BDV BIG DATA VALUE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2024


EUROPEAN
BIGDATA
VALUE FORUM
2-4 OCT | BUDAPEST - HUNGARY
EUROPE
FOR GLOBAL
LEADERSHIP
IN AI & DATA
Accelerating
data-driven
innovation in
Europe
bdva.eu
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VALUE FORUM
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Europe
bdva.eu

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2024 marks a turning point in the history of BDVA, who celebrated at the end of the year its 10th anniversary! The community continues to grow steadily, united and strong, committed to its mission of supporting organisations, the public sector and society overall to create value with data and Artificial Intelligence. Researchers, academics, industry representatives, innovators, infrastructure owners, public sectors and NGOs all join forces under the BDVA umbrella to make this happen, linking communities of researchers and practitioners to policy, and moving research outcomes towards business, highlighting and obtaining their societal impact and value. Over 260 organisations took part in this adventure throughout 2024, with the association providing sustainable means for collaboration and growth.

In 2024, BDVA released an updated Strategic Agenda based on 5 guiding themes that complement each other providing an overall perspective of the community's ambition and scope:

- Empowering European Industries and society for a human-centric digital future
- Expanding data-driven ecosystems across sectors and global value chains
- Making data and AI innovations fit for emerging infrastructures and platforms
- Sustainable data and AI: enhancing efficiency and resilience while reducing resource demands
- Integrating innovation, ethics and compliance

27 task forces led by member organisations supported and continue to support the implementation of the strategic agenda priorities by connecting knowledge, co-creating new projects, building synergies with results, and providing supporting guidance documents (5 major publications in 2024) and tools for companies and policy makers. A network of 31 federated regional and national data innovation spaces (the i-Spaces) helped connect the European community with the smaller players and innovators all over Europe, offering testing, experimentation, creative solutions, novel approaches, coaching and educational data and AI services. The Association was managed by 26 Directors throughout 2024, supported by an advisory Technical Board of 16 experts and a talented and multidisciplinary team of 10 professionals that represent the BDVA Office.

BDVA organised regularly online and in-person activities, either internally-focussed, or in collaboration with other communities or the general public, which helped establish collaborations, transferring knowledge, co-creating innovations and connecting with end-users. This has been a truly community effort!

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a private member of the EuroHPC JU, 2024 has also marked an important turning point for BDVA, with the launch of the AI factories as dynamic ecosystems to foster innovation, collaboration, and development in the field of artificial intelligence (AI), bringing together computing power, data, and talent to create cutting-edge AI models and applications. In 2024, BDVA worked closely with potential host organisations of AI factories, data spaces, AI and data specialists to start addressing the data challenge. The first AI factories were announced at the end of 2024.

BDVA continues developing and strengthening collaborations with policy makers, other associations, communities and platforms. Throughout 2024, the collaboration with the JU and the other JU Associations (ETP4HPC and QuiC), the DSBA Partners (Gaia-X, FIWARE and IDSA), the Computing Continuum and the collaboration with the AI, Data and Robotics Association (Adra, asbl) are the most notable ones. Additionally, BDVA has been participating in 6 different strategic projects covering areas of Data Spaces, digital skills, virtual worlds and in the context of the federation of data-driven innovation hubs.

Data Week took place under the umbrella of the Data Spaces Symposium 2024, in Darmstadt (Germany), continued on 5 June 2024, in conjunction with the LAILEC conference organised by KU Leuven, in Leuven, Belgium and concluded on 10 December 2024, in Luxembourg, through an event organised in collaboration with LIST, Netcompany-Intrasoft SA and Luxembourg National Data Service (LNDS). In total, Data Week gathered over 400 participants, who enjoyed over 40 sessions, covering burning topics for the Data and AI ecosystem.

BDVA organised the European Big Data Value Forum from 2-4 October 2024 in Budapest, Hungary. EBDVF 2024 was organised in collaboration with local partners Eötvös Loránd University, Ideal-ist, Neumann Technology Platform and SZTAKI. EBDVF brought together over 460 industry professionals, business developers, researchers and policy-makers from all over Europe and other regions of the world to advance policy actions and industrial and research activities in the areas of Data and AI, who enjoyed over 40 sessions, with the latest updates from top research and industry representatives. EBDVF was part of TechDays Hungary, a series of autonomously-organised events that took place from 30 September to 8 October in Budapest.

