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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.8.2025)

In 2025, the Commission adopted the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Continent Action Plan¹. It links different AI initiatives relating to data, skills, and infrastructure such as the co-investment into the AI Factories² and Gigafactories³⁴. The Commission envisages these resources to grant prioritised access and dedicated services to European AI researchers and startups. In May 2025, the Commission adopted the EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy⁵, which includes many actions that are expected to benefit European software startups and scaleups, including by facilitating access to venture capital and growth funding. The European Competitiveness Fund will invest in strategic technologies to foster innovation and support digital leadership policy⁶.

The objective of the 28th regime is to provide companies with a single set of rules to facilitate the scaling-up and operations across borders and to attract investment in the Single Market. It should set out a new corporate legal framework covering a wide range of key issues for companies, building on online procedures and digital tools in EU company law. A public consultation was launched on 8 July 2025⁷.

Under the Digital Europe Programme⁸, the Commission is calling for proposals⁹ to fund scalable generative AI pilots for public administrations based on European models. Furthermore, the public sector will be a leading strategic driver of the Apply AI Strategy which will ensure that safe and trustworthy AI is used to improve the quality and the efficiency of public services and strategic sectors. Moreover, the European Innovation Council is helping scale deep tech startups and small and medium-sized enterprises to develop and apply AI technologies with a combination of grant and investment including through targeted challenges, such as GenAI4EU¹⁰.

¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/ai-continent-action-plan>.

² https://eurohpc-ju.europa.eu/ai-factories_en.

³ https://eurohpc-ju.europa.eu/document/download/e91bde77-f975-4012-93a7-0224fe71b75c_en?filename=AI%20Gigafactories%20-%20Workshop%2022%20May%202025.pdf.

⁴ The Commission has adopted a proposal to amend the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking Regulation to support the creation of AI Gigafactories. https://www.eurohpc-ju.europa.eu/european-commission-proposes-amendment-eurohpc-regulation-support-gigafactories-and-include-quantum-2025-07-16_en.

⁵ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-research-and-innovation/jobs-and-economy/eu-startup-and-scaleup-strategy_en.

⁶ https://commission.europa.eu/publications/european-competitiveness-fund_en.

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14674-28th-regime-a-single-harmonized-set-of-rules-for-innovative-companies-throughout-the-EU_en.

⁸ https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/digital-europe-programme_en.

⁹ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/DIGITAL-2025-AI-08-SUPPLY-AI?isExactMatch=true&status=31094501,31094502,31094503&callIdentifier=DIGITAL-2025-AI-08&order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate>.

¹⁰ https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities/eic-accelerator/eic-accelerator-challenges-2025/genai4eu-creating-european-champions-generative-ai_en.