

Coordinated Plan on Artificial Intelligence 2021 Review

The key aims of the Coordinated Plan on Artificial Intelligence 2021 Review are to accelerate investment in AI, act on AI strategies and programmes and align AI policy to avoid fragmentation.



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The Coordinated Plan on Artificial Intelligence 2021 Review is the next step in creating EU global leadership in trustworthy AI. The plan is closely aligned with the Commission's digital and green priorities, and with Europe's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It builds on the strong collaboration between the Commission and Member States established during the 2018 Coordinated Plan.

The 2018 Coordinated Plan was a joint commitment to maximise Europe's potential to compete globally and an essential first step in defining actions and funding instruments for the uptake and development of AI across sectors. And, it encouraged Member States to develop national strategies.

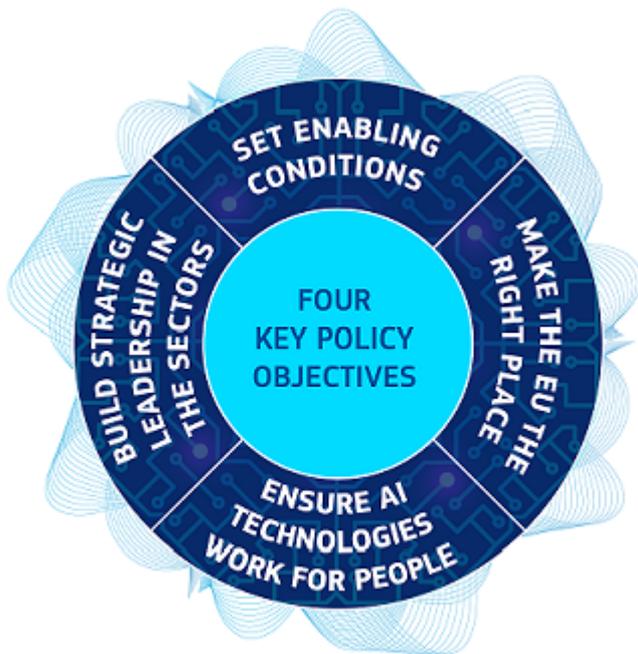
Turning strategy into action, the 2021 Coordinated Plan's key message is that the Commission and Member States should:

- **accelerate** investments in AI technologies to drive resilient economic and social recovery aided by the uptake of new digital solutions
- **act** on AI strategies and programmes by fully and timely implementing them to ensure that the EU fully benefits from first-mover adopter advantages
- **align** AI policy to remove fragmentation and address global challenges

In order to achieve this, the updated plan sets four key sets of policy objectives, supported by concrete actions and indicating possible funding mechanism and the timeline to:

1. set enabling conditions for AI development and uptake in the EU

2. make the EU the place where excellence thrives from the lab to market
3. ensure that AI works for people and is a force for good in society
4. build strategic leadership in high-impact sectors



Set enabling conditions for AI development and uptake in the EU

Create broad enabling conditions for AI technologies to succeed in the EU through acquiring, pooling and sharing policy insights, tapping into the potential of data and fostering critical computing infrastructure.

Make EU the place where excellence thrives from the lab to the market

Ensure that EU has a strong ecosystem of excellence including world-class foundational and application-oriented research and capabilities to bring innovations from the 'lab to the market'. Testing and experimentation facilities (TEFs), European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs) and the European 'AI-on-demand' platform will play key role in facilitating a broad uptake and deployment of AI technologies.

Ensure that AI works for people and is a force for good in society

The EU has to ensure that AI developed and put on the market in the EU is human-centric, sustainable, secure, inclusive and trustworthy. The proposed actions focus on:

- nurturing talent and improving the supply of skills necessary to enable a thriving AI eco-system
- developing the policy framework to ensure trust in AI systems
- promoting the EU vision on sustainable and trustworthy AI in the world

Build strategic leadership in high-impact sectors

To align with the market developments and ongoing actions in Member States and to reinforce EU position on the global scale the review puts forward joint actions in seven sectors. These sectors are environment, health, a strategy for robotics in the world of AI, public sector, transport, law enforcement, migration and asylum, and agriculture.

Investment

The Commission proposed that the EU invests in AI at least €1 billion per year from the Horizon Europe and Digital Europe programmes. EU-level funding on AI should attract and pool investment to foster collaboration among Member States, and maximise impact by joining forces.

The Recovery and Resilience Facility provides an unprecedented opportunity to modernise and invest in AI. Through this the EU can become a global leader in the development and uptake of human-centric, trustworthy, secure and sustainable AI technologies.

Background

Member States and the Commission have collaborated closely and met regularly to work on the main actions proposed in the 2018 Coordinated Plan. They progressed in all areas of the plan including by proposing a data strategy, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises and creating conditions for excellence in research and development and uptake of AI in Europe.

Overall, the first two years of implementation confirmed that joint actions and structured cooperation between Member States and the Commission are key to the EU's global competitiveness and leadership in AI development and uptake. Most Member States have adopted national AI strategies and started to implement them. Investments in AI have increased and the EU was able to mobilise critical resources to support these processes.

All Member States have made substantial efforts to develop national strategies on AI or to include an AI dimension in their existing strategies and programmes. The adoption of national strategies helped Member States to reflect on the priorities and objectives for the development and uptake of AI. And, it triggered wider public debate in many Member States.

19 countries out of 27, as well as Norway, have adopted national strategies. The remaining national strategies are in progress and expected to be published soon.

The 2021 review of the Coordinated Plan on AI Review invites Member States to review and update national AI strategies as required. Some Member States have already updated and reviewed their initial strategies.

Country	Status	Date
Austria	In progress	TBC
Belgium	In progress	TBC
Bulgaria	Published	December 2020
Croatia	In progress	TBC
Cyprus	Published	January 2020
Czechia	Published	May 2019
Denmark	Published	March 2019
Estonia	Published	July 2019
Finland	Published	October 2017
France	Published	March 2018

Country	Status	Date
Germany	Published	November 2018
Greece	In progress	TBC
Hungary	Published	September 2020
Ireland	In progress	TBC
Italy	In progress	TBC
Latvia	Published	February 2020
Lithuania	Published	March 2019
Luxembourg	Published	May 2019
Malta	Published	October 2019
Netherlands	Published	October 2019
Norway	Published	January 2020
Poland	Published	December 2020
Portugal	Published	June 2019
Romania	In progress	TBC
Slovakia	Published	July 2019
Slovenia	In progress	TBC
Spain	Published	December 2020
Sweden	Published	May 2018

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Communication on Fostering a European approach to Artificial Intelligence

Press release of 16/04/21: Commission proposes new rules and actions for excell...

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Big Picture

Strategy for artificial intelligence

The European Commission has developed a strategy for artificial intelligence that puts European values at its centre.

Dig deeper

AI Excellence: Ensuring that AI works for people

The Commission is committed to ensuring AI works for people by fostering digital skills and promoting a human-centric approach to AI globally.

AI Excellence: Enabling conditions for AI's development and uptake

The Commission has identified actions to create the right environment for the development and uptake of AI in Europe.

AI Excellence: From the lab to the market

The Coordinated Plan aims to ensure AI excellence from the lab to the market by promoting research in AI, encouraging uptake of AI, and funding innovation.

AI Excellence: Build strategic leadership in high-impact sectors

The 2021 review of the Coordinated Plan on AI puts forward seven sectoral action areas where the EU can build strategic leadership

See Also

Regulatory framework proposal on Artificial Intelligence

The Commission is proposing the first ever legal framework on AI, which addresses the risks of AI and positions Europe to play a leading role globally.

Source URL: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/policies/plan-ai>