

# 2024 G7 Apulia Summit Interim Compliance Report

15 June 2024 to 20 December 2024

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15 March 2025
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"We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That's why today's outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance."

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme, in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit

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# 14. Digital Economy: Artificial Intelligence for Work

"[We will work to ensure that artificial intelligence] ... fosters inclusiveness and equal opportunities in the world of work."

Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué

#### **Assessment**

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

# **Background**

The digital economy was first integrated into the G7 agenda at the 2000 Okinawa Summit with the formation of the Digital Opportunities Task (DOT) Force.<sup>2212</sup> As digitalization and technological advancements accelerated, G7 strategies have evolved to ensure that digital innovation remains inclusive and fosters economic productivity. The 2000 Okinawa Summit marked the then G8's early recognition of the potential of Information Technology to empower the global citizens and drive sustainable economic growth.<sup>2213</sup> On 18 June 2013, the Lough Erne Summit communiqué underscored the ability of open digital data to expand labor markets by creating new jobs and businesses, signaling optimism about the impact of digital technologies on employment opportunities.<sup>2214</sup> By the 2017 Taormina Summit, the focus shifted to emerging Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies and the need to adapt societal structures to evolving global norms in the digital realm.<sup>2215</sup> Most recently, at the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 members highlighted the importance of human-centricity and inclusivity in AI deployment to sustain a resilient digital revolution. The discourse on the digital economy and AI's impact on the workforce remains vital to ensuring a productive and resilient economy in today's data-driven world.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders recognized the critical role of IT in the global economy, understanding its potential to boost productivity, stimulate economic growth, and expand job opportunities.<sup>2216</sup> They emphasized the need to ensure transparency, accountability, and inclusivity in the IT-driven economic and social transformation by creating the DOT Force.<sup>2217</sup>

<sup>2215</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2212</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2213</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2214</sup> G8 Open Data Charter, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-open-data.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2216</sup> Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2217</sup> Digital Opportunities for All: Meeting the Challenge | DOTForce Report Card, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 6 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/dotforce\_reportcard.pdf

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the DOT, identifying strategies to ensure that the digital revolution benefits all sectors and helps reduce economic inequalities between countries.<sup>2218</sup> The DOT also reiterated supporting developing countries so they could equally participate in and benefit from emerging digital economies. Additionally, the term IT was replaced by Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 members pledged to host an annual e-G8 Internet meeting with key stakeholders to discuss potential challenges posed by the growing Internet economy.<sup>2219</sup> The members committed to robust cooperation to create a framework to advance digital innovation and maximize new opportunities in cloud computing, social networking, and citizen publications.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders published an Open Data Charter and acknowledged that open government data can be useful in producing new markets, businesses, and jobs.<sup>2220</sup> They further encouraged the private sector to embrace open data practices and make this information accessible to the public, fostering greater innovation and transparency.<sup>2221</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders adopted the Charter for the Digitally Connected World where they reiterated the vital role of ICT in generating socially inclusive economic growth and expanding employment opportunities.<sup>2222</sup> The Charter promoted the proliferation of ICT infrastructure to enable new business models, ensure equitable access to international markets, reduce unemployment disparities, and strengthen connectivity among global citizens.<sup>2223</sup>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders announced the Next Production Revolution (NPR), which enables all businesses to harness the benefits of digitalization and innovation-driven growth.<sup>2224</sup> They also recognized the challenges posed by the automation in labor markets, emphasizing the need to manage this transformation by adapting education systems, modernizing work training, and enacting effective labor policies. Accordingly, the People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor was adopted, aimed at advancing the use of AI, fostering people-driven innovation and enhancing the quality of jobs.<sup>2225</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members endorsed the Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, committing to generating economic growth through AI advancements while ensuring inclusivity in the AI-driven workforce.<sup>2226</sup> They pledged to promote lifelong education on AI adoption, support marginalized populations in participating in the labor market, and establish active labor market policies to achieve inclusivity in the digital sphere.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2218</sup> Digital Opportunities for All: Meeting the Challenge, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 May 2001. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/dotforce1.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2219</sup> G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 6 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html

<sup>2220</sup> G8 Open Data Charter, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-open-data.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2221</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 6 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2222</sup> G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2223</sup> Charter for the Digitally Connected World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 April 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/2016-ict-charter.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2224</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2225</sup> G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/action-plan.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2226</sup> Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/ai-commitment.html

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders stated that the core agenda for economic recovery and growth is a green digital transformation that increases productivity, creates quality jobs, and improves resilience.<sup>2227</sup> Additionally, they emphasized the importance of values-driven, human-centric digital ecosystems to boost productivity and resilient innovation.

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to driving digital and green transformations, promising to leverage digital technologies to build a net-zero, resource-efficient, and productive economy.<sup>2228</sup>

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders launched the Hiroshima AI Process to advance the safety, security, and trustworthiness of AI while addressing its potential risks.<sup>2229</sup> Furthermore, they created the Hiroshima Process International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems, underscoring human rights, fairness and non-discrimination, democracy, and a human-centric approach in the deployment of advanced AI technologies.<sup>2230</sup>

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to "[work to ensure that AI]...fosters inclusiveness and equal opportunities in the world of work." 2231

#### **Commitment Features**

Compliant members must take action to ensure that AI is utilized to foster inclusive and equal opportunities in the world of work.

# **Definitions and Concepts**

"AI" or artificial intelligence is understood to "the use or study of computer systems or machines that have some of the qualities that the human brain has, such as the ability to interpret and produce language in a way that seems human, recognize or create images, solve problems, and learn from data supplied to them." 2232

"Ensure" is understood as "to make something certain to happen."<sup>2233</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to the guarantee that AI supports work opportunities according to the two dimensions.

"Foster" is understood to mean "to encourage the development of something."<sup>2234</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to growing and encouraging the two dimensions of work opportunities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2227</sup> Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2228</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2229</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement on the Hiroshima Al Process, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 October 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/231030-ai.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2230</sup> Hiroshima Process International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced Al Systems, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 October 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2023. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/231030-ai-code-of-conduct.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2231</sup> Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2232</sup> Artificial Intelligence, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024.

https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/artificial-intelligence

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2233</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2024.

https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\_Coding\_Manual\_2020.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2234</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2024.

 $https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\_Coding\_Manual\_2020.pdf$ 

"Inclusive" is understood as "includ[ing] different types of people and treat[ing] them all fairly and equally."2235 In the context of the commitment, it refers to demographic and regional inclusiveness, such as across gender, race, and socioeconomic status for individuals, and level of economic development for countries.

"Equal" is understood to mean "like in quality, nature, or status," and "like for each member of a group, class, or society." 2236

"Opportunities" is understood to mean "an occasion or situation that makes it possible to do something that you want to do or have to do, or the possibility of doing something."<sup>2237</sup> In the context of the commitment, it refers to career or job-related opportunities, such as labour participation or career advancement.

"Equal opportunities" in the context of this commitment, therefore, refer to employment opportunities accessible regardless of social identifiers such as (but not limited to) race, gender, urban-rural status, age, and immigrant-status.

"World of work." "World" is understood to mean "an area of human activity or understanding."2238 In the context of the commitment, it refers to the members and elements of work, such as industries, organizations, jobs, employers, employees, financial compensation, culture, practices, and promotions. "Work" is understood to mean "an activity, such as a job, that a person uses physical or mental effort to do, usually for money."2239 In the context of this commitment, it refers to paid employment.

# **General Interpretive Guidelines**

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members who demonstrate at least four strong actions toward inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The actions can occur domestically and/or internationally. Examples of strong actions include, but are not limited to: working with the private sector to develop AI-based opportunities; creating and supporting AI-based job openings; collaborating with higher education institutions to prepare the upcoming workforce; funding research to anticipate how AI will change the field of work; exploring interdisciplinary applications of AI across different industries; developing AI educational programs for marginalized communities, rural or geographically isolated populations, and minority groups; integrating AI knowledge into educational curriculums for children; developing programs for regulating the development of AI to protect workers and organizations; supporting innovative AI tools that increase accessibility and efficiency in the workplace; and establishing reskilling and upskilling programs as AI changes the labour force.<sup>2240</sup> International examples of strong action include working with international stakeholders and organizations; leading global initiatives and summits on AI and work; and collaborating with countries on regulating AI and mitigating risks.<sup>2241</sup>

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members who take between one and three strong actions or take several weak actions toward inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. Weak actions can occur domestically or internationally. Examples of weak actions include but are not limited

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<sup>2235</sup> Inclusive, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 22 October 2024.
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https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/world

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2236</sup> Equal, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024. https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/equal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2237</sup> Opportunity, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024.

https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/opportunity

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2238</sup> World, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 18 September 2024.

https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/world

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2239</sup> Work, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 8 September 2024.

https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/work

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2240</sup> Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2241</sup> Apulia G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 8 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html

to attending meetings on AI and work; consulting stakeholders such as labour organizations on the impact of AI; and verbal affirmations of support for creating AI-based job opportunities, research on the impact of AI.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned if the G7 member takes no strong actions and fewer than four weak actions towards fostering inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work or takes action contradictory to the commitment. Actions contradictory to the commitment may include the cancellation of above-listed strong actions and associated policies or programs. Further, if the member takes action to foster AI in the workplace but no action taken fosters inclusivity, this will result in a score of -1.

