



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Brussels, 14 January 2025

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LIMITE

**TELECOM
CYBER**

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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society
Subject:	Presentation of AI Factories (TELECOM WP 14 January)

Delegations will find in the annex the presentation of AI Factories.



UBLIC

HPC / AI Factories

Telecom WP
14 Jan 2025

AI Factories in President von der Leyen's new political guidelines

*"Through our **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**, Europe is already leading the way on making AI safer and more trustworthy, and on tackling the risks stemming from its misuse.*

We must now focus our efforts on becoming a global leader in AI innovation.

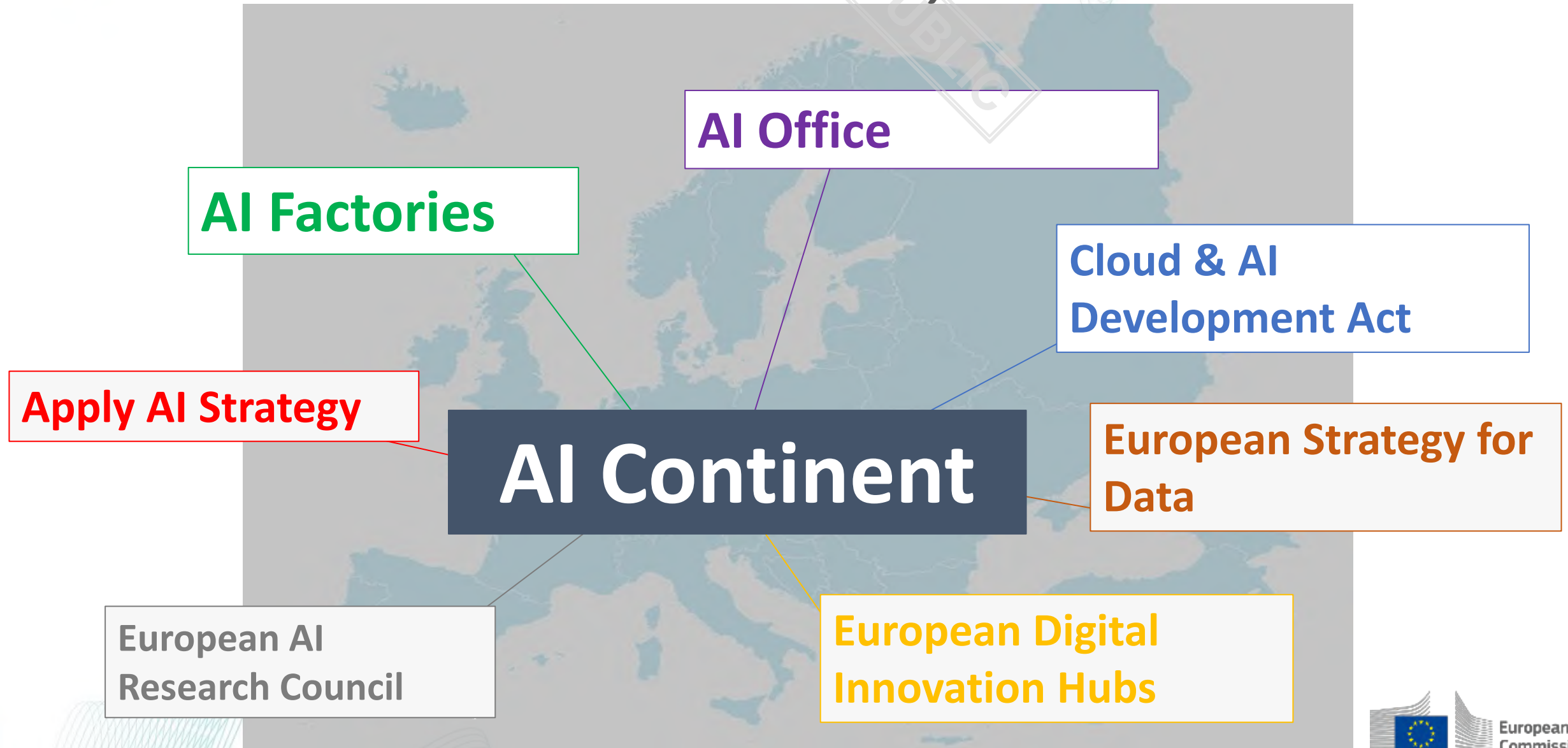
In the first 100 days, we will ensure access to new, tailored supercomputing capacity for AI start-ups and industry through an AI Factories initiative.