We invite you to discover all of the outcomes of the Data and AI ecosystem in 2024! Thank you for being part of our journey and we look forward to our continued growth in 2025!


Expanding data-driven ecosystems
across sectors and global value chains
BIGDATA
VALUE


EUROPEAN
BIGDATA
VALUE
2-4 OCT

BDVA[1] is an industry-driven international not-for-profit organisation, headquartered in Brussels[2], with over 250 members all over Europe and a well-balanced composition of large, small and medium-sized industries, start-ups as well as research and user organisations. Our focus in on Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) innovation.

Our mission and objectives are:

- To boost Data and AI innovation and data value creation for business, citizens and the environment
- To foster excellence in Data and AI research for competitiveness and prosperity
- To develop a sustainable innovation ecosystem that enables and accelerates the Data and AI economy with European values and focus but global impact and ambitions
- To lead and be at the forefront of the dynamic change that Data and AI bring to business. public sector and society

BDVA is at the crossroads between technology and policy, and between research, innovation and value creation for industry and society. BDVA addresses challenges from a multi-disciplinary perspective, combining technology with legal, business and societal aspects. BDVA believes in innovation through experimentation, collaboration, and co-learning.

[1] Legal name of BDVA in 2024: Data, AI and Robotics aisbl.
[2] BDVA is established as an aisbl (“Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif”) in Belgium.

The core pillars of BDVA are:

- **Members** - either large industry, SMEs, start-ups, public sector, research or academia, or as technology strategists, developers, innovators, providers, integrators, infrastructure or data owners or users, our members are at the forefront of data and AI innovation, and at the core of the European data and AI ecosystems. Together with our members we/BDVA advance all related areas connected to the data and AI economy such as data spaces and ecosystems, data privacy, industrial and ethical AI, generative AI, business models, standardisation, skills, computing and many others. Our members are represented by talented and committed professionals.

- **Task Forces** help our members build new collaborations, co-create new projects, share knowledge and jointly develop guidelines, frameworks and strategic roadmaps for industry and policymakers. The Task forces are the main activity centres for BDVA.

- **The BDVA Strategic Agenda** defines our association's scope and priorities guiding the activities of the BDVA community, identifying key challenges, opportunities, regulations and policies, and social and technological trends in Europe and globally. IT also provides insights and recommendations to policymakers and industry stakeholders based on identified research, innovation, and deployment challenges within the established scope of BDVA.

- **i-Spaces and the Federation** enable existing regional multi-partner cooperation, to collaborate at the European level through the provision of tools and know-how to support the cocreation, development and experimentation of pan-European data-driven and AI applications and services and know-how exchange.

- **Collaboration and partnerships** are at the core of BDVA that develops strong public-private and private collaborations and partnerships. BDVA is a private member of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking, and it is a founder member and contributor of the AI, Data and Robotics Partnership. BDVA has developed a strong and growing cooperation with many other organisations, projects and communities.

- **Strategic projects:** BDVA is partner in a few key strategic projects for the ecosystem and in fully alignment with its mission and objectives.

- **Committed management and talented team:** At the core of the association the Board of Directors meets very regularly and defines and fully supports the implementation of the BDVA strategy together with the Secretary General and a talented and committed Office team.

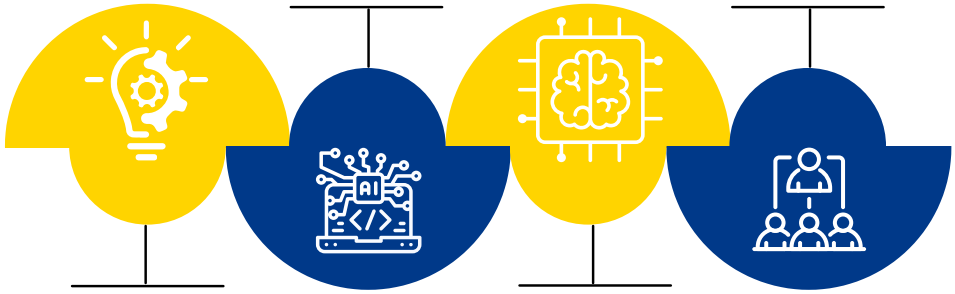
ABOUT BDV BIG DATA VALUE ASSOCIATION » 10 years

Positive Impact

on policy-making, business and society with data and AI.

