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Nordic-Baltic AI Center to catalyze rapid uptake of AI across the region

Today marks the launch of New Nordics AI, a new Nordic-Baltic AI center. The center, whose main secretariat will be located in Stockholm, aims to stimulate cooperation in the Nordic-Baltic region, accelerate the use of artificial intelligence (AI), and strengthen the region's global competitiveness. The inauguration event will take place in Helsinki, in conjunction with Finland and Åland's presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers.

New Nordics AI is being formed through a unique collaboration between five leading national organisations: AI Sweden, AI Finland, Digital Dogme (Denmark), TEK Norge (Norway), and Almannarómur (Iceland), with expected participation from the Baltic states. By joining forces, the Nordic and Baltic countries can become better in developing and adopting new AI technologies and more influential in asserting the interests of the region.

“With geopolitical shifts, the need to boost European competitiveness and to excel in developing and applying AI, New Nordics AI couldn't have a more important role. As a Nordic-Baltic region we need to be both bold and hungry in using technology to create prosperous societies and businesses. This should be our mindset”, says **Mikael Ljungblom**, Interim Co-Director.

“The Nordic AI ecosystem is built on unique national strengths, with ambitious initiatives already underway in all countries. By scaling what works and sharing the best learnings across borders, we can accelerate development and strengthen the competitiveness of the entire region”, says **Iida Lähdemäki**, Interim Co-Director.

Catalyze Nordic-Baltic AI Innovation and Adoption

The new center will serve as a tool to implement Nordic-Baltic collaborative ambitions. Building on the strengths of the national organisations, the center aims to enhance the capacity and capability for AI adoption in the countries and catalyze cutting-edge AI innovation projects between relevant organisations and companies. The center will also help inform and develop policy proposals and support a stronger Nordic-Baltic voice in the EU.

Already at the launch the first projects that are being developed are being unveiled. They include an AI Act Implementation Network, A large language models coordination effort and an AI and energy project.

Broad Support for the Center

The center has strong political support, demonstrated by the Nordic Council of Ministers' decision in June 2025 to grant the center DKK 30 million in funding, as well as the interest shown by national governments.

“The AI Center is fundamental to achieving our Vision 2030 — to become the most sustainable and integrated region in the world. Through cross-border and cross-sector

cooperation, the Nordic-Baltic region has a unique opportunity to lead in responsible AI, strengthening our competitiveness and contributing to a sustainable future. I am proud that the Nordic Council of Ministers is funding and enabling this initiative. In the global AI race, there is a real cost of non-action — which is why I am happy that we are doing this now - and that we are doing it together”, says **Karen Ellemann**, Secretary General at the Nordic Council of Ministers.

In addition to the Nordic Council of Ministers, other funders include Google, Microsoft and Nordic Innovation. Nordic Innovation will fund the project to initiate the AI Act Implementation Network.

Watch the launch online

The launch of New Nordics AI can be followed live on [the New Nordics website](#), where you will also find detailed information about the first collaborative projects, including the AI Act Implementation Network, the Large AI Models coordination effort, and the AI & Energy initiative.

For interviews and further questions, please contact:

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