*We will also develop with Member States, industry and civil society an **Apply AI Strategy** to boost new industrial uses of AI and to improve the delivery of a variety of public services, such as healthcare."*

Ursula von der Leyen, 18 Jul 2024

[POLITICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE NEXT EUROPEAN COMMISSION 2024-2029](#)

The AI Continent: *the best place in the world to develop trustworthy and advanced AI*



AI Factories components



AI Factory strategic approach

EU strategy on AI Factories

Networked AIF Ecosystem

New/upgraded AI supercomputers ●

Dedicated HPC/AI services ●

Application support ●

Access policy to supercomputers ●

Access to data / common EU data spaces ●

Support to AI EDIC (ALT-EDIC) ●

Human talent and skills ●

Collaboration with AI Office – EU values ●

Data spaces

Access to supercomputers

HPC for AI services

TEFs for AI

EuroHPC
AI
Factories

National strategy on AI Factories

Invest in an AI ecosystem

- ☐ AI-supercomputer
- ☐ Data centre(s)
- ☐ Access to data + open gov. data
- ☐ Dedicated services
- ☐ Human talent and skills, incl. investing in housing facilities
- ☐ Cooperation with Universities
- ☐ Local GPU clusters
- ☐ Digital Innovation Hubs
- ☐ AI start-up policy (access to capital, tax incentives, etc.)

Data centre

Talent




Cooperation with universities

Digital Innovation Hubs for AI

EuroHPC supercomputers – Key AIF infrastructure



EuroHPC
Joint Undertaking

-  Exascale (highest performance)
-  Pre-exascale
-  Petascale



The EuroHPC Joint Undertaking: EU and 35 countries

- EU body based in Luxembourg, founded in **2018**
- Partners: **EC**, 35 States and 3 Industry Associations
- Budget 2018 – 2027: **8.5 B€** (EU + participating states)

Mission

- Acquire and deploy **Supercomputing** and **Quantum Infrastructure** in Europe
- Provide **access to HPC** and Quantum users across Europe and support the development of skills
- Fund **R&I** on HPC applications, software and hardware and **foster a European Supply Chain**
- Build **AI Factories** for AI start-ups and researchers





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Home > News & Views >

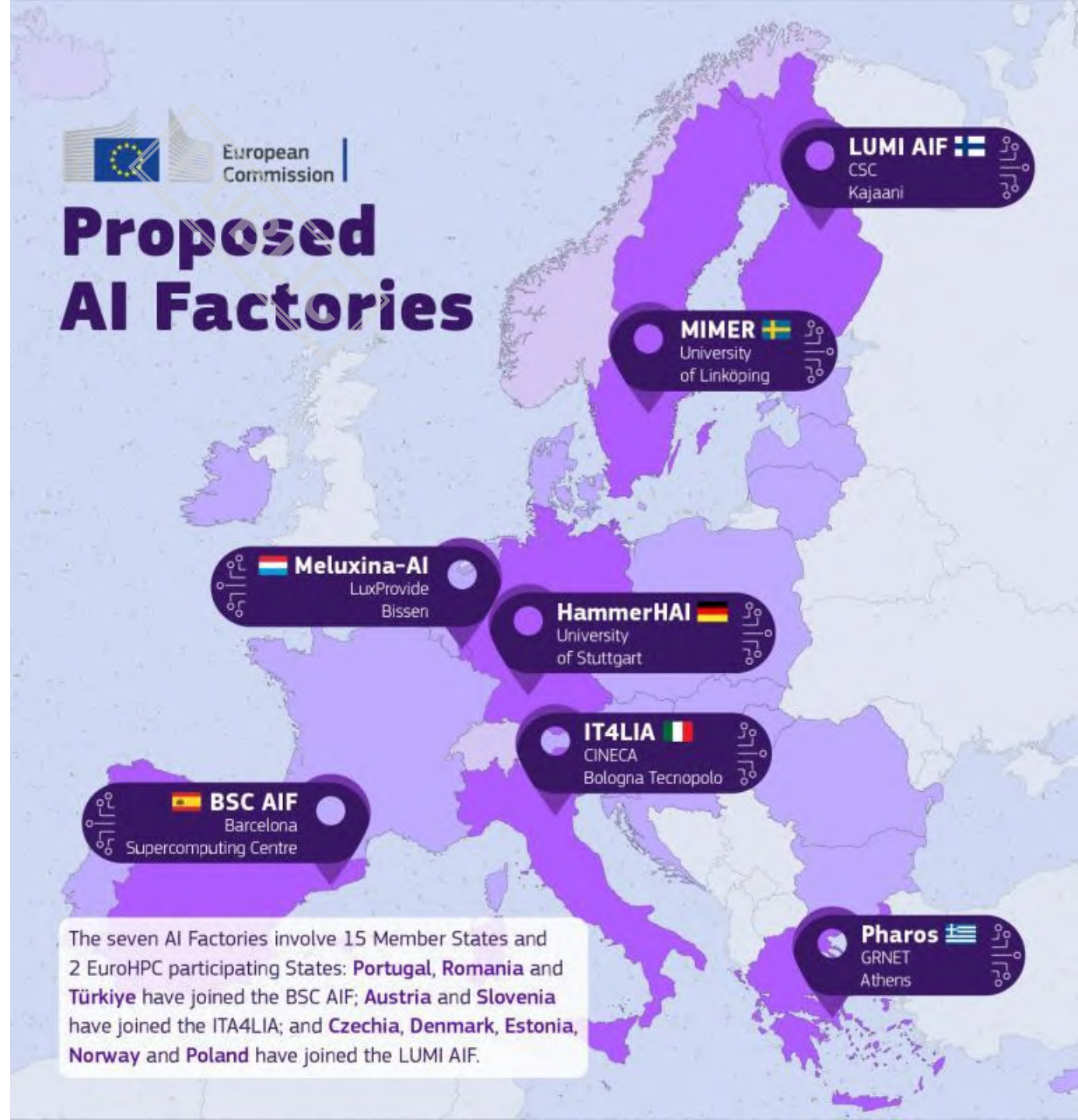
Commission receives seven proposals for AI Factories which will boost AI innovation in the EU