# **Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G7 member has taken no strong action and fewer than four weak actions towards fostering inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work, has taken actions contradictory to the commitment or has taken steps to ensure AI in the workplace but no steps to foster inclusivity.
0	The G7 member has taken action toward inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work by taking between one and three strong actions or at least four weak actions.
+1	The G7 member has taken at least four strong actions to ensure inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work.

Compliance Director: Eliza Yip Lead Analyst: Yeji Kim

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 17 June 2024, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Official Languages Randy Boissonnault, along with Manitoba's Minister of Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources Jamie Moses, convened the Forum of Labour Market Ministers to discuss the importance of labour market agreements in addressing employment challenges across various sectors.<sup>2242</sup> Minister Boissonnault reiterated the need to develop a workforce capable of adapting to the emerging challenges posed by AI and automation.

On 26 June 2024, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne launched the Consultation on AI Compute, designed to facilitate the execution of a new AI Compute Access Fund and a Canadian AI Sovereign Compute.<sup>2243</sup> Through this consultation, the Government of Canada seeks to ensure fair opportunities and secure high-computing access for multiple generations. The consultation will target researchers, businesses, civil society groups, and Indigenous groups.

On 2 July 2024, Minister Champagne and European Union Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth Mariya Ivanova signed an agreement allowing Canada to enter the Horizon Europe

 $https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2024/06/minister-boissonnault-engages-in-strategic-discussions-with-provincial-and-territorial-ministers-to-strengthen-canadas-workforce. \\html$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2242</sup> Minister Boissonnault engages in strategic discussions with provincial and territorial ministers to strengthen Canada's workforce, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2243</sup> Government of Canada launches public consultation on artificial intelligence computing infrastructure, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 June 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/06/government-of-canada-launches-public-consultation-on-artificial-intelligence-computing-infrastructure.html

program, an initiative supporting research conduct on mitigating and regulating AI risks in the future digital economy.<sup>2244</sup>

On 9 July 2024, Minister Champagne and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage Taleeb Noormohamed introduced a project aimed at supporting healthcare professionals and improving the patient experience by using AI.<sup>2245</sup> Canada's Digital Technology Cluster backs the initiative to expand government support for the health sector in adapting to AI.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>2246</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 13 September 2024, Canadian Heritage announced a partnership with Mila, Quebec's Artificial Intelligence Institute, to advance AI in Canada while maintaining the integrity of Canadian content creators.<sup>2247</sup> Canadian Heritage hopes to use the expertise of Mila in developing a data strategy that promotes Canadian AI innovation, ensuring transparency within content use and the compensation of creators.

On 26 September 2024, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and French President Emmanuel Macron announced the continued Canada-France partnership in the AI development.<sup>2248</sup> The collaboration will focus policies for the responsible implementation of AI technologies and the ethical considerations surrounding these new technologies.

On 4 October 2024, Commissioner of Competition Matthew Boswell participated in the G7 meeting focused on the ethical development of AI technologies and the importance of risk mitigation.<sup>2249</sup> Canada and other G7 members collectively reaffirmed their commitment to developing AI in accordance with principles such as transparency, accountability, fairness, and inclusivity.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy. They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 22 October 2024, Prairies Economic Development Agency of Canada Minister Dan Vandal announced the opening of the national Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative to small and medium-sized businesses based

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2244</sup> Canada joins Horizon Europe programme, European Commission (Brussels) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\_24\_3626

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2245</sup> Minister Champagne to highlight Al project for health care supported by Canada's Digital Technology Cluster, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/07/minister-champagne-to-highlight-ai-project-for-health-care-supported-by-canadas-digital-technology-cluster.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2246</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bolognia and Forli) ) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2247</sup> Government of Canada partners with Mila to guide the development of a cultural data strategy for artificial intelligence, Government of Canada (Montreal) 13 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2024/09/government-of-canada-partners-with-mila-to-guide-the-development-of-a-cultural-data-strategy-for-artificial-intelligence.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2248</sup> Remarks during the visit of the President of France, Emmanuel Macron, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/videos/2024/09/26/remarks-during-visit-president-france-emmanuel-macron

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2249</sup> Competition Bureau participates in G7 Summit on competition concerns raised by Artificial Intelligence, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 4 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/competition-

bureau/news/2024/10/competition-bureau-participates-in-g7-summit-on-competition-concerns-raised-by-artificial-intelligence.html <sup>2250</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html

in the Prairie provinces.<sup>2251</sup> This initiative aims to enhance AI adoption in Canada and seeks to support AI projects and technologies out of the Prairie provinces in need of funding. The initiative allocated CAD33.8 million out of the total CAD200 million initiative funds specifically for businesses in the Canada Prairies.

On 22 October 2024, Minister for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario Filomena Tassi announced the opening of applications for the Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative (RAII) to small and medium-sized businesses based in Southern Ontario. This initiative aims to support small and medium sized businesses with funding for AI related projects to help them integrate AI into the workplace. This regional initiative is part of the larger national RAII initiative which is set to invest CAD200 million into the AI sector over the next five years.

On 22 October 2024, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland, along with Minister Champagne, announced two initiatives aimed at helping small and medium-sized Canadian enterprises adopt new AI technologies.<sup>2253</sup> The two programs, the RAII and the AI Assist Program, will invest CAD300 million to accelerate both adoption and education on generative AI and deep learning.

On 28 October 2024, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada announced that Minister Champagne will speak at the Canada-Italy Forum of Artificial Intelligence on the topic of the countries relations and cooperation.

On 28 October 2024, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Minister responsible for Pacific Economic Development Canada (PacifiCan) Harjit S. Sajan announced the Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative aimed at supporting AI innovation and commercialization in British Columbia.<sup>2254</sup> Pacifican plans to invest CAD32.2 million in the initiative, prioritizing businesses and not-for-profit organizations with strong economic prospects while considering the health of Canadians and the environment.

On 7 November 2024, Minister Champagne completed an investment of CAD79.1 million to support the Ericsson Group's project aimed at improving Canada's telecommunications industry.<sup>2255</sup> This investment will advance Canada's 5G technologies using research and development (R&D) work and AI. This partnership aims to create 1200 new co-op student positions, 190 new jobs and maintain 2400 R&D jobs in Canada, supporting Canada's commitment to creating AI-based jobs and working with the private sector to develop AI-based opportunities.

<sup>2255</sup> Strengthening Canada's leadership in telecommunications technology: A new partnership with Ericsson, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 7 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/11/strengthening-canadas-leadership-intelecommunications-technology-a-new-partnership-with-ericsson.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2251</sup> Businesses can now apply to Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative in the Prairie provinces, Government of Canada (Edmonton) 22 October 2024. Access date: 30 October 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/prairies-economic-development/news/2024/10/businesses-can-now-apply-to-regional-artificial-intelligence-initiative-in-the-prairie-provinces.html <sup>2252</sup> Applications are now open for business growth and artificial intelligence projects, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-southern-ontario/news/2024/10/applications-are-now-open-for-business-growth-and-artificial-intelligence-projects.html <sup>2253</sup> Federal government launches programs to help small and medium-sized enterprises adopt and adapt artificial intelligence solutions, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/10/federal-government-launches-programs-to-help-small-and-medium-sized-enterprises-adopt-and-adapt-artificial-intelligence-solutions.html <sup>2254</sup> Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative will support Al innovation and adoption in British Columbia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/pacific-economic-development/news/2024/10/regional-artificial-intelligence-initiative-will-support-ai-innovation-and-adoption-in-british-columbia.html

On 12 November 2024, Minister Champagne launched the Canadian Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute (CAISI).<sup>2256</sup> This institute will focus on maintaining safety and security in the adoption of AI in Canada. The CAISI is part of the CAD2.4 billion funding allocated to the responsible development of AI technologies in the 2024 Canadian budget. This initiative aims to anticipate how AI will change the technological field of work while protecting workers and organizations.

On 13 November 2024, Competition Bureau of Canada published a report overviewing the key points from Canada's Competition Summit that took place on 14 September 2024.<sup>2257</sup> The summit aimed to understand the role of AI in the context of the Canadian economy. The published report highlights the need for regulatory frameworks for AI with both domestic and international partners and underscores AI transparency to ensure trust with consumers and citizens. The goal of the summit and the report is to advance the understanding of AI's impact on competition and create informed policy decisions to foster opportunities in the AI sphere.

On 15 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Meeting to continue establishing strong relations between the two countries.<sup>2258</sup> During the meeting, the leaders verbally committed to deepening business and trade relationships on AI, which strengthens cooperation on global AI job opportunities and regulations.

On 15 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau met with the President of South Korea Yoon Suk Yeol at the APEC Leaders' Meeting to continue building strong relations between the two countries.<sup>2259</sup> The two leaders verbally committed to strengthening business and trade relationships on AI, which strengthens cooperation on global AI job opportunities and regulations.