A Platform for Projects

We co-create new projects and leverage their value.

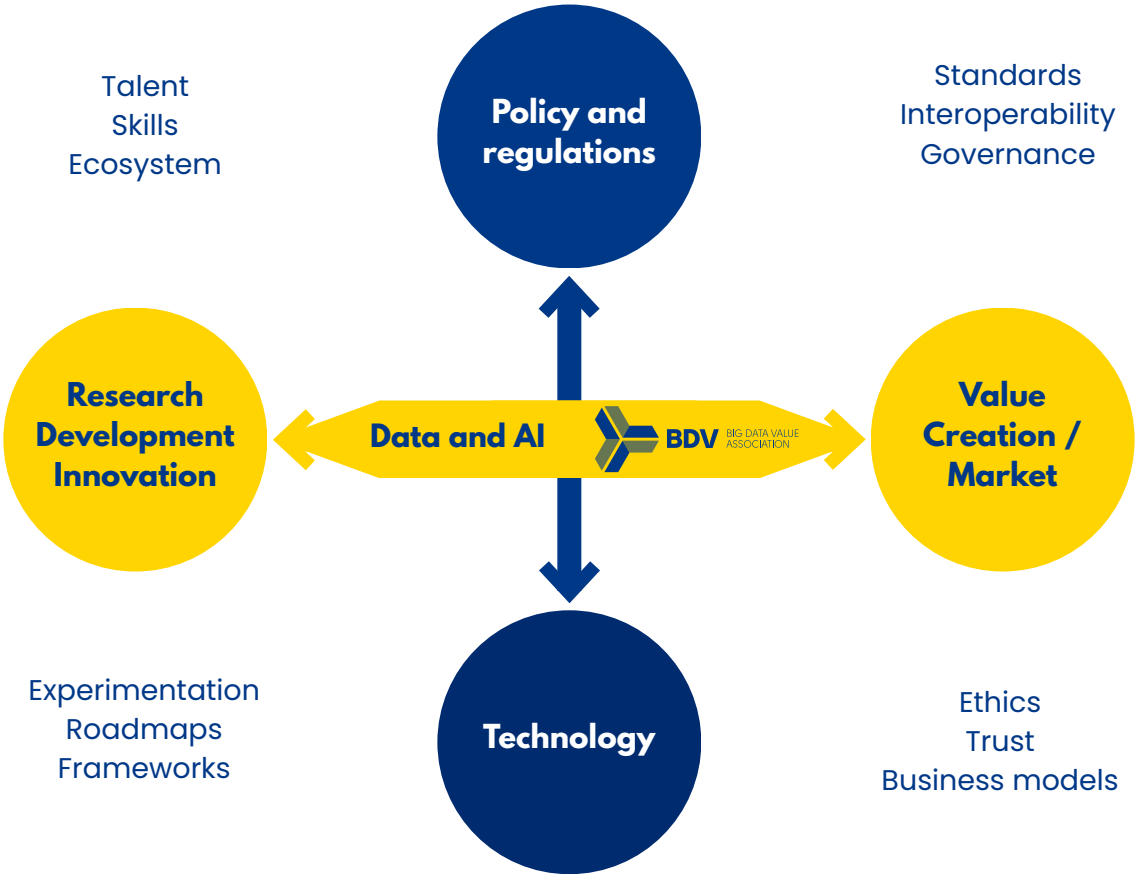


Advancing Solutions

and keeping up with the dynamic change that AI and Data bring to business and society.

Data & AI Competitiveness

is vital to push forward these ecosystems. BDVA ignites Data and AI world-class research for competitiveness.



GOVERNANCE

The General Assembly (GA) is comprised of all the BDVA members (only Full members have voting rights). BDVA GA approves the general policy of the Association based on proposals of the Board of Directors and gives recommendations to the Board of Directors for its application.

