

PRESS RELEASE

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Industrial and Responsible AI: The European Trustworthy AI Association Gathers Momentum

On the occasion of the Trustworthy AI Summit, the European Trustworthy AI Association is following the trajectory it initially set to develop and animate the European community for responsible and industrial AI. Its goal is to facilitate the design and validation of reliable, explainable AI systems that comply with evolving regulations, using open-source tools. The association has already announced the membership of around thirty organizations across Europe and worldwide.

AI is considered as one of the main “game changers” in the global economy, generating high expectations and numerous promises. Yet, the reality shows that the path to industrial deployment is still long. Trust is the key element in the AI value chain, and it can only be guaranteed through certified components and a methodology compliant with regulatory requirements.

This is precisely the ambition of the [European Trustworthy AI Association](#), born from the initiative of actors in the [Confiance.ai](#) program: to offer a reference methodology and tools to promote the adoption of responsible AI and enable industrial-scale deployment.

Open Source and European Openness: The Association's Founding Principles

The Confiance.ai program has positioned France at the forefront of trustworthy AI engineering. To maintain long-term leadership, openness is key. The association therefore positions itself within a European dynamic and aims to expand its community to a growing number of international partners. Scaling up is essential for the association's success to ensure the quality of its tools, scientific relevance, and ability to meet industrial challenges at large scale.

Trustworthy AI Summit:
the annual benchmark event for the European and international trustworthy AI ecosystem.

The official launch of the association was announced today at the Trustworthy AI Summit, organized by the association's teams.

The 2025 edition brought together 200 global actors from industry, research, and regulatory bodies on the Paris-Saclay campus.

The summit will be held in a rotating format: the 2026 edition will take place in another European city.

www.trustworthy-ai-summit.eu

"For an industrial player like Thales, which deploys solutions within critical systems in sectors such as aerospace and defense, implementing trustworthy AI is essential and requires appropriate engineering tools and processes. We have been working on this topic for a long time around four pillars – validity, safety, explainability, and accountability – which we have further explored through our involvement in the Confiance.ai program. Today, we are actively pursuing efforts to industrialize trustworthy AI engineering by contributing to the establishment of the European Trustworthy AI Association," says David Sadek, Vice-President of the European Trustworthy AI Association and VP, Research, Technology & Innovation at Thales.

Building a Large European Ecosystem Around Trustworthy AI

In this perspective, the association has launched a strong development momentum, with interest expressed by many key European actors in responsible and industrial AI. **Around thirty industrial companies, start-ups, academic institutions, associations, and research organizations at the European level have already joined or are in the process of joining** (Air Liquide, Airbus, Bureau Veritas, CEA-List, ECE, Eyesnap, eOdyn, KDNS, LGM, MBDA, Multitel / TRAIL, National Technology University of Athens, Naval Group, Octopize, Safenai, IRT

Saint-Exupéry, Safran, Simula, Sopra Steria, Thales, University of Southampton / RAI UK, etc.), along with two international partners (the Japanese association JAMBE and the Canadian research organization CRIM). The association has also begun **initial collaborations to accelerate its European development with leading European AI associations** such as BDVA, Data Robotics Association, and the AI-on-Demand platform.

"The European Trustworthy AI Association was initiated at the beginning of 2025 by six partners of the Confiante.ai program (Air Liquide, Naval Group, Safran, Sopra Steria, IRT SystemX, and Thales). We are delighted to see the enthusiasm and momentum building around our value proposition, with numerous expressions of interest from major European actors in the AI field. We invite all companies involved in accelerating AI adoption in industrial systems at the European scale to join us!" comments Nicolas Rebierre, President of the European Trustworthy AI Association.

Open Source as a Lever

To embrace this principle of openness, the association has decided to build its strategy around open source. This approach enables:

- Collaboration and knowledge sharing
- Transparency and security in the development and validation of AI-based systems
- Greater independence and control compared to proprietary solutions
- Development of standards that provide international industrial recognition

During its initial phase, **the association therefore transitioned all methodologies and the majority of technological assets from the Confiante.ai program to open source** to promote wide dissemination and use. Today, more than 25 open-source tools are available in the catalog, with 7 already supported for industrial use by association members.

Operational Services and an Active Community

The association is fully operational: it supports its members, organizes and unites the existing ecosystem, and continues to enrich its methodology and component catalog.

To engage its community, it has established five working groups:

- **Industrial Use:** to help members understand and support the adoption and deployment of open-source tools and software
- **Scientific Animation:** to share updates on the state of scientific knowledge and organize scientific cooperation with RTOs and other European associations
- **Standardization:** to coordinate and pool standardization efforts and ensure alignment of the association's methodological and technological portfolio with regulations and standards
- **Training:** to coordinate the development of a training offer for engineers in partnership with engineering schools (e.g., Mastère Spécialisé IA de Confiante with CentraleSupélec) and universities
- **Communication:** to manage initiatives such as the Trustworthy AI Summit, the annual reference event for the European trustworthy AI community

A sixth working group is currently being created to support defense actors in addressing their specific challenges.

The European Trustworthy AI Association at a glance

Purpose :

- Support industrial actors in mastering key AI technologies to accelerate their integration into systems
- Strengthen technological autonomy, boost competitiveness, and consolidate the sovereignty of industrial actors by helping them navigate AI deployment complexity
- Build and unite a community of actors
- Co-develop open-source tools to ensure the adoption of trustworthy AI

Governance :

- Nicolas Rebierre (European Trustworthy AI Association) : President
- David Sadek (Thales) : Vice-President
- Yann Gasté (European Trustworthy AI Association) : Secretary General
- 6 lead members: Air Liquide, Naval Group, Safran, Sopra Steria, IRT SystemX et Thales

Key figures

- 25 assets available in the 2025 catalog, aiming for 100 in 2026

Membership Levels:

Interested companies and academic institutions can join via three levels:

- **Engage:** participation in all ecosystem events; access to the full methodological and software portfolio
- **Use:** adds initial support for portfolio usage and access to the 5 working groups
- **Lead:** includes dedicated support (SLA), participation in the roadmap of assets, and governance of the association

Next Steps

The association **continues to mature** its portfolio and complements it with partner solutions to equip European engineers with state-of-the-art open-source methodologies and tools. To facilitate usage, it is developing a **training offer** in collaboration with partner schools and universities. By working with related initiatives, it aims to promote its assets to AI stakeholders and grow its ecosystem. Simultaneously, it continues advocacy with policymakers and standardization bodies, contributing to standards that **place trust at the core of future regulations**. Long-term, it plans the next iterations of its methodology, including advancements in **generative and agentic AI**. Its ambition is to become **the European reference body** for industrial and responsible AI.

About the European Trustworthy AI Association

The European Trustworthy AI Association is a non-profit organization established by industrial leaders, building on the legacy of the Confiante.ai programme. It is on a mission to empower the industry with state of the art, open-source methodology and tools, enabling the engineering of AI-based systems that can be trusted and comply with regulations.

The Association aims to be a driving force behind an ambitious European strategy for industrial and responsible AI. Its ambition is to propel Europe to the forefront of innovation in trustworthy AI, by making its methodologies and tools an international benchmark and thus, supporting the broader adoption of responsible AI in industry.

In line with its mission, the Association builds a European ecosystem of key players and initiatives in trustworthy AI - including large companies, SMEs, start-ups, research laboratories, educational institutions, regulatory and certification bodies - and invites all these stakeholders to participate in its action.

More information on : <https://www.trustworthy-ai-association.eu>

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