PRESS RELEASE | Publication 11 November 2024

Commission receives seven proposals for AI Factories which will boost AI innovation in the EU

The first seven proposals for artificial intelligence (AI) Factories have now been submitted under the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking (JU), which manages the call announced in September 2024.

- Investment of around **€1.5 billion** of national and EU funding
- Five new **AI-optimised supercomputers** (FI, DE, IT, LU, SE) and one **upgrade** (ES)
- AIFs will be **interconnected** and establish a collaborative framework for effective networking



Other key ingredients of AI Factories

Data



- Access to **high-quality** data
- Wide availability of **open public AI-ready** data
- Access to **Common European Data Spaces**
- **Trusted/secured** access to and reuse of **industrial data**

Cloud



- Access to **sovereign cloud capabilities**
- Crucial for **further model development (AI inference), finetuning, and deployment, application development and for scaling up**

Skills and talent



- Development and retention of **talent in Europe**
- Comprehensive **AIF's skills plan**, including tailored activities and educational initiatives (workshops, MOOCs, hands-on training, training sandboxes, etc.)

Networking

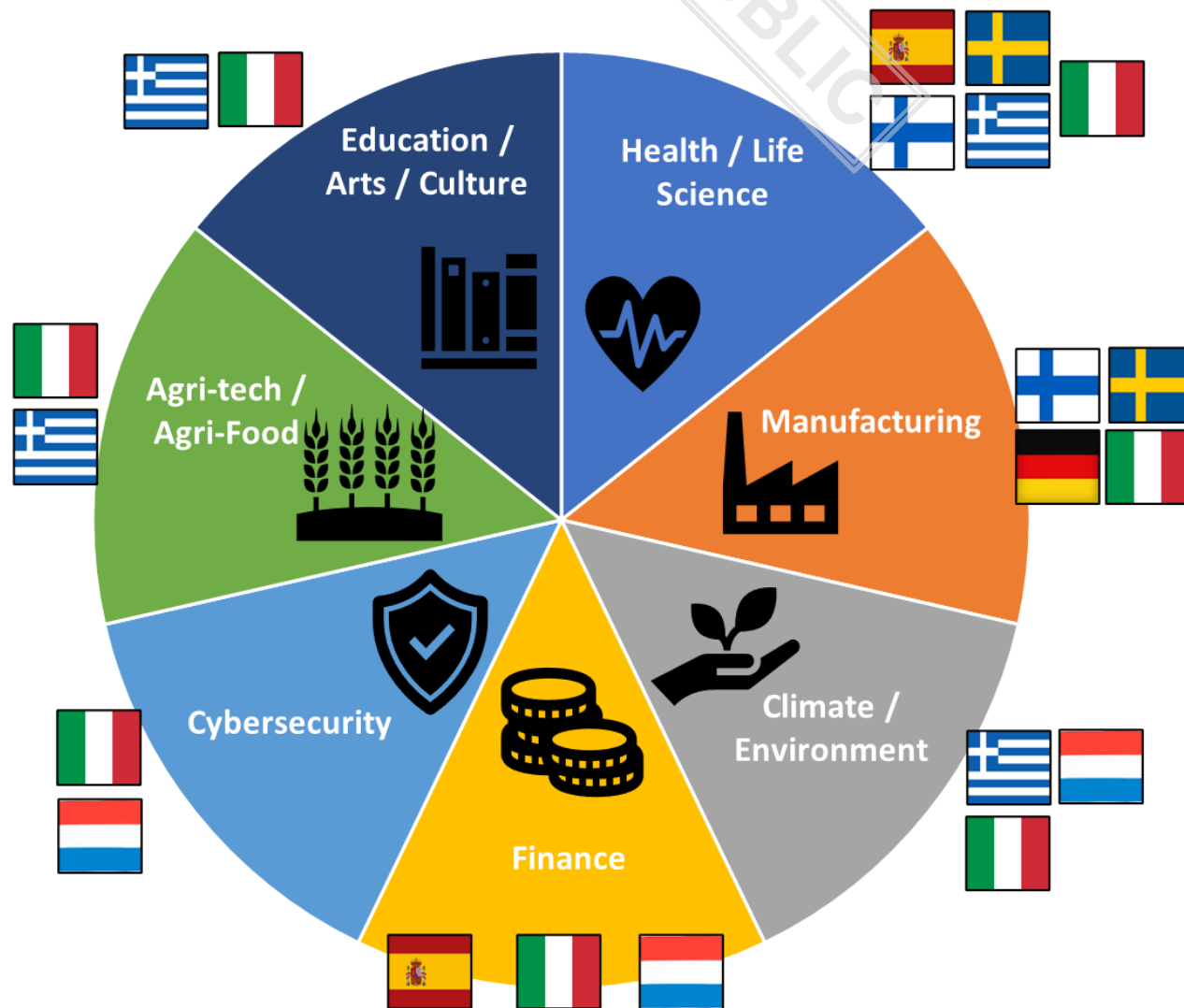


- Collaboration and networking **among AIF Factories** (knowledge sharing, resource optimisation, domain specialization, etc.)
- Links to **EU and National (AI) initiatives**

AI Factories: in service of Apply AI Strategy



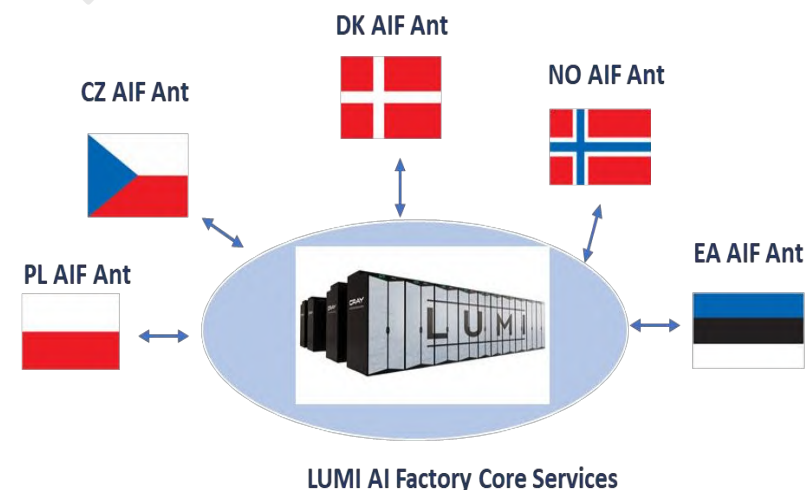
AI Factories: strategic industrial and public sectors



