

Dear Ms Ursula von der Leyen
President of the European Commission

Appeal for the Development of AI in Europe

AI is not merely a sector of the economy.

It is a condition of Europe's sovereignty, security, and agency.

We demand immediate and radical action, not more declarations.

1. Ethics as an Advantage

Ethics must be a framework that gives direction, not a pretext for paralysis.

We must put human agency and the public interest first, ahead of the interests of large corporations. Technology is not an end in itself, but a tool serving humanity. Creating an **ethical AI ecosystem** means clear standards: transparency, accountability, auditability, and institutional resilience.

We must focus on real threats: the protection of privacy, systems of influence, manipulation, the security of critical infrastructure, and the prevention of algorithmic discrimination.

2. Labour Market and Skills

The best people are already leaving and not coming back.

Talent, startups, and capital choose places where solutions can be tested, deployed, and scaled faster.

We must radically reform the education system, including workers undergoing transformation, and introduce tax regulations favourable to genuine AI experts. The visa system also requires radical reform: this is not about mass migration of paper qualifications. Europe should attract people who want to, and are able to, build high added value for the European economy.

3. Social Capital

Without solidarity, trust, and cooperation within communities, no AI strategy will work.

Europe needs real networks of cooperation: universities – startups – industry – administration. Not more panels and declarations, but joint projects, shared ownership of results, and shared risk.

Trust in AI can be built only through transparent processes, auditable models, and clear responsibility for the consequences of decisions. The development of AI must not lead to the concentration of technological and economic power in the hands of a few entities, whether external or internal.

4. Human Capital and Risk

Europe too often rewards passivity, discourages risk-taking, and hands markets, technologies, and added value over to its competitors.

We need a culture of agency and innovation: the belief that people can shape reality, create companies, build products, and compete globally.

Technology financing must be larger, faster, and simpler. Investment procedures must be simplified, administrative barriers reduced, and AI rooted in the real economy: manufacturing, exports, healthcare, energy, logistics, and public services. Special support should go to manufacturing and export companies that create real added value in Europe.

5. Our Own Models and a European AI Layer

Europe cannot be merely a licensee of other people's models.

Technological sovereignty without our own foundation models is an empty declaration. We can build the best computing infrastructure and the best regulations – and still remain dependent on models created according to other people's interests.

Europe must finance and develop its own AI models: open-source or under European institutional control, available to people, companies, universities, and public administration. A European model layer is possible — but it requires scale, funding, and a political mandate comparable to the one the United States gave to its champions.

6. Access to Computing Power and Data

Without computing power and data, Europe does not exist as an independent actor.

Europe must become a **computing centre of the world**. We need supercomputers available not only to giants, but also to smaller companies, universities, and the public sector. We need high-quality public datasets that can actually be used – without legal chaos, fictional availability, and administrative blockages.

7. Energy for AI

Without cheap, stable, and clean energy, there will be no European AI.

AI needs not only data and computing power, but also enormous energy resources. Europe will not build technological sovereignty on expensive and unstable electricity.

We must radically accelerate investment in stable energy sources, including distributed sources such as SMRs, transmission grids, energy storage, and the location of data centres where real power availability exists. The energy transition must support industry, technology companies, and public security, not become another barrier to development.

8. Regulation That Does Not Suffocate

Regulation should protect people and the market, not push innovation out of Europe.

Regulations must not work one-sidedly against European companies while global competitors operate without such restrictions. We must create a flexible regulatory ecosystem, reduce barriers to development, and focus supervision on high-risk applications so as not to push innovation beyond our borders.

In its current form, the AI Act carries a real risk that, instead of strengthening European innovation, it will systematically restrict it. Excessive regulatory complexity, high compliance costs, and extensive documentation obligations slow down AI development and deployment – especially in the SME sector. Europe is creating a legal framework that its own companies are often unable to bear effectively.

9. A Real Single Market for AI

Regulatory fragmentation kills scale. The world is a game of competition and interests, not a symmetrical market.

We must create a European AI Super League: unify the shape and actual application of AI law, create fast cross-border pathways for testing and deployment, and ensure effective mechanisms for protecting competition at the European level.

10. Europe as the First Customer

*Without demand, there is no market. Without a market, there are no **European AI champions**.*

Public administration must actively deploy AI, becoming the first credible customer and a catalyst for development. Public procurement should build our own competences, our own companies, and our own value chains.

We need shorter decision-making cycles, standardised processes, and staff rotation between the public, private, and academic sectors.

Europe has the resources, the people, and the values. What we lack is speed, coherence, and courage.

We cannot be a museum or a digital colony. We must be an actor.

The time for action has come.

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