On 18 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba at the G20 Summit to reaffirm Canada's business relationships with Japan. The two leaders verbally affirmed the ongoing technological partnership on AI, which strengthens cooperation on global AI job opportunities and regulation.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The member is engaging various stakeholders to develop equitable AI opportunities, supporting AI opportunities in healthcare, and discussing how the labour force can overcome AI challenges. Canada has produced initiatives to promote inclusiveness and equal opportunities, such as the AI Compute Access Fund, its partnership with Mila, and its Regional Artificial Intelligence Initiative. Aside from verbal commitments, Canada has taken strong actions, such as providing funds, conducting online surveys, and engaging with communities and the ongoing online applications open for Canadians and businesses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2256</sup> Canada launches Canadian Artificial Intelligence Safety Unit, the Government of Canada (Montreal) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2024/11/canada-launches-canadian-artificial-intelligence-safety-institute.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2257</sup> Competition Bureau publishes report on Canada's Competition Summit, the Government of Canada (Gatineau) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. https://www.canada.ca/en/competition-bureau/news/2024/11/competition-bureau-publishes-report-on-canadas-competition-summit-2024.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2258</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto (Lima) 15 November 2024. Access Date 2 December 2024. https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/11/15/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-indonesia-prabowo-subianto

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2259</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of the Republic of Korea Yoon Suk Yeol, Prime Minister of Canada (Lima) 15 November 2024. Access Date 2 December 2024. https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/11/15/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-indonesia-prabowo-subianto

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2260</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister of Japan Ishiba Shigeru, Prime Minister of Canada (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/11/18/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-japan-ishiba-shigeru

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Joanna Decc

#### France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>2261</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 10 September 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry (MEFI) announced the upcoming release of an AI training module.<sup>2262</sup> MEFI will offer this initiative to ministry members as part of an internal training course, aiming to support AI-based upskilling within the ministry.

On 12 September 2024, at the G7 Labour and Employment Ministers meeting, France reaffirmed its commitment to procuring equal access to quality employment opportunities and to adopting a risk-benefit balancing approach toward AI.<sup>2263</sup>

On 26 September 2024, French President Emmanuel Macron and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the continued France-Canada partnership in the AI development.<sup>2264</sup> The collaboration will focus policies for the responsible implementation of AI technologies and the ethical considerations surrounding these new technologies.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy. They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 31 October 2024, the France Relance program, a post-Covid economic support fund, contributed EUR400,000 to the firm Cartesiam's construction of a Full Edge AI Industrial Innovation Workshop in Toulon. To

On 29 November 2024, General Secretariat for Investment (SGPI) announced the launch of "AI Convergence" challenges for February 2025 Artificial Intelligence Action Summit to promote innovation. <sup>2267</sup> The five themes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2261</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bolognia and Forli) ) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2262</sup> Mission Innovation : Les Grands Enjeux de la Rentrée 2024, Ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et de l'Industrie (Paris) 10 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

https://www.economie.gouv.fr/mission-innovation/mission-innovation-les-grands-enjeux-de-la-rentree-2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2263</sup> G7 Travail-Emploi | Réunion des ministres en Italie de septembre 2024, Ministère de Travaille et de l'Emploi (Paris) 16 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/g7-travail-emploi-reunion-des-ministres-en-italie-de-septembre-2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2264</sup> Remarks during the visit of the President of France, Emmanuel Macron, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/videos/2024/09/26/remarks-during-visit-president-france-emmanuel-macron

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2265</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2266</sup> 400 000 € pour la création du centre d'intelligence artificielle de Cartesiam, Gouvernement de France (Paris) 31 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.info.gouv.fr/portraits-de-la-relance/industrie/400-000-e-pour-la-creation-du-centre-d-intelligence-artificielle-de-cartesiam

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2267</sup> Sommet pour l'action sur l'intelligence artificielle : lancement des défis « Convergence IA », Secrétariat général pour l'investissement (SGPI) (Paris) 10 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. https://www.info.gouv.fr/actualite/sommet-pour-laction-sur-lintelligence-artificielle-lancement-des-defis-convergence-ia

for this challenge are: AI serving the public interest, The Future of Work, Innovation and culture, Trusted AI and Global AI Governance. This action will promote the development of technological solutions to the use of AI for work in an equitable and regulated manner.

On 29 November 2024, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry and Secretary of State for Artificial Intelligence and Digital Affairs Clara Chappaz publicly called for Expressions of Interest regarding "AI for efficiency."<sup>2268</sup> The program intends to highlight organizations successfully utilizing AI at the Artificial Intelligence Action Summit in Paris on 10-11 February 2025. This action will allow the government to showcase French creations in responsible AI for the workplace, promoting global innovation.

On 19 December 2024, France's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, Jay Dharmadhikari, highlighted the importance of creating inclusive international governance for AI that respects workers' rights and ensures fair access to AI-driven opportunities. <sup>2269</sup> Mr. Dharmadhikari stressed the need to avoid fragmented regulatory approaches that could lead to unequal workforce outcomes, especially widening digital divides. To advance these goals, France will host a Global AI Summit in Paris on 10-11 February 2025, bringing together governments, businesses, and workers' organizations to establish a unified approach to AI governance.

France has partially complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. France has mainly verbally affirmed its support towards the commitment. France has only engaged in a few strong actions demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach to creating tangible change for inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Stephen Bogle

# Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities in the world of work.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>2270</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 26 July 2024, Germany and Slovenia signed a partnership agreement focused on joint research, innovation, and the ethical use of AI technologies.<sup>2271</sup> This initiative aims to strengthen ties between the two countries, promote the exchange of expertise, and foster advancements in AI-driven solutions that benefit both societies.

On 1 August 2024, the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport (BMDV) announced the enforcement of the European Union's AI Act, which innovatively regulates the use of technology and human aid.<sup>2272</sup> The act

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2268</sup> Entreprises: candidatez au nouvel appel à manifestation d'intérêt « IA au service de l'efficience », ministère de l'économie des finances et de l'industrie et le ministère charge du budget et des comptes publics (Paris) 29 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. https://www.economie.gouv.fr/actualites/entreprises-candidatez-au-nouvel-appel-manifestation-dinteret-ia-au-service-de

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2269</sup> Our priority must be to put into place an inclusive form of international governance for AI which is responsible and which respects fundamental rights, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024.https://onu.delegfrance.org/our-priority-must-be-to-put-into-place-an-inclusive-form-of-international

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2270</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bolognia and Forli) ) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2271</sup> Kooperation bei KI mit Slowenien, BMDV (Berlin) 26 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 November 2024. https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Artikel/K/kooperation-bei-ki-mit-slowenien.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2272</sup>Erstes KI-Gesetz der Welt verabschiedet, BMDV (Berlin) 1 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 November 2024. https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Artikel/K/erstes-ki-gesetz.html.

mandates a two-year timeline for national implementation, ensuring AI applications align with the EU's fundamental rights and values, including transparency and ethical standards. This initiative establishes a benchmark for responsible AI development and inclusion.

On 13 September 2024, Federal Digital Minister Volker Wissing verbally affirmed the importance of AI-driven equitable opportunities in shaping a fair and inclusive global digital economy at the G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting. Minister Wissing called for international collaboration to harness AI's potential while ensuring ethical guidelines and equitable access, particularly for underserved regions.<sup>2273</sup> The minister highlighted Germany's leadership in ethical AI development, advocating for frameworks that align with the global agenda to reduce inequalities and harness AI's transformative potential for sustainable development.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>2274</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 18 October 2024, the BMVD and Federal Digital Minister Wissing launched the Center for Research and Development of Trustworthy AI Applications for Medium-Sized Companies at the German Center for Artificial Intelligence in Osnabrück. Federal and state governments invested EUR8.3 million in the project, aiming to assist medium-sized companies in all phases of implementing AI technologies.<sup>2275</sup> By providing a real-world laboratory for AI testing, this initiative will help companies navigate technical challenges and legal uncertainties, ultimately fostering innovation and enhancing Germany's AI-driven economic competitiveness.

On 20-21 October 2024, the federal government's 17th Digital Summit took place in Frankfurt am Main bringing together over 1,500 experts from business, politics, science, and civil society. Under the theme "Digital Germany - Innovative. Sovereign. International," the summit focused on key topics such as digital sovereignty and artificial intelligence. Federal Ministers Wissing and Robert Habeck, who co-organized the event, highlighted Germany's progress and commitment to advancing its position as a leader in the digital age.<sup>2276</sup>

On 14 November 2024, Germany and Brazil co-facilitated the adoption of the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee resolution on the "Right to Privacy in the Digital Age." The resolution includes new provisions on artificial intelligence, addressing emerging privacy risks and reinforcing the importance of responsible oversight.<sup>2277</sup> This initiative strengthens privacy protections globally, promotes digital literacy, and encourages the private sector to align data practices with human rights, ultimately ensuring that privacy remains a fundamental right in an evolving digital landscape.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The member has collaborated globally with other countries to strengthen international regulation and literacy on AI, hosted consultations of a diverse range of stakeholders, invested in the AI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2273</sup> B G20-Treffen: Mit KI weltweit Chancengleichheit stärken BMDV (Berlin) 7 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 12 November 2024. https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/077-wissing-g20-ki-chancengleichheit.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2274</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2275</sup> KI-Reallabor für den Mittelstand startet in Osnabrück, Bundesministerium für Digitales und Verkehr (Berlin) 18 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate, Access Date: 12 November 2024.

https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2024/087-wissing-ki-reallabor-startet-in-osnabrueck.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2276</sup> Digital-Gipfel 2024, Bundesministerium für Digitales und Verkehr (Berlin) 23 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate Access Date: 12 November 2024. https://bmdv.bund.de/SharedDocs/DE/Artikel/K/digital-gipfel-2024.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2277</sup> Statement by Germany on the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee Resolution on the Right to Privacy in the Digital Age, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations (New York) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. https://new-york-un.diplo.de/un-en/2684730.

transition, and supported ethical AI development. Germany has engaged in strong actions demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach to creating tangible change for inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Naiera Sharma

# Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 17 June 2024, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Enterprise and Made in Italy (MIMIT) Valentino Valentini, spoke at the We Make Future conference and emphasized his priority to empower Italian businesses and provide resources with the digital transition to AI.<sup>2278</sup>

On 24 June 2024, Prime Minister Georgia Meloni met with Singaporean President Tharman Shanmugaratnam to discuss the strengthening of Italy and Singapore relations and partnerships.<sup>2279</sup> They discussed artificial intelligence, focusing on balancing between AI's potential to reduce costs and its security.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>2280</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 16-17 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni and the G7 Trade Ministers met in Reggio Calabria to discuss how AI can be used to optimize trade operations and supply chains.<sup>2281</sup> In the final document, ministers reaffirmed their commitment to balance the risks of AI whilst pursuing the benefits for international trade.<sup>2282</sup>

On 17 July 2024, Italy and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) released the first public report on the "AI Hub for Sustainable Development" project.<sup>2283</sup> This initiative aims to serve as a platform to strengthen the AI ecosystem in emerging economies such as those in Africa.

