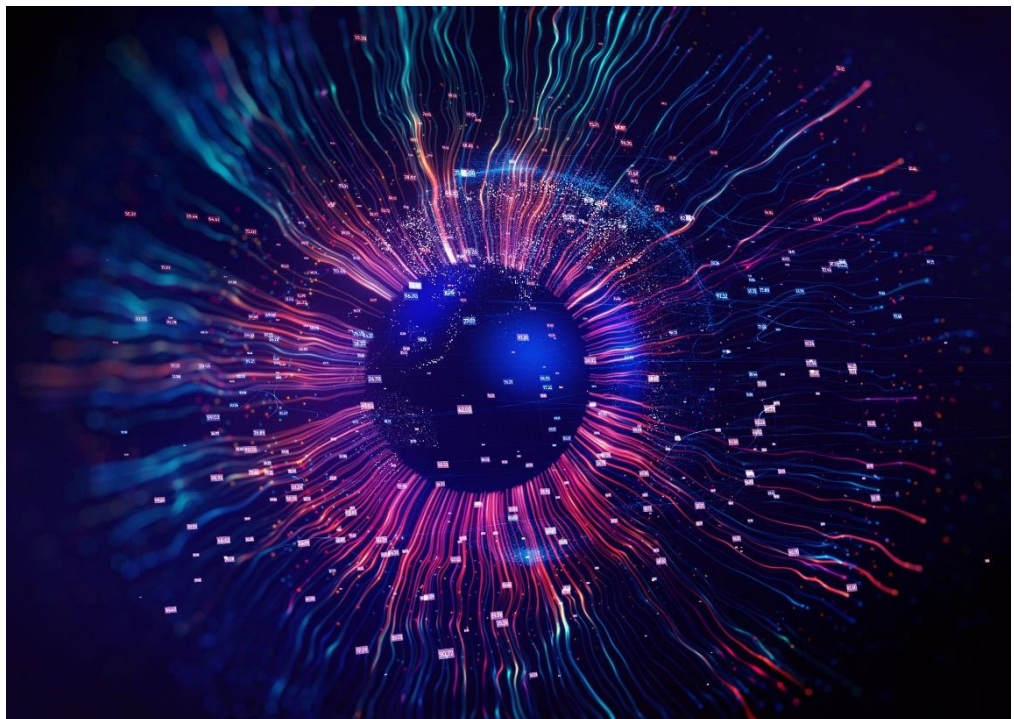


Newsletter #1

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Welcome to the first AI4Gov newsletter!

We'll use this newsletter series to keep you up to date on project developments and achievements, past and future events, and provide you easy access to our resources, including publications, deliverables, and training material.

If you haven't registered already, you can do this by visiting our [web site](#).

Sincerely,

The AI4Gov team

1st AI4Gov training workshop

Workshop videos on our YouTube channel:

1. [Short intro about AI4Gov](#)
2. [What bias is?](#)
3. [Fundamentals of AI](#)
4. [AI and bias](#)
5. [Impact of bias on Human Rights](#)
6. [How is AI regulated](#)
7. [Hands on session: case studies on detecting bias](#)
8. [Empowering civil society for oversight and policy making](#)

Back in May, AI4Gov project held its 1st Training Workshop, “**Bias In AI**”, in Ljubljana, Slovenia, kindly hosted by the Jožef Stefan Institute.

The first session focused on the fundamentals of AI and bias, as well as the impact of bias on human rights, especially for underrepresented groups. In the second session, participants watched case study presentations and participated in practical exercises, divided into groups.

Almost 20 participants joined us in person and another 30 via remote access, representing the European Commission, Academia, IT Industry and Public Organizations.



Use cases

The developments of the project will be validated in three real life use cases, in different sectors:

Policies for Sustainable Water Cycle Management at a Large Scale

SPAIN

Diputación Provincial de Badajoz (DPB)



The pilot will utilize AI tools to generate policies for sustainable water cycle management, for both drinking and sewage water. The objective is to facilitate efficient water management, utilizing the pre-existing Water Cycle management system and the data generated by it.

Using AI for Sustainable Development and the European Green Deal

SLOVENIA

Jožef Stefan Institute (JSI)



In collaboration with the International Research Centre in Artificial Intelligence (IRCAI), JSI will utilize AI to achieve sustainable development through tools that emphasize ethical considerations and real-life problem solving, monitor the progress of the SDGs, and analyze national AI policies and strategies across the globe.

