen European Values** in a changing and unpredictable world
- Need to strengthen **innovation**, **entrepreneurship**, **competitiveness**, **sovereignty** In Europe

- EUA have a **central position to shape the future**, especially in the Space sector

2.1 World Café

1. How can the alliances contribute to the Competitiveness Compass to support with demand-driven skills needs, including in STEM fields? With what scale at and how fast could they deliver? What are the risks and the costs?

2. How can the alliances contribute to increase the number of STEM graduates to cope with current skills gaps? How can alliances better align STE(A)M education with industry demand in strategic sectors?

3. How can the alliances contribute to making EU economy more innovative by offering access to infrastructure, knowledge and talent to high potential companies?

4. How can the alliances contribute to better connecting and integrating industrial and innovation ecosystems across Europe?

5. How can the alliances identify/anticipate value creation potential of new/emerging technologies that could place Europe in a strategic position along the value chains and bring these new technologies to the market?