On 18 July 2024, MIMIT and the United Nations Development Programme announced the first report on the recommendations and feedback gathered from regional AI stakeholders in Africa.<sup>2284</sup> MIMIT and the UNDP

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2278</sup> Il Viceministro Valentini a We Make Future, il Festival internazionale sull'innovazione Digital, Al e Tech, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/il-viceministro-valentini-a-we-make-future-il-festival-internazionale-sullinnovazione-digital-ai-e-tech

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2279</sup> Meeting with the President of the Republic of Singapore, Italian Government (Rome) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-president-republic-singapore/26091

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2280</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bolognia and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2281</sup> Trade Ministers' Meeting Outreach Session (16 July 2024) Government of Italy (Rome). Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/dichiarazione-della-presidenza-riunione-dei-ministridel-commercio-g7-villa-san-giovanni-reggio-calabria/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2282</sup> G7 Trade Ministerial Meeting: Ministerial Statement, G7 Information Centre (Villa San Giovanni – Reggio Calabria), 17 July 2024. Access Date: 28 December 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/trade/240717-statement.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2283</sup> Al Hub for Sustainable Development: Strengthening Local Al Ecosystems through Collective Action, UNDP (New York City) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.undp.org/publications/ai-hub-sustainable-development-strengthening-local-ai-ecosystems-through-collective-action

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2284</sup> The Italian G7 Presidency and UNDP launch first public report on the co-design of the AI Hub for Sustainable Development, Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy (Rome) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024.

https://www.mimit.gov.it/en/media-tools/news/the-italian-g7-presidency-and-undp-launch-first-public-report-on-the-co-design-of-the-ai-hub-for-sustainable-development

will use the recommendations and feedback to create a fair and collaborative AI Hub for Sustainable Development.

On 24 July 2024, Italy launched the pilot phase of its "International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems" aimed at collecting feedback to improve the monitoring system.<sup>2285</sup> The program seeks to ensure that AI systems are designed and implemented in alignment with democratic values.

On 6 September, Prime Minister Meloni spoke to the G7 members in Verona at the 22nd G7 Speakers' meeting.<sup>2286</sup> In the speech, she addressed AI and the importance of its ethical utilisation, ensuring equity and inclusivity. Additionally, she noted that AI systems should remain in human control as they are integrated into society.

On 24 September, Prime Minister Meloni spoke at a press conference in New York regarding the United Nations General Assembly.<sup>2287</sup> She met with leaders from major companies such as Google and OpenAI to discuss AI governance and investment.

On 24 September 2024 Prime Minister Georgia Meloni addressed the United Nations General Assembly. <sup>2288</sup> She stressed importance of balancing technological innovation with individual rights, intellectual property and democratic values.

On 2 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with President of Microsoft Brad Smith to discuss Microsoft's investment in Italy's technology sector.<sup>2289</sup> The investment aims to aid Italy in addressing the increasing need for AI technologies, especially through an increase in data centres.

On 7 October 2024, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Edmondo Cirielli attended the Hamburg Conference on Sustainability, where he reiterated Italy's commitment to fostering economic growth in Africa.<sup>2290</sup> Deputy Minister Cirielli announced the "Digital Flagship" project, which will foster digital advancement in Senegal, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Mozambique.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>2291</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation. The meeting also discussed the progress of the "AI Hub for Sustainable Development," reaffirming Italy's commitment to the advancement of the AI ecosystem in Africa.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2285</sup> G7: Pilot phase begins for monitoring of Code of Conduct on Artificial Intelligence, Italian Government (Rome) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://innovazione.gov.it/notizie/articoli/g7-inizia-la-fase-pilota-per-il-monitoraggio-del-codice-di-condotta-sull-intellig/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2286</sup> President Meloni's address at 22nd G7 Speakers' Meeting, Italian Government (Rome) 6 September 2024. Access Date 31 October 2024. https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-22nd-g7-speakers-meeting/26522

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2287</sup> UNGA: President Meloni's press point in New York, Italian Government (New York) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/unga-president-meloni-s-press-point-new-york/26666

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2288</sup> President Meloni's address at 79th United Nations General Assembly, Italian Government (New York) 24 September 2024. Access Date October 31 2024. https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-79th-united-nations-general-assembly/26659

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2289</sup> President Meloni meets with Microsoft President Brad Smith, Italian Government (Rome) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-microsoft-president-brad-smith/26713

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2290</sup> Deputy Minister Edmondo Cirielli attended the Hamburg Conference on Sustainability: focus on youth entrepreneurship in Africa, Italian Government (Rome) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

 $https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/il-vice-ministro-edmondo-cirielli-partecipa-alla-conferenza-di-amburgo-sulla-sostenibilita-focus-sullimprenditorialita-giovanile-giovanile-in-africa/$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2291</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html

On 5 November 2024, Director General of the Treasury Riccardo Barbieri Hermitte participated in an Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) roundtable discussion focusing on AI's opportunities and risks related to inclusiveness and sustainability.<sup>2292</sup> This roundtable was a part of the OECD World Forum on Well-being, which Italy presided over in Rome for 2024.

On 12 November 2024, Undersecretary of State to the Ministry of Business and Made in Italy Fausta Bergamotto reaffirmed Italy's commitment to increasingly integrate AI into African production processes to support economic and social development within the continent.<sup>2293</sup> This commitment supports the ethical and inclusive development of emerging technologies such as AI.

On 15 November 2024, the Italian G7 Presidency and UNDP co-hosted a meeting with a delegation of the private sector and technology companies to promote public-private partnerships with the African private sector and seek out investment opportunities in emerging technologies.<sup>2294</sup> This meeting highlights Italy's commitment to working with the private sector to develop AI based opportunities and globally collaborating on AI based initiatives.

On 18 November 2024, President Meloni met with the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan at a bilateral meeting during the G20 summit, discussing bilateral ties on AI.<sup>2295</sup> This meeting puts forth Italy's continued commitment to developing AI international partners.

On 28 November 2024, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Antonio Tajani met at the Pontignano Conference on Italy and UK relations on AI.<sup>2296</sup> They committed to discuss opportunities for innovative collaborations in sectors such as AI intelligence at the upcoming CEO forum in London in 2025.

On 2 December 2024, Undersecretary Bergamotto participated in the "Llama Impact Hackathon – AI at the service of citizens," aimed at developing digital skills and connecting young developers with established Italian innovation and technology associations.<sup>2297</sup> The hackathon consisted of workshops, webinars and mentoring sessions. The event highlighted Italy's commitment to collaborative and educational opportunities for the upcoming workforce within the technological sector.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. Italy verbally affirmed its support for the commitment and engaged stakeholders for feedback. However, Italy has not engaged in strong actions demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach to creating tangible change for inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. Additionally,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2292</sup> The third day of the OECD World Forum in Rome focuses on artificial intelligence, Ministry of Economy and Finances (Rome) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. https://www.dt.mef.gov.it/en/news/2024/ocse\_05112024.html <sup>2293</sup> G7, Undersecretary Bergamotto in the US to promote the ethical use of AI and emerging technologies, Ministry of Business and Made in Italy (Rome) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/g7-il-sottosegretario-bergamotto-negli-usa-per-promuovere-lutilizzo-etico-dellia-e-delle-tecnologie-emergenti

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2294</sup> G7: Mimit delegation in San Francisco for the Conference on AI for Sustainable Development in Africa, Ministry of Business and Made in Italy (San Francisco) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/g7-delegazione-mimit-a-san-francisco-per-la-conferenza-sullia-per-lo-sviluppo-sostenibile-in-africa

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2295</sup> G20 Summit: President Meloni meets with the Crown Prince of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, Italian Government (Rio de Janeiro) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 3 December 2024. https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/g20-summit-president-meloni-meets-crown-prince-emirate-abu-dhabi/27069

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2296</sup> Minister Tajani at the Italy-UK conference in Pontignano: "Rome and London are becoming closer: in the G7, in the NATO, on migration," Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/ministro-tajani-al-convegno-italo-britannico-dipontignano-roma-e-londra-sempre-piu-vicine-nel-g7-nella-nato-sulle-migrazioni/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2297</sup> L' intelligenza artificiale elemento chiave per lo sviluppo dell'economia e del tessuto produttivo, Ministry of Enterprise and Made in Italy (Rome) 2 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 December 2024. https://www.mimit.gov.it/it/notizie-stampa/l-intelligenza-artificiale-elemento-chiave-per-lo-sviluppo-delleconomia-e-deltessuto-produttivo

the scope of the actions is limited, mainly focusing on the integration of democratic values and ethics into AI technology.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Joanna Decc

# Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 28 June 2024, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) developed Priority Fields in the Use of Technologies for Long-term Care, aiming to improve the quality of long-term care services using Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and AI.<sup>2298</sup> This updated initiative emphasizes the vital role of ICT to decrease the stressors of nursing staff.

