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THE NEXT COMPUTING PARADIGM





Building the next computing paradigm

The 'next computing paradigm' is the convergence of technologies including the web, cyber-physical systems (CPS), cloud computing, the internet of things (IoT), digital twins and artificial intelligence (AI) into a coherent, federated ecosystem.

European academic and industry leaders need to **act fast** to establish made-in-Europe technologies in this rapidly changing landscape. Technological offerings should **meet the needs of European markets**, while ensuring that European technology is synonymous with **quality and trustworthiness** in the minds of consumers across the globe.

The HiPEAC Vision for the European computing ecosystem is characterized by the following factors, which play to European strengths and establish a 'European' flavour of computing:

- Collaborative
- Federated
- Distributed
- Interoperable
- Open source
- Trustworthy (i.e. explainable, reliable, secure, safe and privacy-preserving)
- Sustainable

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POLICY BRIEF: PRIORITIES FOR RESEARCH FUNDING







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RECOMMENDATIONS POLICY: RESEARCH FUNDING PRIORITIES





1. Technologies for a smart, interoperable, made-in-Europe computing continuum

- European foundation models and specialized action models.
- Al-powered orchestrators and orchestrating technologies.
- Digital envelopes to enable services across the continuum: interoperable runtime systems, service and code migration, optimization for latency, privacy, security, etc.
- Al-assisted software development environments, prioritizing correctness, safety, security, confidentiality and regulatory compliance.



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RECOMMENDATIONS POLICY: RESEARCH FUNDING PRIORITIES





2. Next-generation, designed-in-Europe hardware for the NCP

- Specialized, secured hardware for the edge, able to support services, orchestrators and specialized action models (SAMs) in federated networks.
- Hybrid and non-digital accelerators, moving from exact computations (digital) to approximate computing (Ising, Bayesian, stochastic, etc.).
- Open Al assistants for hardware development, particularly focusing on open domains such as architecture search.



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RECOMMENDATIONS POLICY: RESEARCH FUNDING PRIORITIES





3. Future-proof, connected safety-critical systems

- Solutions that maximize interactions between safety, security and performance for optimum system adaptability, using techniques such as combined analysis, evaluation and knock-on effects.
- Modular approach to dependability, using adaptive risk management, STPA adaptations, and real-time verification.
- Technologies for performance characterization, damage containment and operational feedback.



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RECOMMENDATIONS POLICY: RESEARCH FUNDING PRIORITIES





4. A secure and sovereign computing continuum

- Technologies for vulnerability identification at code and component levels.
- Security analyses at orchestrators, services, and communications levels.
- Al models for threat detection and autonomous systems for mitigation.
- Tools to detect and secure against Al model vulnerabilities.



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POLICY BRIEF: PRIORITIES FOR REGULATION AND STANDARDIZATION







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RECOMMENDATIONS POLICY: REGULATION AND STANDARDIZATION PRIORITIES





1. Standardized protocols for the NCP

Priorities for standardization:

- Expansion of web-level protocols to support 3D spatial and real-time interactions.
- Contract-based APIs for interoperability.
- Open protocols for distributed agentic AI systems.



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RECOMMENDATIONS POLICY: REGULATION AND STANDARDIZATION PRIORITIES





2. Future-proof cybersecurity regulation for sovereign systems

Priorities for cybersecurity standardization and regulation:

- Standardized representation of software vulnerabilities.
- Mandatory software supply-chain protection.
- Al-specific security certification for large models and autonomous agents.
- Incentivizing EU-based AI models for cybersecurity detection and mitigation.



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RECOMMENDATIONS POLICY: REGULATION AND STANDARDIZATION PRIORITIES





3. Sustainable digital systems for future generations

Priorities for sustainability regulation:

- Mandatory environmental life-cycle models for digital products and services.
- Mandatory digital product passports with sustainability data.
- Incentivizing circular business models: repair, reuse, hardware-as-a-service, etc.

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POLICY BRIEF: PRIORITIES FOR REGULATION AND STANDARDIZATION







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RECOMMENDATIONS POLICY: INFRASTRUCTURE





1. Accelerating competitive EU research and innovation

Priorities for EU research and innovation structures:

- Incentivize the creation of European science and technology clusters.
- A DARPA-style model of key R+I challenges.
- Expanding pre-competitive procurement to accelerate the development of breakthrough European technologies.



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RECOMMENDATIONS POLICY: INFRASTRUCTURE





2. Strengthening safety-critical system research

Priorities for structures to support complex and critical systems research:

- Develop a research and development dimension for complex, cross-domain integrated research.
- Launch a CERN-style initiative for research into critical and complex systems.



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