Tourism-driven multi-domain policy management and optimization

GREECE

Vari-Voula-Vouliagmeni (VVV) & Ministry of Tourism (MT)



The municipality of VVV in cooperation with MT will run two use cases on sustainable touristic policies. The use cases will utilize AI tools to create predictions and promote optimized policies in the sector of parking ticket monitoring and waste management.




News & Events

In addition to the 1st training workshop, AI4Gov was presented at the following events:

1.	5th International exhibition VERDE.TEC	Athens, Greece	February 2023
2.	Workshop: How to address “Gender equality and gender dimension” in horizon Europe Project Proposal?	Ljubljana, Slovenia	March 2023
3.	Athens Money Show	Athens, Greece	April 2023
4.	JSI AI Seminars	Ljubljana, Slovenia	April 2023
5.	2 nd Attica Green EXPO	Athens, Greece	May 2023
6.	1st Workshop on Next Generation IoT and AI systems for Trusted, Human-Centered Intelligence (TI-2023), co-located with DCOSS-IoT 2023	Coral Bay, Cyprus	June 2023
7.	Biotechnology summer school 2023	Ljubljana, Slovenia	September 2023
8.	Workshop organized by the ITHACA	Brasov, Romania	September 2023
9.	Lecture at University of Brasilia	Brasilia, Brazil	September 2023

Cluster News & Activities

- AI4Gov formed a cluster with similar projects under the same call, to exchange ideas and explore synergies & common services:

	<p>Fostering Civic Participation in Democracy by Harnessing the Benefits of Knowledge Technologies</p>	<p>https://kt4democracy.eu/</p>
	<p>Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Civic Participation</p>	<p>https://www.ithaca-project.eu/</p>
	<p>Augmenting participation, co-creation, trust and transparency in Deliberative Democracy at all scales</p>	<p>https://orbis-project.eu/</p>

- The projects jointly applied and are now receiving the [Horizon Results Booster](#) services that will assist the cluster to create a portfolio of results that are suitable for joint dissemination, as well as to design a plan for and carry out a joint dissemination.

News from the ITHACA project:

- [Insights from the ITHACA partners workshops](#)

The aim of the ITHACA initiative is to maximize the positive impact of AI on democratic institutions and processes. An online discussion platform incorporating human and social perspectives will be developed and tested as a pilot in two EU countries (Romania and Slovakia).

In July 2023, the ITHACA project partners organized an [online discussion](#) with representatives from various vulnerable social groups and communities. Their expertise and daily interactions provide valuable insights into citizens' needs, especially in the realm of digital tools, inclusion, and civic participation.

In September 2023, two significant [introductory workshops](#) were conducted in the pilot cities of Martin (Slovakia) and Brasov (Romania). The primary objective was to connect with the members of citizen juries, understand their needs, motivations, opportunities, and challenges. By doing so, we aim to enhance their engagement in civic participation.



- Article (related to Study on good practices): [Enhancing citizen engagement and democracy through the application of artificial intelligence: best practices](#)

Citizen engagement encompasses a wide range of individual and collective activities directed toward addressing public issues and shaping the course of governance. The integration of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) injects dynamism into this engagement, rendering it more accessible and efficacious. Numerous innovative tools have emerged with the goal of leveraging the capabilities of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to amplify citizen participation.

Resources

Public deliverables, submitted at and pending acceptance by the EC, are listed below (sorted by submission date):

- [D2.1 AI4Gov Holistic Regulatory Framework V1](#)
- [D6.1 Specification of UC Scenarios and Planning of Integration and Validation Activities V1](#)
- [D2.3 Reference Architecture and Integration of AI4Gov Platform V1](#)
- [D3.1 Decentralized Data Governance, Provenance and Reliability V1](#)

Have a look at our first [publication](#):

- G. Manias et al., "AI4Gov: Trusted AI for Transparent Public Governance Fostering Democratic Values," *2023 19th International Conference on Distributed Computing in Smart Systems and the Internet of Things (DCOSS-IoT), Pafos, Cyprus, 2023*, pp. 548-555, doi: 10.1109/DCOSS-IoT58021.2023.00090.

And our first [blog post](#):

- AI4Gov - Fostering Democratic Values through the Utilization of AI and Blockchain

A multi-disciplinary consortium



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Funded by the European Union

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