

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001547/25
to the Commission
Pierre Juvet (S&D)
(16 April 2025)**

Subject: Level of public investment and state of implementation of the artificial intelligence strategy

On 11 February 2025, the Commission President announced that EUR 200 billion would be allocated to developing artificial intelligence (AI) in Europe. However, the figures set out in the AI Continent Action Plan two months later were much lower. The total investments amount to just a fraction of the EUR 200 billion announced, which raises serious doubts as to the reality of EU commitments and fuels fears of a potential technology gap, which would mean depending on China and the United States.

1. In this context, can the Commission explain the nearly 85% difference between the EUR 200 billion announced on the sidelines of the Paris AI summit and the amounts provided for in the action plan?
2. Can the Commission outline the details of the investment funds allocated for AI and the amounts that have already been provided for each project?
3. If this gap is due to private investments being taken into account, why does the Commission not adopt a more ambitious public funding strategy, given that it is aware of the importance of this issue and that Europe is lagging behind?

Submitted: 16.4.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(20 August 2025)**

The Commission President has launched InvestAI, to mobilise EUR 200 billion for investment in artificial intelligence (AI) ⁽¹⁾, including a new European fund of EUR 20 billion for AI gigafactories.

This large AI infrastructure is needed for open, collaborative development of complex AI models and to make Europe an AI continent.

Moreover, the investments in supercomputing infrastructures, including AI factories, will reach over EUR 10 billion over the 2021-2027 period, co-funded 50-50 by the EU and Member States.

The AI Continent Action Plan allows flexibility regarding EU budget sources. Predetermining funding now could limit adaptability to changing financial and policy contexts.

While aware of budget constraints in the final Multiannual Financial Framework years, the Commission is exploring options under all relevant EU programmes. Keeping financing options open maximises efficiency and ensures alignment with EU priorities.

Via Horizon Europe and Digital Europe, the Commission invests more than EUR 1 billion per year in AI. Horizon Europe allocated EUR 2.6 billion to AI research and development (2021-2022) and calls were launched in April 2024, with over EUR 112 million in funding for AI ⁽²⁾ and quantum technology. This includes EUR 50 million for large AI models and EUR 15 million for AI transparency and reliability.

The Digital Europe Programme dedicated over EUR 1 billion (2021-2024) for the development and deployment of AI ⁽³⁾. Between 2021 and 2024, the total EU funding for AI was around EUR 10.7 billion ⁽⁴⁾.

The Commission is committed to strong public backing while encouraging private investments. The EUR 230 billion that companies aim to invest in gigafactories shows the scale of private sector ambition to drive the EU's AI leadership ⁽⁵⁾.

⁽¹⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_467.

⁽²⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/new-horizon-europe-funding-boosts-european-research-ai-and-quantum-technologies>.

⁽³⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/european-ai-research?com>.

⁽⁴⁾ Including Recovery and Resilience Facility, Connecting Europe Facility 2 Digital (CEF2), Digital Europe Programme, Horizon Europe, Cohesion Policy <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC141966>.

⁽⁵⁾ A total of 76 expressions of interest proposing to set up AI gigafactories in 16 Member States across 60 different sites have been submitted in response to the call for expression of interest in AI gigafactories, which closed on 20 June <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/overwhelming-response-76-respondents-express-interest-european-ai-gigafactories-initiative>. Press conference statement by the Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy on 30 June 2025 'Collectively, [Gigafactories Call for Expression of Interest] responders have expressed their intention to invest for an indicative total amount of more than EUR 230 billion in AI Gigafactories over the next 3 to 5 years'. The intention to invest does not represent a legal commitment.