On 28 June 2024, METI published ideal strategies to human resources and skills for effective utilization of generative AI in a comprehensive report.<sup>2299</sup> The report highlights various challenges in the adoption of AI technology and proposes solutions to foster an innovative and productive data-driven society.

On 28 June 2024, METI leveraged post-5G information and communication system infrastructure as part of the Generative AI Accelerator Challenge to enhance the capabilities of generative AI development companies in Japan.<sup>2300</sup> The ministry recognizes the importance of building high-quality datasets for AI learning and is committed to supporting surveys and research that contribute to accelerating AI development within companies.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>2301</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 25 July 2024, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)'s Study Group on the Use of Generative AI in Primary and Secondary Education held their first meeting.<sup>2302</sup> They have since held four other meetings, on 8 August 2024, 3 September 2024, 24 September 2024 and 18 October 2024. This study group's meetings aim to create guidelines for AI in primary and secondary education, recognizing the importance of early education on the uses and risks of the technology.

On 2 August 2024, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida attended the 11th Joint Meeting of the AI Strategy Council and the First Joint Meeting of the AI System Study Group at the Prime Minister's Office.<sup>2303</sup> Based on the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2298</sup> Priority Fields in the Use of Robot Technology for Long-term Care Revised, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0628\_004.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2299</sup> Compilation of Report on Approaches to Human Resources and Skills Required for DX Promotion in the Age of Generative Al 2024: How to Face Generative Al for Transformation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2024/0628\_003.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2300</sup> 生成AIの学習に必要なデータセット構築や データ・生成AIの利活用に向けた調査事業を実施します, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/06/20240628013/20240628013.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2301</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bolognia and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2302</sup> 初等中等教育段階における生成AIの利活用に関する検討会議。文部科学省 (Tokyo) 25 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.mext.go.jp/b\_menu/shingi/chousa/shotou/193/index.html

<sup>2303</sup> AI戦略会議·AI制度研究会合同会議,首相官邸 (Tokyo) 2 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/101 kishida/actions/202408/02ai.html

discussion, the Prime Minister Kishida reiterated Japan's commitment to the international guidelines established in Hiroshima, emphasizing the significance of balancing risk and innovation to ensure the proper use of AI.

On 27 August 2024, the Cabinet Office and METI, jointly with the MEXT, announced that the "Mathematics, Data Science and AI Education Program Certification System Review Committee" had certified 112 new literacy level programs and 100 applied basic level programs.<sup>2304</sup> These initiatives also upgraded the certifications of five previously certified programs to "Certified Education Program (Literacy Level) Plus" and six to "Certified Education Program (Applied Basic Level) Plus." This is a continuation of efforts to improve AI, mathematics and data analysis skills in university-level programs to update the skillsets of the next generation.

On 12 September 2024, Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare Keizo Takemi attended the G7 Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting.<sup>2305</sup> There, he reaffirmed Japan's commitment to human-centric developments of AI in the labour force.

On 30 September 2024, MHLW announced the establishment of an internal project team under the guidance of OpenAI Japan to investigate the possible uses of AI for Hello Work Internet Services, a government agency.<sup>2306</sup> OpenAI Japan established the team to consider using AI in labour supply and demand adjustment in the private sector. The team will focus on investigating possible usage, effects and issues using AI.

On 5 October 2024, the Information-technology Promotion Agency (IPA), under MHLW, published a document outlining its plans to upgrade the MHLW employment portal to facilitate movement of workers into higher value-added jobs involved in Digital Transformation (DX) and to enhance current skills in high tech roles.<sup>2307</sup> IPA further reiterated its commitment to the AI Business Guidelines and the Hiroshima AI Process.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>2308</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 10 October 2024, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization announced the planned implementation sites and subsidy recipients for "Post-5G Information and Communications System Infrastructure Strengthening Research and Development Project/Development of Post-5G Information and Communications System (Subsidy)."<sup>2309</sup> This project, focused on developing high-quality datasets for AI learning, aims to support Japanese private firms and universities by providing data for building AI models that foster job creation.

On 17 October 2024, METI and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) launched the Mobility DX Platform, designed to facilitate cooperation and the exchange of human resources and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2304</sup> 「数理・データサイエンス・AI教育プログラム認定制度」について 令和6年度の認定・選定結果をお知らせします。内閣府、文部科学省 (Tokyo) 27 August 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/08/20240827002/20240827002.html

<sup>2305</sup> G7労働雇用大臣会合がイタリアで開催され、武見厚生労働大臣が出席しました、厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 13 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\_43095.html 2306 ハローワークにおけるAIの活用について検討するための省内プロジェクトチームを設置します、厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 30 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/newpage\_43953.html 2307 生成AI時代のデジタル人材育成の取組について、厚生労働省 (Tokyo) 5 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/11801000/001310736.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2308</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2309</sup>「ポスト5G情報通信システム基盤強化研究開発事業/生成AI開発加速に向けた新たなデータセットの構築に関する調査」に係る実施体制の決定について、国立研究開発法人新エネルギー・産業技術総合開発機構 (Kawasaki City) 10 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.nedo.go.jp/koubo/IT3\_100322.html

information between companies.<sup>2310</sup> METI and MLIT designed this platform to strengthen employment opportunities and support businesses in the AI-based self-driving vehicles industry.

On 29 October 2024, the Ministry of Finance's Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) firm and Toyota Motor Corporation committed JPY500 billion to jointly develop driver assistance technology based on AI.<sup>2311</sup> This project is an indirect public-private partnership, as the government, with its one-third ownership stake in NTT, uniquely protects this project as an indirect public-private partnership.<sup>2312</sup>

On 26 November 2024, MEXT's Study Group on the Use of Generative AI in Primary and Secondary Education held their sixth meeting.<sup>2313</sup> This meeting focused on updating and refining the guidelines for the use of generative AI in early education. This action will prepare the school system and future students for the increasing prevalence of generative AI.

On 5 December 2024, the Prime Minister's Office uploaded a video demonstrating Japan's fisheries' efforts to make the fishing industry sustainable through the development and use of AI.<sup>2314</sup> This process involves using AI to analyse cross sections of tuna for quality checking, and operational and oceanographic data from satellites to track traditional fishing methods.

Japan fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. Japan has held meetings and published reports on creating opportunities for businesses in adapting to AI. It has also engaged stakeholders in obtaining feedback on AI development in companies and verbally affirming support for high-quality, inclusive opportunities. The member has engaged in strong actions by demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach through its educational, subsidy, and worker mobility programs.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Stephen Bogle

#### United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 8 July 2024, Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology Peter Kyle announced the expansion of the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) to incorporate experts in data, digital and AI from the Government Digital Service, the Central Digital and Data Office and the Incubator for AI.<sup>2315</sup> This move unifies digital transformation efforts under one department, positioning DSIT as the government's central hub for enhancing public services and improving the digital experience for citizens across the UK.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2310</sup> モビリティDX促進のための新たなコミュニティ「モビリティDXプラットフォーム」を立ち上げました、経済産業省と国土交通省は (Tokyo) 31 October, 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2024/10/20241031004/20241031004.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2311</sup> Toyota and NTT to jointly develop driver assistance technology that uses AI, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 29 October 2024. Date Accessed: 31 October 2024. https://www.japantimes.co.jp/business/2024/10/29/companies/toyota-ntt-driver-assistance/
<sup>2312</sup> Japan weighs selling rest of NTT stake for defense funding, Nikkei (Tokyo) 26 July 2023. Access Date: 31 October 2024. https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Japan-weighs-selling-rest-of-NTT-stake-for-defense-funding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2313</sup> 初等中等教育段階における生成AIの利活用に関する検討会議(第6回) 文部科学省 (Tokyo) 26 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 December 2024. https://www.mext.go.jp/b\_menu/shingi/chousa/shotou/193/kaisai/mext\_01948.html <sup>2314</sup> Japan's Fisheries Industry and AI Technologies, The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 5 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. https://www.japan.go.jp/topics/AI.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2315</sup> DSIT bolstered to better serve the British public through science and technology, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dsit-bolstered-to-better-serve-the-british-public-through-science-and-technology

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>2316</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 26 July 2024, the Department for Business and Trade and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy launched the Flexible AI Upskilling Fund pilot scheme to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the Professional and Business Services sector by providing match-funding for AI skills training for their employees.<sup>2317</sup> With GBP6.4 million in available funding, eligible businesses can apply for grants to enhance their workforce's AI capabilities, with amounts based on business sizes. This initiative aims to help SMEs improve their AI expertise, ensuring they remain competitive and equipped for future technological advancements, ultimately strengthening the sector's overall innovation and productivity.

On 7 August 2024, DSIT announced the distribution of GBP32 million in funding to support 98 AI projects aimed at enhancing productivity and public services across the UK.<sup>2318</sup> The funding will benefit over 200 businesses and research organizations, with a focus on sectors such as healthcare, transportation and construction. Key projects include the development of AI-driven solutions to reduce train delays, improve NHS prescription delivery efficiency and provide AI-powered construction training. The initiative aims to harness AI to drive economic growth, improve safety and increase efficiency, ultimately benefiting both businesses and public services across the nation.

