Germany

Facts

Population of 83, 2 Mio.
EU-membership since 1951 (founding member)
Coalition Government composed of Social-Democrats, Greens and Liberals

Goal regarding the AI Act

→ Increasing Germany´s future competitive-ness by making Germany and the EU a leading centre in AI.
→ Avoiding innovation-inhibiting regulation.
→ Extension of the prohibition in Art. 5.
→ Guaranteeing a responsible development and use of AI which serves the good of society.
→ Inadequacy of requirements for high-risk AI systems.
→ A risk-specific and sector-specific regulation is essential.
→ Defining liability rules.

Germany's strategy regarding AI regulation

"We urgently need a body of rules, under EU law, for AI systems. AI can protect human lives and help us to develop coronavirus vaccines. But AI also carries significant risks. We are not at the mercy of technology. It is decisions by companies or authorities that are ultimately behind AI and its use. We must determine who is liable and responsible for these decisions. Transparency and comprehensibility are the key. We must be able to reliably assess and independently verify the risks involved in advance."

Christine Lambrecht,
Former German Federal Minister of Justice and Consumer Protection.

Germany´s stance to the European AI Act

Article 3 - Definitions

"Precise, but not noxious."

→ Germany advocates that the European Union must avoid regulations with an innovation-inhibiting effect.
→ Regarding that the European Union shall be a global player in the field of AI, next to the United States of America and China, we must take into consideration that too specific definitions of AI can impair the European business location. A too strong regulation keeps investments from international companies away.
→ To ensure legal security, the definitions must be so clear and concise that public authorities, citizens and companies know when they are confronted with AI (for instance when using a program based on AI).

Article 5 - Prohibited artificial intelligences practices

"When AI is being used, we must reconcile basic rights with the public benefit."

→ Different aspects of live shall not be controlled by AI. Germany advocates that for instance, robots cannot replace judges in assessing an individual´s future delinquency.
→ Under certain conditions, AI can be used in public space to tackle terrorism or - without previous control - in the event of catastrophic events to ensure national response capability. However, these interventions in basic rights shall be the exception. Only member states shall be allowed to make such interventions. Private companies shall not abuse AI for example by using it to systematically control their employees.
→ We plead for a (worldwide) ban on lethal autonomous weapons systems.

Article 6 - Classification rules for high-risk AI-systems

"We must create a multi-level risk-based approach on AI."

→ Already existing sector-specific regulatory regimes should be reviewed and expanded. In this way, we recognize AI-specific requirements where the use of AI in the specific use case gives rise to additional risks. This approach allows an appropriate regulation.
→ Especially high-risk AI-systems are not perfect. Wrong decisions generated by AI can cause great damages. For this reason, we need to define clear liability rules to compensate any harm caused by using AI.

AI Players in the AI landscape by Country (top 20)

Number of AI Players

Germany

1.5k 1k 500 0

Firms in the AI landscape by Country (top 20)
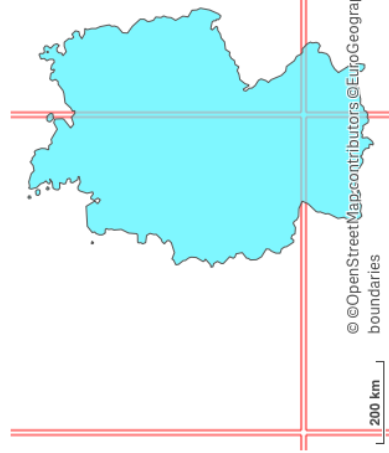
Number of AI firms

Germany

1.5k 1k 500 0

Total number of AI players
1.14k

Number of AI firms
1.06k

AI Patent applications
495

AI Frontier Research publicat...
275

AI Players by Geographical A...

EU27
1.14k

AI Players by Organisation Type

ResearchInst

Firm
93.4%
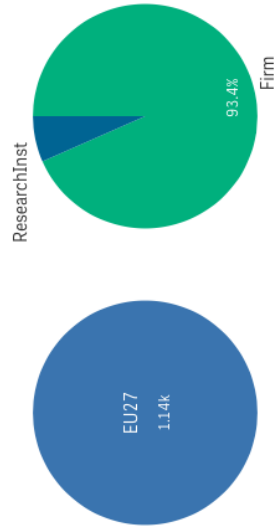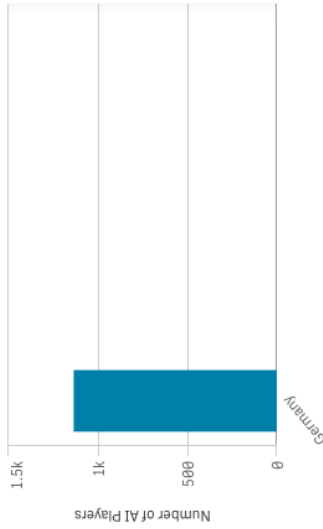
Revealed Comparative Advantage (*) by Thematic Area

AI Services
Audio & Natural Lan...
Automation
Autonomous Roboti...
Computer Vision Ap...
Connected and Auto...
Internet of Everything

0 1 2 3 4 5

*(*) Revealed Comparative Advantage (RCA) compares, for each AI thematic area, the proportion of a country's activity in an AI thematic area (computed over all country's AI activities) with the worldwide proportion of AI activities in that thematic area. Countries with RCA > 1 in a thematic area are relatively specialised in that area and **reveal a comparative advantage**.*

* EC-funded projects are not considered as such in this world wide overview.

AI Players in the AI landscape by Country
Colors proportional to total number of players

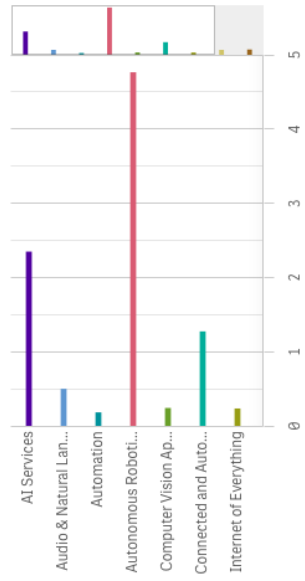© ©OpenStreetMapcontributors ©EuroGeographics, admin. boundaries

200 km

Activities by Geographical Area

EU27

0 500 1k 1.5k 2k
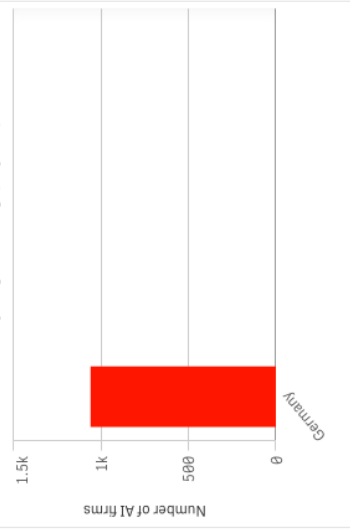
source: AI Watch, https://web.jrc.ec.europa.eu/dashboard/AI_WATCH_LANDSCAPE/index.html?bookmark=overview&sel-Country=Germany