

## **ELLIS Alicante organizes the II ELLIS Doctoral Symposium on Artificial Intelligence at the University of Alicante**

- The Symposium will bring together 200 PhD students and world-renowned experts in Machine Learning in September.
- This is the first major conference in Spain of the European network of research excellence in Artificial Intelligence, ELLIS.
- The theme of this edition is Artificial Intelligence for Social Good.

**Alicante, August 04, 2022.** – The [ELLIS Alicante Foundation](#), in collaboration with the ELLIS doctoral program and the University of Alicante, announce the celebration of the ELLIS Doctoral Symposium 2022 (EDS22) at the Alicante university campus, a major event that will address Artificial Intelligence for Social Good. From September 19<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the international symposium will bring together 200 doctoral students and outstanding researchers in the study of Artificial Intelligence (AI) based on Machine Learning. Coming from the network of 35 ELLIS units spread across 14 European countries and Israel, as well as from other leading research centers in Europe, this doctoral symposium is one of the most important events with a focus on young AI research talent in Europe.

EDS22 aims to provide a meeting place where young researchers and distinguished scientists may share and advance knowledge in AI for Social Good applied to various fields, such as health and climate, for the benefit and progress of all sectors of society. In addition, during the symposium there will be a business fair allowing participants to come into first-hand contact with the professional opportunities that await them in a sector characterized by high demand and employability for its application to all productive sectors.

### **International leadership of keynote speakers**

The magnitude of the event has attracted an influential group of leading speakers in AI research applied to education and health, as well as in the study of algorithmic biases, among other fields of study. The guest speakers are: Virginia Dignum (Wallenberg Program on Humanities and Society for AI, Autonomous Systems and Software (WASP-HS) & Umeå University), Emilia Gomez (Joint Research Centre, European Commission & Universitat Pompeu Fabra), Krishna Gummadi (Max Planck Institute for Software Systems), Emmanuel Letouzé (Data-Pop Alliance & Universitat Pompeu Fabra), Christopher Markou (University of Cambridge), John Shawe-Taylor (University College London), Irina Shklovski (University of Copenhagen), Mihaela van der Schaar (University

of Cambridge), Xiaoxiang Zhu (German Aerospace Center (DLR) & Technical University of Munich).



*Nuria Oliver, director of ELLIS Alicante and an expert scientist in Artificial Intelligence.*

Nuria Oliver, director of ELLIS Alicante, explains her vision of the significance of this event: "ELLIS Alicante, which organizes this second edition of the ELLIS Doctoral Symposium, works on research on the interaction and impact of Artificial Intelligence on

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people. Hence its nickname: The Institute of Human (ity) - centric AI (IHCAI). With this symposium, we want to highlight the importance of focusing the development of present and future AI on people's interests and well-being. It is of vital importance to invest in AI research that is first-class and intellectually free, that focuses on exploring the opportunities that AI offers us to face the great challenges of the twenty-first century and on identifying, studying and minimizing the possible negative consequences derived from the deployment of AI in society. We work to create AI for and by the people."

The ELLIS Alicante Unit is located in the [Science Park of the University of Alicante](#) and maintains a close collaboration with both institutions, as a result of which the University of Alicante gives the use of its auditorium for this event. According to the rector of the UA and president of the Science Park Foundation, Amparo Navarro Faure, the symposium "is an excellent opportunity to claim the research potential of Alicante in the field of Artificial Intelligence, as well as the relevant role that our university occupies both at the scientific, as well as the knowledge transfer and, of course, educational, levels, which displays and consolidates our position as an essential reservoir of professionals in this field".

The symposium has the support of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, the Generalitat Valenciana (Regional Ministry of Innovation, Universities, Science and Digital Society), Casa Mediterráneo, the City Council of Alicante, Bosch, Qualcomm, the Banco Sabadell Foundation, ELISE, the University of Alicante and the Alicante Science Park.

Registration of participants is open until August 10<sup>th</sup>.

**More information:** <https://ellisalicante.org/eds2022>

press release





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*The ELLIS Alicante team, organizer the EDS22 symposium, at the foundation's offices. The organization is also supported by ELLIS Europe and an international team of volunteers.*

About ELLIS Alicante | [www.ellisalicante.org/ia](http://www.ellisalicante.org/ia)

**ELLIS Alicante is a non-for-profit foundation** focused on **ethical Artificial Intelligence (IA) research** in the area of the relationship between people and intelligent systems. Our name, The **Institute of Human-Centered AI**, defines what and how we want to play our role in this 21st century society: we firmly believe in the power of technology as a generator of progress and universal well-being. We aim to be the European and world benchmark for **AI research by and for people** and are the only ELLIS unit dedicated exclusively to this area. We are part of the European network of excellence in Artificial Intelligence ELLIS (European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems - [www.ellis.eu](http://www.ellis.eu)). We are the only Spanish ELLIS Unit, the only one created from scratch, with the spirit of a scientific startup, the only one devoted exclusively to this research area. At ELLIS Alicante, we address three areas of fundamental research: 1) **AI that understands us**; 2) **AI that interacts with us**; 3) **AI that we trust**.

ELLIS Alicante is led by Dr. Nuria Oliver ([www.nuriaoliver.com](http://www.nuriaoliver.com)), a world renown AI expert who is devoting her scientific work to AI for Social Good.

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