On 28 August 2024, DSIT and the Department of Education launched a GBP4 million project to enhance AI tools in education, specifically aimed at reducing teacher workload.<sup>2319</sup> The project involves creating a content store of government educational resources, including curriculum guidelines and lesson plans, which AI developers will use to train more reliable and efficient tools. This initiative will help teachers by providing AI tools that can assist with marking, lesson planning and administrative tasks, ultimately saving time and improving the quality of education in classrooms.

On 19 September 2024, DSIT announced that the United Kingdom will host a conference in San Francisco on 21-22 November 2024, focused on AI safety. <sup>2320</sup> The event will bring together global AI developers to discuss the implementation of commitments made at the AI Seoul Summit earlier in the year, where companies agreed to publish their AI safety frameworks. This conference will provide a platform for AI developers and researchers to collaborate and refine their safety plans, addressing risks such as misuse. The initiative will advance international efforts to ensure AI development is both responsible and secure, in preparation for the AI Action Summit in February 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2316</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bolognia and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2317</sup> Flexible AI Upskilling Fund Pilot, Department for Business and Trade and Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 13 November. https://www.gov.uk/business-finance-support/flexible-ai-upskilling-fund-pilot <sup>2318</sup> AI to reduce train delays, speed up NHS prescriptions and train construction workers gets £32 million boost, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, UK Research and Innovation and Feryal Clark MP (London) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 13 November 2024. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ai-to-reduce-train-delays-speed-up-nhs-prescriptions-and-train-construction-workers-gets-32-million-boost

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2319</sup> Teachers to get more trustworthy AI tech, helping them mark homework and save time, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Department for Education (London) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024.

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/teachers-to-get-more-trustworthy-ai-tech-as-generative-tools-learn-from-new-bank-of-lesson-plans-and-curriculums-helping-them-mark-homework-and-save

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2320</sup> UK to bring global AI developers together ahead of AI Action Summit, AI Safety Institute, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 14 November 2024. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-bring-global-ai-developers-together-ahead-of-ai-action-summit

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>2321</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 6 November 2024, DSIT published a report, "Assuring a Responsible Future for AI.<sup>2322</sup> The report highlights the government's commitment to ensuring the safe, responsible and equitable development of AI. By exploring the growth potential of the AI assurance sector, the report provides actions to increase both the demand and supply of AI assurance tools. These efforts aim to mitigate AI risks, promote public trust and position the UK as a global leader in responsible AI development.

On 19 November 2024, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office announced an open call for proposals to research how humanitarian actors can address the risks associated with AI systems.<sup>2323</sup> The project aims to recommend a responsible framework to guide humanitarian action, ensuring AI tools are used safely and ethically in emergencies. This initiative will provide a practical approach to managing AI risks in humanitarian work, benefiting NGOs, educational institutions, and relief organizations by supporting the development of tools and frameworks for responsible AI use in crisis response.

On 25 November 2024, the United Kingdom announced the launch of the new Laboratory for AI Security Research (LASR) at the NATO Cyber Defence Conference, aimed at addressing emerging threats posed by artificial intelligence to citizens.<sup>2324</sup> The lab, supported by an initial GBP8 million of government funding, will bring together experts from industry, academia, and government, including partners such as Government Communications Headquarters, the Ministry of Defence's Defence Science and Technology Laboratory and the Alan Turing Institute. This initiative will enhance the UK's cyber resilience and national security by fostering AI-driven solutions to both bolster defence capabilities and counter adversaries' AI-driven cyber threats.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities in the world of work. The United Kingdom has verbally affirmed its support for the commitment. Additionally, the United Kingdom has engaged in strong actions demonstrating a proactive and intentional approach to creating tangible change for inclusive and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Naiera Sharma

#### United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2321</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2322</sup> Assuring a Responsible Future for Al, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (London) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assuring-a-responsible-future-for-ai

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2323</sup> Humanitarian action and responsible artificial intelligence (Al), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 24 November 2024. https://www.gov.uk/international-development-funding/humanitarian-actionand-responsible-artificial-intelligence-ai

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2324</sup> UK and its allies must stay one step ahead in new AI arms race, Cabinet Office, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 30 November 2024. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-its-allies-must-stay-one-step-ahead-in-new-ai-arms-race

On 17 June 2024, the General Services Administration launched the first cohort of Presidential Innovation Fellows on AI, which is comprised of experts from various AI stakeholder groups.<sup>2325</sup> These experts will contribute their insights to various government agencies' projects to ensure fair and responsible use of AI in fields from justice, commerce, to energy infrastructure.

On 26 June 2024, the Department of Education published a report advising how AI developers can create secure, equitable, and reliable tools for educators.<sup>2326</sup> This report's findings will support the responsible and safe use of AI within education.

On 28 June 2024, Ambassador at Large for Cyberspace and Digital Policy Nathaniel C. Fick met with Paraguayan digital stakeholders as part of the United States' commitment to supporting a reliable and secure technology ecosystem in Paraguay.<sup>2327</sup> Ambassador Fick also discussed AI issues in Chile, following his visit to Paraguay.

On 2 July 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration committed USD504 million in funding to 12 Regional Technology and Innovation Hubs to create AI job opportunities across the country, including marginalized areas.<sup>2328</sup> This funding will support equitable use of AI and related benefits across the country.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>2329</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 10 July 2024, the Council of Economic Advisers (CEA) published a report identifying labour market disruptions from AI.<sup>2330</sup> In the report, the CEA reaffirmed its commitment to consult with stakeholders to ensure inclusive government responses to AI.

On 11 July 2024, Director of the US AI Safety Institute (US AISI) Elizabeth Kelly met with European Union Director of the European AI Office (EUAIO) Lucilla Sioli to discuss ideal practices and main risks associated with AI, strengthening bilateral collaboration on scientific information exchange between the EU and the US.<sup>2331</sup> They covered topics such as content authentication tools, government computing infrastructure and best practices for implementing AI safety. Both institutions reaffirmed their shared commitment to fostering a global network that promotes safe and trustworthy AI technology.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2325</sup> Presidential Innovation Fellows launches first cohort focused exclusively on Artificial Intelligence, G7 Research Group (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/newsroom/news-releases/presidential-innovation-fellows-launches-first-cohort-focused-exclusively-on-artificial-intelligence-06172024

<sup>2326</sup> FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Al Actions and Receives Additional Major Voluntary Commitment on Al, White House (Washington D.C.) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/26/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-new-ai-actions-and-receives-additional-major-voluntary-commitment-on-ai/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2327</sup> Ambassador Fick's Travel to Paraguay and Chile, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. https://www.state.gov/ambassador-ficks-travel-to-paraguay-and-chile/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2328</sup> Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Announces Investment in Twelve Regional Technology Hubs, Creating Good-paying Jobs and Driving Economic Opportunity and Innovation in Communities Across the Country, White House (Washington D.C.) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/02/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-investment-in-twelve-regional-technology-hubs-creating-good-paying-jobs-and-driving-economic-opportunity-and-innovation-in-communities-across-the-cou/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2329</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bolognia and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2330</sup> Potential Labor Market Impacts of Artificial Intelligence: An Empirical Analysis, White House (Washington D.C.) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. https://www.whitehouse.gov/cea/written-materials/2024/07/10/potential-labor-market-impacts-of-artificial-intelligence-an-empirical-analysis/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2331</sup> U.S. Al Safety Institute and European Al Office Technical Dialogue, European Commission (Brussels) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/us-ai-safety-institute-and-european-ai-office-technical-dialogue

On 16 July 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced over USD100 million towards fostering education and career opportunities for marginalized groups, as well as developing ethical and socially conscious AI.<sup>2332</sup> This funding will support the equitable use of AI across the country.

On 19 July 2024, General Services Administrator Robin Carnahan announced that the Technological Modernization Fund had allocated USD13.8 million to the Department of Energy and Department of Commerce for upgrading nuclear energy capabilities and establishment of comprehensive AI safety guidelines.<sup>2333</sup> These funds aim to improve AI governance in the United States.

On 26 July 2024, the Department of Commerce released new guidance documents and tools on the safe, secure and trustworthy development of AI systems.<sup>2334</sup> The Department of Commerce will use these guidelines to help enhance AI governance systems and mitigate AI-related risks in the United States.

On 29 August 2024, the Department of Commerce announced agreements with two major AI developers to initiate testing on major new AI models.<sup>2335</sup> These tests aim to evaluate AI capabilities and risks while developing risk mitigation measures for AI. The agreements will help advance the AI Governance infrastructure and enhance AI safety within the US.

On 4 September 2024, the National Science Foundation (NSF) invested USD8 million into five projects under the NSF EducateAI initiative.<sup>2336</sup> This initiative plans to prepare the next generation as a diverse, AI-literate and trained workforce.

On 11 September 2024, the Department of Commerce proposed a new regulation requiring that AI developing companies report quarterly on safety testing, training plans for generative AI models and the use of large computing clusters for such training.<sup>2337</sup> The Department of Commerce will improve the AI regulatory environment and governance inside the US through this regulation.

