



Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico

Segreteria tecnica del Sottosegretario di Stato - Sen. Andrea Cioffi

Prof. Holger H. Hoos

Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science (LIACS)

Universiteit Leiden

Dear Professor,

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has made major advances in the recent years. From web searching engine to image recognition, dialog systems, customer and market prediction, verified software and hardware, advanced robots, self-driving cars and superhuman Chess and Go playing systems, AI has demonstrated its game-changing nature and its potential as a major driver of innovation, future growth, competitiveness and societal changes.

In the United States of America and China, huge investments in AI are made by both the private and public sector. European countries are struggling to retain their best scientists. Many European companies whose future crucially depends on AI are not perceived as competitive. There is an urgent need for the EU and affiliated countries to react with a coordinated plan for investment in talent, research, technology and innovation in AI. The "Coordinated Plan on AI Made in Europe" currently under preparation by EU authorities is the first top-down approach aimed at applied research. We support its fast implementation.

The Italian government supports the vision on European AI excellence as outlined by the CLAIRE initiative, signed by over 2300 AI researchers, practitioners and other stakeholders.

Rome, 27th November 2018

Kind regards

Sen. Andrea Cioffi