AIF Antennas

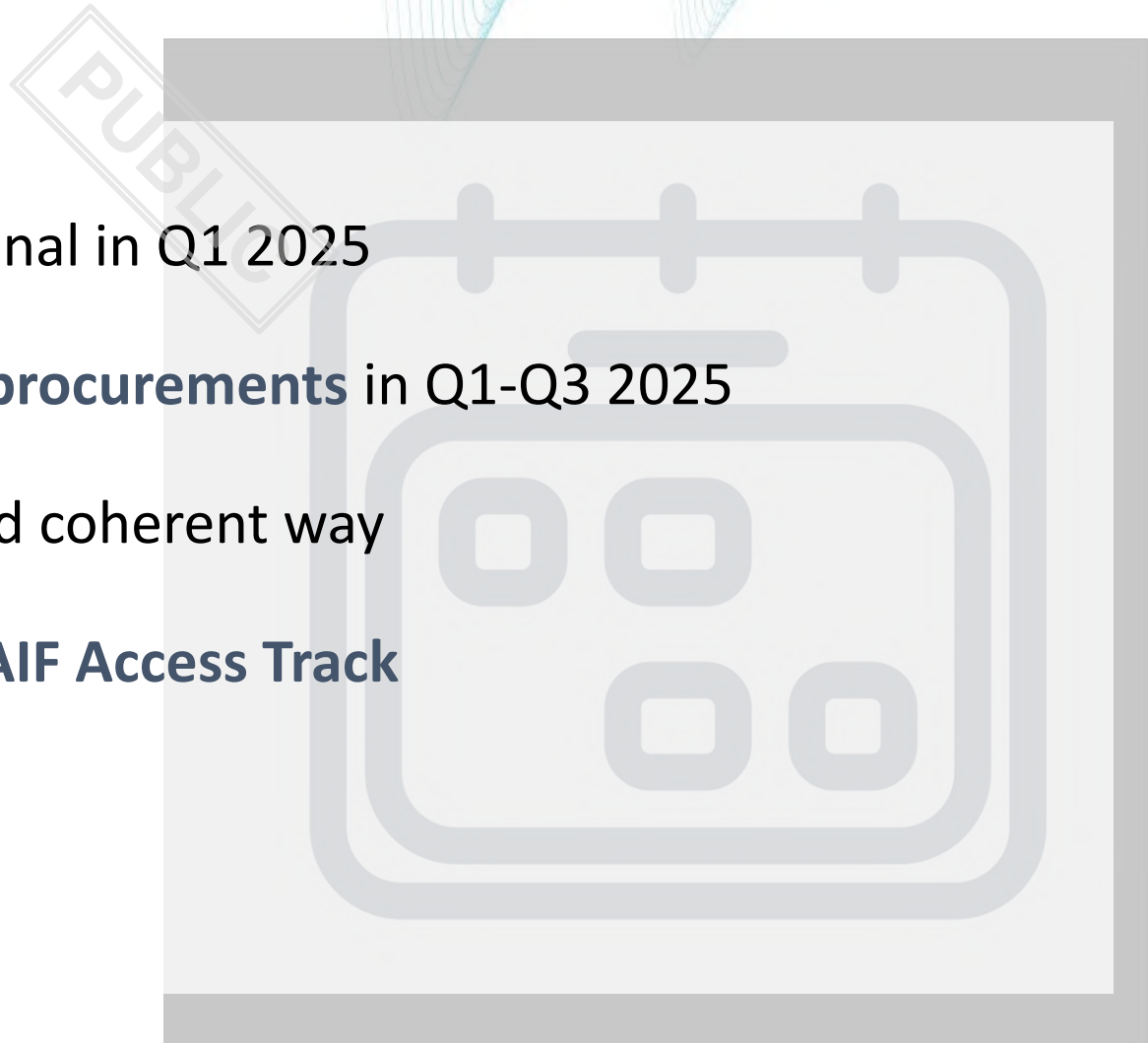
National AIF Antennas associated to the Hosting AIF (AI-optimised supercomputer and core services)

- A way to create a network of AIFs all over the EU without having to invest in a dedicated supercomputer every time
- Provide services and algorithmic support to the national AI ecosystem
- Ensure access to enhanced AI-optimised computing capacity (remote)
- Maximum EUR 5 million per AIF Antenna



Next steps

- **AIF services** to become gradually operational in Q1 2025
- Launch of **AI-optimised supercomputers procurements** in Q1-Q3 2025
- **AIFs collaboration** to address in a joint and coherent way
- EuroHPC Access Policy update to include **AIF Access Track**
- Next AIF cut-off date: **1 Feb 2025**
- Launch **AI Antennas specific call**



PUBLIC

Thank you!