On 18 September 2024, the Biden-Harris administration announced a planned two-day international AI safety gathering scheduled for November 20 and 21 with government leaders, scientists and AI experts from at least

<sup>2336</sup> NSF investing nearly \$8M in EducateAl awards to develop next generation of well-trained Al workforce, National Science Foundation (Washington D.C.) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://new.nsf.gov/news/nsf-investing-nearly-8m-educateai-awards-develop-next

<sup>2337</sup> Fact Sheet: Key AI Accomplishments in the Year Since the Biden-Harris Administration's Landmark Executive Order, The White House (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/10/30/fact-sheet-key-ai-accomplishments-in-the-year-since-the-biden-harris-administrations-landmark-executive-order/

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2332</sup> Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Announces Commitments from Across Technology Ecosystem including Nearly \$100 Million to Advance Public Interest Technology, White House (Washington D.C.) 16 July 2024. Access Date: 29 September 2024. https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2024/07/16/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-commitments-from-across-technology-ecosystem-including-nearly-100-million-to-advance-public-interest-technology/

<sup>2333</sup> Technology Modernization Fund announces investments in nuclear safety and Al governance, General Services
Administration (Washington D.C.) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/newsroom/news-releases/technology-modernization-fund-announces-investments-in-nuclear-safety-and-ai-governance-07192024

<sup>2334</sup> Department of Commerce Announces New Guidance, Tools 270 Days Following President Biden's Executive Order on Al,
Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/07/department-commerce-announces-new-guidance-tools-270-days-following

<sup>2335</sup> Fact Sheet: Key Al Accomplishments in the Year Since the Biden-Harris Administration's Landmark Executive Order, The
White House (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/10/30/fact-sheet-key-ai-accomplishments-in-the-year-since-the-biden-harris-administrations-landmark-executive-order/

nine countries and the European Union.<sup>2338</sup> This gathering will focus on coordinating how to safely develop AI technologies and avert their dangers.

On 23 September 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced the Partnership for Global Inclusivity on AI, bringing together the Department of State, Amazon, Anthropic, Google, IBM, Meta, Microsoft, Nvidia and OpenAI to jointly invest USD100 million.<sup>2339</sup> The Department of State promised an investment of USD10 million and planned to invest an additional USD23 million. The partnership intends to share resources to unlock AI potential for sustainable global development, improving global AI governance, training people to work with AI and increasing access to AI models for the public.

On 23 September 2024, President Joe Biden and United Arab Emirates President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan presented a memorandum for cooperation in AI and related technologies.<sup>2340</sup> This memorandum discusses improving AI governance in both countries, promoting ethical AI research, improving AI protection, fostering sustainable development of AI and increasing bilateral research and development (R&D) investment.

On 2 October 2024, the US invested USD100 million into R&D of AI technologies to develop experimental AI-powered semiconductor autonomous and sustainable manufacturing programs.<sup>2341</sup> This investment plans to integrate AI into the regular workforce and manufacturing of semiconductors.

On 24 October 2024, the government of the US released a new national security memorandum, articulating its national security strategy and policy towards AI.<sup>2342</sup> This memorandum documents safety guidance, security guidelines and development procedures for AI.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>2343</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 24 October 2024, the government published the Framework to Advance AI Governance and Risk Management in National Security.<sup>2344</sup> The government documents future AI risk management procedures and policies in national security through this framework.

On 14 November 2024, the Department of Homeland Security released a new set of recommendations for safe and secure deployment and development of AI within critical infrastructure, the "Roles and Responsibilities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2338</sup> Biden Administration to Host International Al Safety Meeting in San Francisco After Election, U.S. News (Washington D.C.) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2024-09-18/biden-administration-to-host-international-ai-safety-meeting-in-san-francisco-after-election

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2339</sup> United States and Eight Companies Launch the Partnership for Global Inclusivity on AI, The Department of State (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.state.gov/united-states-and-eight-companies-launch-the-partnership-for-global-inclusivity-on-ai/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2340</sup> United States and United Arab Emirates Cooperation on Artificial Intelligence, The White House (Washington D.C.) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/09/23/united-states-and-united-arab-emirates-cooperation-on-artificial-intelligence/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2341</sup> Biden-Harris Administration to Invest up to \$100 Million to Accelerate R&D and AI Technologies for Sustainable Semiconductor Materials, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/10/biden-harris-administration-invest-100-million-accelerate-rd-and-ai

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2342</sup> The Biden Administration's National Security Memorandum on Al Explained, CSIS (Washington D.C.) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.csis.org/analysis/biden-administrations-national-security-memorandum-ai-explained <sup>2343</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2344</sup> The Biden Administration's National Security Memorandum on AI Explained, CSIS (Washington D.C.) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.csis.org/analysis/biden-administrations-national-security-memorandum-ai-explained

Framework for Artificial Intelligence in Critical Infrastructure."<sup>2345</sup> This new set of recommendations will help reduce the vulnerabilities in critical infrastructure from attacks using AI, attacks targeting US AI systems, and AI risks.

On 20 November 2024, the Department of Commerce announced the formation of the Testing Risks of AI for National Security Taskforce.<sup>2346</sup> This taskforce will bring together personnel across the US government to help regulate and manage national security implications from AI.

On 20 November 2024, the Department of Commerce invested USD3.8 million to a total global funding of USD11 million to build, research and deploy safe, risk mitigated and responsible AI in USAID partners overseas.<sup>2347</sup> This investment will help increase global AI regulations and mitigate risks for AI safety globally.

On 20 November 2024, the Department of Commerce and the Department of State participated in launching the International Network of AI Safety, alongside 10 other countries.<sup>2348</sup> This international network aims to coordinate global efforts to ensure AI safety across all member nations in the network, whilst providing a platform to bring together global expertise on AI regulation and safety.

On 20 November 2024, the US AISI participated in the first multi-national AI safety testing exercise, alongside experts from Singapore's Digital Trust centre and the United Kingdom's AI Safety Institute.<sup>2349</sup> This exercise will enhance AI safety testing procedures and AI safety risk mitigation strategies.

On 19 December 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration, under the CHIPS and Science Act, awarded up to USD458 million in funding and USD500 million in loans to South Korean company SK Hynix for a USD3.87 billion AI semiconductor facility in Indiana.<sup>2350</sup> This investment aims to create close to 1000 jobs and bolster US AI chip supply chain resilience through developing research technology with Purdue University.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The United States has invested in creating education and job opportunities for diverse communities, various industry sectors, and international partners. It has also engaged a wide range

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2345</sup> U.S. Al Safety Institute Establishes New U.S. Government Taskforce to Collaborate on Research and Testing of Al Models to Manage National Security Capabilities & Risks, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/11/us-ai-safety-institute-establishes-new-us-government-taskforce

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2346</sup> U.S. Al Safety Institute Establishes New U.S. Government Taskforce to Collaborate on Research and Testing of Al Models to Manage National Security Capabilities & Risks, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/11/us-ai-safety-institute-establishes-new-us-government-taskforce

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2347</sup> FACT SHEET: U.S. Department of Commerce & U.S. Department of State Launch the International Network of Al Safety Institutes at Inaugural Convening in San Francisco, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://www.commerce.gov/news/fact-sheets/2024/11/fact-sheet-us-department-commerce-us-department-state-launch-international

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2348</sup> FACT SHEET: U.S. Department of Commerce & U.S. Department of State Launch the International Network of Al Safety Institutes at Inaugural Convening in San Francisco, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://www.commerce.gov/news/fact-sheets/2024/11/fact-sheet-us-department-commerce-us-department-state-launch-international

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2349</sup> FACT SHEET: U.S. Department of Commerce & U.S. Department of State Launch the International Network of Al Safety Institutes at Inaugural Convening in San Francisco, Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://www.commerce.gov/news/fact-sheets/2024/11/fact-sheet-us-department-commerce-us-department-state-launch-international

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2350</sup> Biden-Harris Administration Announces CHIPS Incentives Award with SK hynix to Advance U.S. Technological Leadership and Expand Capacity of Chips Crucial to the AI Supply Chain, US Department of Commerce (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2024/12/biden-harris-administration-announces-chips-incentives-award-sk-hynix

of stakeholders in the digital transition process and published reports guiding the equitable and fair development of AI.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ngai Chung Chan

# European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal opportunities based on artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of work.

On 18 June 2024, the European Commission launched a targeted consultation to gather input from stakeholders on the utilization of AI in finance.<sup>2351</sup> The active contribution of industries will help the Commission provide guidance to the financial sector for executing the AI Act, fostering technological innovation while ensuring effective management of associated risks.

On 2 July 2024, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth Mariya Ivanova and Canadian Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François Champagne signed an agreement allowing Canada to enter the Horizon Europe program, an initiative supporting research conduct on mitigating and regulating AI risks in the future digital economy.<sup>2352</sup>

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission launched the DIGITAL program, investing EUR55 million into specialised education programs at the bachelor to doctorate level related to AI and sustainable AI development in fields such as robotics, virtual reality, renewable energy and transport.<sup>2353</sup> The European Commission plans to significantly increase the number of specialists in information and communications technology capable of working with AI up to 20 million by 2030, while also promoting gender equality in the AI sector.

On 3 July 2024, the European Commission published a report on the State of the Digital Decade, publicly recognizing the need for increased investments in digital capacity, high-quality internet connectivity, and adoption of AI.<sup>2354</sup> The report also evaluates the progress made toward accomplishing the digital objectives established for 2030 under the EU's Digital Decade Policy Programme. Through this report, the EU reaffirms its commitment to strengthening cooperation to achieve the Digital Decade's goals and to fostering a functional Digital Single Market.

