

**GLOBAL FORUM  
ON THE ETHICS OF  
ARTIFICIAL  
INTELLIGENCE**

Changing the Landscape  
of AI Governance



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# **SMASH program**



Co-funded by  
The European Union



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
MINISTRY OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



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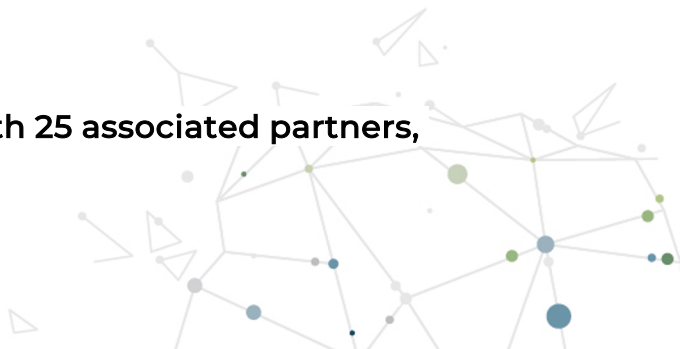


## What is SMASH?

SMASH is a collaborative and multidisciplinary programme co-funded by the EU. It is **centred on developing cutting-edge machine learning/AI applications for science and humanities.**

SMASH aims to attract **50 outstanding postdoctoral researchers** from across the world, to create a multi-disciplinary environment in which they mutually benefit from knowledge exchange, both between different fields and between academia and industry.

It connects scholars from **five top-level institutions in Slovenia with 25 associated partners, Slovenian businesses and academic institutions globally.**





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## Why SMASH?

ML/AI is changing how science is being performed today. A number of modern scientific experiments are currently providing large amounts of data and ML/AI is becoming a necessary tool in different research fields.

Through active exchange of knowledge among different scientific fields, and between academic and non-academic sectors, commitment to strict Open access policies and high standards of Ethics evaluation, SMASH aims to set example of Good practices in applications to AI in science in Slovenia.

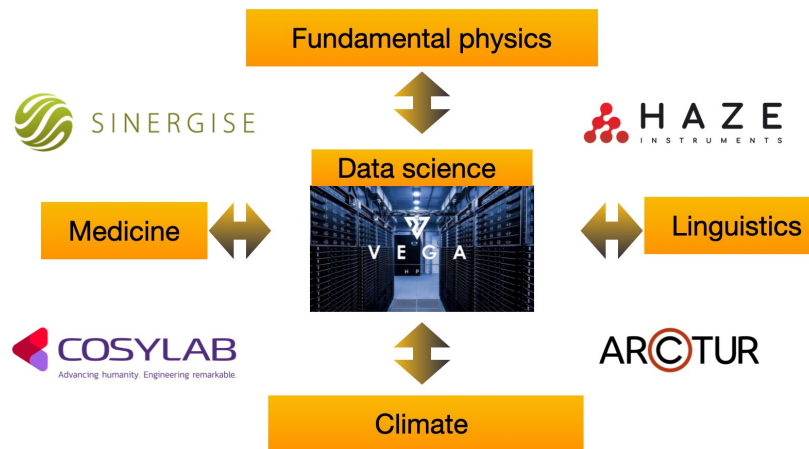




# SMASH pillars: connecting 5 academic disciplines

The common language of ML/AI makes possible efficient knowledge exchange between five academic areas: predictions related to the impacts of climate change; the development of next-generation precision medicine development; answering essential questions about our Universe; and digging deeper into the fundamentals of language and how we communicate.

Access to the Slovene HPC infrastructure Vega supercomputer and to the expertise of local SMEs on industry applications of ML/AI.





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## SMASH pillars: Promoting exchange of ideas

The programme runs monthly seminars and yearly network meetings, building a close-knit community and creating space for creative exchange of ideas.

Our events are open to public and run outside Ljubljana. This furthers dissemination, transfer and accessibility of new solutions to areas outside the capital and fosters local communities and their understanding of and engagement with new technologies.





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# SMASH pillars: purely meritocratic recruitment procedure

Hiring process is purely merit-based and avoids unconscious bias.

This is expected to result in an increased participation of underrepresented social groups (in terms of gender, race, ethnicity, and others), and to increase diversity of AI applications developers





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## SMASH pillars: placing Ethics front and center

A comprehensive ethics procedure set up, with a rigorous follow-up processes. Attention is given to the **potential intentional and unintentional misuses of the research and technology** both through training, assessment, workshops, Q&A sessions, and forums.

Top-level training in applications of AI/ML is uniquely complemented by **training opportunities**, in which we explore the ethical challenges and opportunities posed by AI, the foundations of democratic theory and theories of administrative power, **and learn how to diagnose challenges and opportunities posed by AI, how AI can create inequalities of resources, opportunity, and power, and how it can perpetuate historic injustice, all this in order to foster good understanding of conceptions of global and corporate social responsibility and issues of global justice raised by AI among data scientists.**





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## SMASH in a nutshell

Multidisciplinary programme **centred on developing cutting-edge machine learning/AI applications for science and humanities**, co-funded by the EU.

- Connecting five research disciplines
- Promoting knowledge exchange (SMEs, 25 partners worldwide)
- Meritocratic recruitment – fighting (unconscious) bias
- Placing ethics front and centre







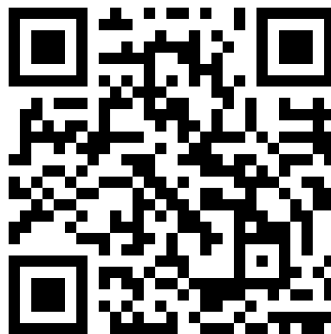
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# WANT TO LEARN MORE? GET IN TOUCH.

<https://smash.ung.si/>



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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 101081355.