

Nature of the Initiative	Association European Project	
Mission	<p>To be able to perform the highest level of research, enabling Europe to shape how machine learning and modern AI can make an impact.</p> <p>To secure Europe’s sovereignty in the field of machine learning as the driver for modern AI through the creation of a multi-centric AI research laboratory.</p>	
Sector(s) addressed	Green Deal (including Smart Communities) Mobility Health Skills Manufacturing Public Administrations (Procurement, Legal) Financial Energy Media EOSC (Research)	
Leading organisation	Independent lead by Bernhard Schölkopf (board member and President) selected by Management Board (9 members)	
Members (approx.)	+ 1000 AI researchers (Board members, guests, alumni, coordination office, supporters, fellows, and scholars...Network distributed across Europe and Israel. 41 ELLIS units.	
Founded (Year)	2018	
Social Media Presence	LinkedIn YouTube X Facebook	
Relevance for Industry 4.0	Brings together top researchers from all over the world aiming to shape the future of machine learning and AI. Focus on scientific excellence, innovation, and societal impact.	
Key information	Levels	Important Link
Data Space Technical Specifications	★★★	Website
Data Space Governance	★	Document Library: N/A
Data Space Demonstration	★	https://ellis.eu/events
Data Space Adoption	★★★★	https://ellis.eu/sites Sites, programmes, projects building on Ellis
Connected Initiatives	CLAIRE / EurAI / euRobotics	
Additional Information		
Contact (Name/E-mail)	Email: info@ellis.eu	

What is ELLIS?

Back in 2018, researchers and experts identified considerable **barriers regarding the role that AI had in Europe** both in our personal everyday lives and the impact it would have at global scale. The European continent was not on par with North America and China in terms of appealing to talented scientists and a lot of the research is done by industry, i.e., research freedom and quick commercialization of results. In essence, Europe was suffering from a lack of excellence.

Renowned European AI researchers joined to create **the cross-national European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems (ELLIS)**, a pan-European scientific inter-governmental organization focused on the research and enhancement of current AI, a network created as a **“grassroots initiative,”** that is, a form of association made up of members from the same community. It was officially established on December 6th 2018.

The association aims for the best basic research to be performed in Europe and to have an economic impact.

- Mainly focuses on modern AI through machine learning methods.
- Perform basic research on modern AI.
- Become the top employer in machine intelligence research.
- Boost Europe’s sovereignty over AI.
- Connect top researchers with excellent and talented minds.

Members

ELLIS member includes Pan-European AI network with over 1000 AI researchers. There are also different memberships: Board members, guests, alumni, coordination office, supporters, fellows, and scholars... This network is distributed across Europe and Israel.

Solutions & Key Assets: Three-pillar strategy

ELLIS tackles the barriers that Europe faces throughout a three-pillar strategy based on:

- a. [Research programmes and fellows](#). Already established 11 fellow programmes with diverse topics and there are 14 research programmes. Focused on high impact problem areas.
- b. [Pan-European PhD and Postdoc programmes](#). Identify, inspire, nurture, and connect brilliant minds and create a network with top researchers.
- c. [Network of ELLIS units and ELLIS institutes](#). Creation of a network where both existing and new institutions are committed and invest towards network activities.

Projects building within ELLIS

- [ELISE](#) (European Network of AI Excellence Centres). AI research hubs and associated fellows. Contributes to ELLIS through mobility programmes.
- [ELSA](#) (European Lighthouse on Secure and Safe AI). Connects exceptional experts/researchers to share their knowledge and experience about AI and machine learning, at the same time leading the research about safe and secure IA methodologies.
- [ELIZA](#) (Konrad Zuse School of Excellence in Learning and Intelligent Systems). Connects seven German Units and focuses on [four areas](#).
- [ELIAS](#) (European Lighthouse of AI for Sustainability (ELIAS)). Establish Europe as leader in AI research to guide sustainable innovation and economic progress.

Events

So far, the association has taken part in both virtual and in person events. A couple of them have been the ELLIS Doctoral Symposium 2023 and ELLIS Summer School in the Manchester Unit. The next event will take place at the ELLIS Unit at Amsterdam, on foundation models. More releases and future events can be read [here](#).

Interesting links:

- [European experts paving the way to modern AI](#)
- [Neural Information Processing Systems Foundation](#)
- [ELLIS launch press release](#)