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission introduced the Digital European Programme (DEP) which aims to invest over EUR108 million to reinforce the EU's digital and technological capacity.<sup>2355</sup> These investments will improve Europe's leadership in AI, establish specialized training programs for advanced digital skills and address the risks of disinformation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2351</sup> Commission seeks input from industry on the use of artificial intelligence in finance, European Commission (Brussels) 18 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-seeks-input-industry-use-artificial-intelligence-finance

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2352</sup> Canada joins Horizon Europe programme, European Commission (Brussels) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\_24\_3626

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2353</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over €108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2354</sup> Digital Decade 2024 report calls for strengthened collective action, European Commission (Brussels) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://commission.europa.eu/news/digital-decade-2024-report-calls-strengthened-collective-action-2024-07-03 en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2355</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over EUR108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission announced an investment of over EUR210 million under the DEP to enhance cybersecurity strategies and develop advanced digital capabilities across the EU.<sup>2356</sup> The Commission committed to strengthening cybersecurity of critical infrastructure and providing high-quality education programs in main digital technology fields.

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission announced a budget of EUR25 million for multi-country projects for investing into the European Digital infrastructure.<sup>2357</sup> This funding aims to decreasing digital divides and increasing European accessibility to digital infrastructure including AI.

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission invested EUR20 million into the Local Digital Twins (LDT), which aims to integrate complex AI tools into LDT toolboxes, improving economies of scale in AI and connecting European digital and AI infrastructure.<sup>2358</sup> This funding will help cities and communities decrease costs in data platform development and AI-based solutions, enhancing both innovation and AI job opportunities in the European economy.

On 4 July 2024, the European Commission announced an investment of EUR8 million into helping independent regional and national level hubs to improve regulation in the digital media ecosystem.<sup>2359</sup> These hubs aim to fight against disinformation created by AI, enhance monitoring of online platforms and strengthen public awareness about the risks of the digital ecosystem.

On 9 July 2024, the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth jointly released a report examining the impacts of AI on youth rights and well-being.<sup>2360</sup> The report highlights the advantages of accessible AI-powered tools for youth employment while addressing AI-related challenges, including ethical concerns, data profiling and automated substitution for youth work services.

On 9 July 2024, G7 Science and Technology Ministers reaffirmed their shared commitment to offer high-level training in AI and high-performance computing to improve economic productivity and integrity.<sup>2361</sup> They further reiterated the importance of inclusiveness and trustworthiness in conducting Open Science research.

On 11 July 2024, Director of the EUAIO Lucilla Sioli, met with Director of the US AI Safety Institute Elizabeth Kelly, to discuss ideal practices and main risks associated with AI, strengthening bilateral collaboration on scientific information exchange between the EU and the US.<sup>2362</sup> They covered topics such as content authentication tools, government computing infrastructure and best practices for implementing AI safety. Both

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2356</sup> Commission to invest over EUR210 million in cybersecurity, digital capacities and technology under the Digital Europe Programme, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec. europa.eu/en/news/commission-invest-over-eu210-million-cybersecurity-digital-capacities-and-technology-under-digital <sup>2357</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over €108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2358</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over €108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2359</sup> Digital Europe Programme invests over €108 million in European digital skills, capacity, and tech, European Commission (Brussels) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/digital-europe-programme-invests-over-eu108-million-european-digital-skills-capacity-and-tech

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2360</sup> Insights into artificial intelligence and its impact on the youth sector, the European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://pjp-

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2361</sup> G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Bolognia and Forli) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/science/2024-science.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2362</sup> U.S. Al Safety Institute and European Al Office Technical Dialogue, European Commission (Brussels) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/us-ai-safety-institute-and-european-ai-office-technical-dialogue

institutions reaffirmed their shared commitment to fostering a global network that promotes safe and trustworthy AI technology.

On 1 August 2024, the Directorate-General for Communication declared that the AI Act would enter into force, aimed to increase the transparency of AI technologies, minimalize AI risks in Europe and restrict violations of individual rights, such as attempted social credit scoring with AI.<sup>2363</sup> This initiative will improve the AI regulatory framework and governance in Europe.

On 1 August 2024, the European Commission created the AI Board which includes representatives from each EU member.<sup>2364</sup> The AI Board will assist with the implementation of the AI act in the European Union, providing advice to the European Commission on international AI cooperation policies and other strategic AI-related policies.

On 5 September 2024, the Council of Europe stated that the Framework Convention on AI and human rights, democracy and the rule of law would come into force.<sup>2365</sup> This international treaty, signed by 11 non-EU member states and the European Union, aims to regulate AI systems in alignment with human rights, democracy and rule of law, thereby strengthening the international AI governance and regulatory framework for AI.

On 9 September 2024, the European Commission launched a call for creating new AI factories to help research and development in AI.<sup>2366</sup> It also called for increasing the availability to AI technologies in Europe towards all Europeans, including startups, industry and research.

On 30 September 2024, the European Commission announced a global list of experts recruited to draft a code of practice for general-purpose AI.<sup>2367</sup> The code aims to encompass guidelines for risk management, transparency, copyright and safety.

On 10 October 2024, G7 Ministers of Industry, Technology, and Digital discussed digital innovation and its relationship with inclusivity and sustainability in the economy.<sup>2368</sup> They emphasized the need to uphold the democratic values of gender equality and human rights in digital transformation.

On 29 October 2024, the European Innovation Council will contribute EUR1.4 billion next year into the AI research sector.<sup>2369</sup> This funding represents an increase of EUR200 million from the previous year.

On 5 November 2024, the European Council approved the conclusions reached by the European Court of Auditors, affirming that the EU must increase investments in AI and enhance public access to digital

<sup>2364</sup> Al Board, European Commission (Brussels) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/ai-board

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2363</sup> Al Act enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 1 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://commission.europa.eu/news/ai-act-enters-force-2024-08-01\_en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2365</sup> Council of Europe opens first ever global treaty on AI for signature, Council of Europe (Strasbourg) 5 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/council-of-europe-opens-first-ever-global-treaty-on-ai-for-signature <sup>2366</sup> EU boosts European AI developers with the AI Factories call for proposals, European Commission (Brussels) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\_24\_4621

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2367</sup> European Commission appoints 13 experts to draft AI Code, Euronews (Lyon) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.euronews.com/next/2024/09/30/european-commission-appoints-13-experts-to-draft-ai-code

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2368</sup> G7 Industry and Technology Ministers convene in Rome to advance industrial competitiveness, digital innovation, and sustainable digital transformation, G7 Information Centre (Rome) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/241010-industry-tech-summary.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2369</sup> EU to invest \$1.5 billion in region's deep tech sector, Reuters (Toronto) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.reuters.com/technology/eu-invest-15-billion-regions-deep-tech-sector-2024-10-29/

infrastructure.<sup>2370</sup> This approval demonstrates the EU's future commitment towards investing into the AI sector and digital infrastructure.<sup>2371</sup>

On 13 November 2024, the European Commission launched a targeted stakeholder consultation process to help shape the future guidelines of AI regulation under the AI act.<sup>2372</sup> This will improve the practicality of the regulatory process of AI and provide industry stakeholder feedback to further improve the guidelines for AI regulation under the AI act.<sup>2373</sup>

On 20 November 2024, the AI Office participated in launching the International Network of AI Safety, alongside 10 other initial member nations.<sup>2374</sup> This international network seeks to coordinate global efforts to ensure AI safety across all member nations in the network, whilst providing a platform to bring together global expertise on AI regulation and safety.<sup>2375</sup>

On 4 December 2024, the European Commission launched an industry-academia network under the European Cyber Skills academy to improve links between industry and academia on matters of cybersecurity. <sup>2376</sup> This will improve the infrastructure of AI safety, mitigate AI risks and improve AI security.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to foster inclusiveness and equal AI-based opportunities in the world of work. The European Union has invested in establishing governance and training infrastructure, creating upskilling and education opportunities, funded initiatives on the regional and national level, engaged a wide range of stakeholders in the digital transition process, investigated the effects of AI on youth employment, and published reports guiding the equitable and fair development of AI.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ngai Chung Chan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2370</sup> Artificial intelligence (AI): Council approves conclusions to strengthen EU's ambitions, Council of the EU (Brussels) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/05/artificial-intelligence-ai-council-approves-conclusions-to-strengthen-eu-s-ambitions/

<sup>2371</sup> Artificial intelligence (AI): Council approves conclusions to strengthen EU's ambitions, Council of the EU (Brussels) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/11/05/artificial-intelligence-ai-council-approves-conclusions-to-strengthen-eu-s-ambitions/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2372</sup> Commission launches consultation on Al Act prohibitions and Al system definition (Brussels) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-launches-consultation-ai-act-prohibitions-and-ai-system-definition

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2373</sup> Commission launches consultation on Al Act prohibitions and Al system definition (Brussels) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-launches-consultation-ai-act-prohibitions-and-ai-system-definition

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2374</sup> Fostering global AI safety: EU AI Office participates in inaugural International Network of AI Safety Institutes meeting, European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/fostering-global-ai-safety-eu-ai-office-participates-inaugural-international-network-ai-safety <sup>2375</sup> Fostering global AI safety: EU AI Office participates in inaugural International Network of AI Safety Institutes meeting, European Commission (Brussels) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/fostering-global-ai-safety-eu-ai-office-participates-inaugural-international-network-ai-safety <sup>2376</sup> The Commission launches Industry-Academia Network to bridge cybersecurity skills gap, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 4 December 2024. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-launches-industry-academia-network-bridge-cybersecurity-skills-gap