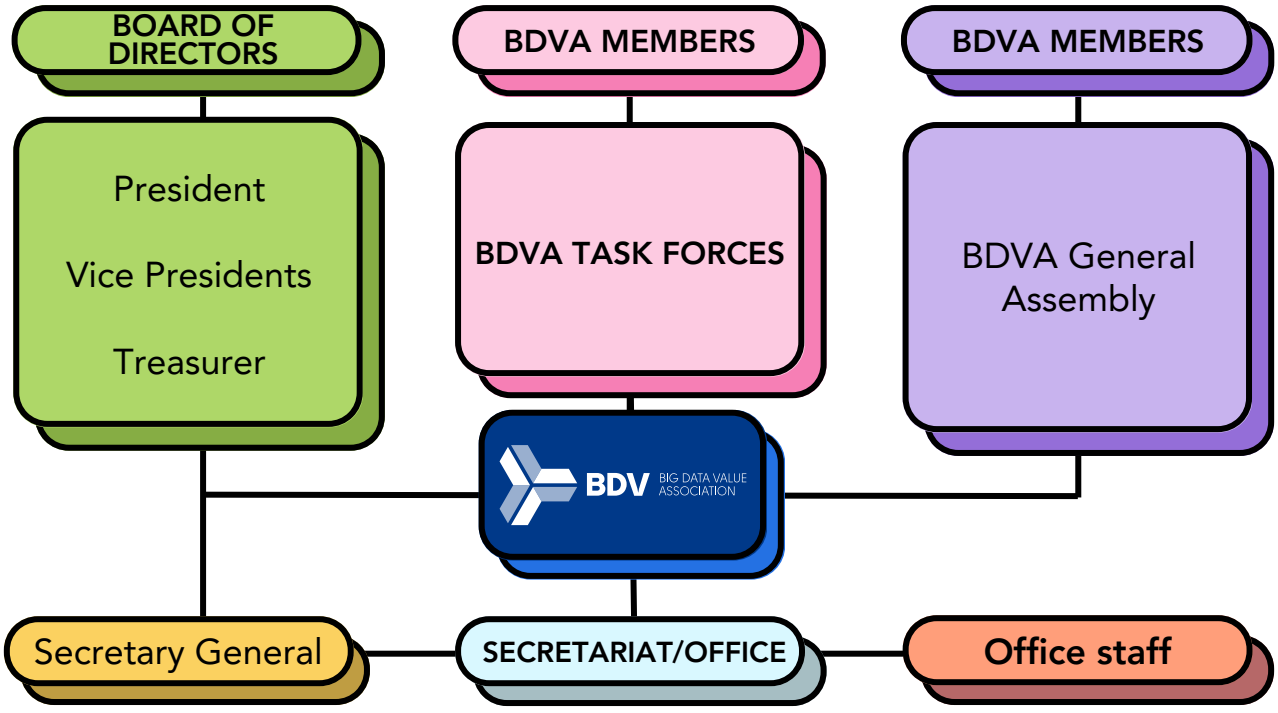
The BDVA Board of Directors (BoD) is elected by the General Assembly (2-year mandate). The Board of Directors oversees the reaching of the Association's objectives. It follows the resolutions, instructions and recommendations adopted by the General Assembly. The GA also elects the President, Vice President(s) and Treasurer.

The Secretary General (SG) is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Association with the support of the BDVA Office Staff.

The Task Forces (TFs) are the main centres of activity within the Association.

BDVA's Technical Board[3] provides guidance to BDVA on current and future technical matters, guides the technical discussions of the community, pursues alignment and coherence among the different technical activities, and provides a holistic technical framework as a reference to map BDVA assets and results.

BDVA's Governance structure



[3] The Technical Board is not an official Board defined by the Statutes or bylaws, but an advisory board to the BoD in technical matters

GOVERNANCE - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thomas Hahn
(Siemens)

Edward Curry
(Insight)

Valerio Frascolla
(Intel)

Laure Le Bars
(SAP)

Freek Bomhof
(TNO)

Dolores Ordóñez
(AnySolution)

Till Lech
(SINTEF)

Stefan Van Baelen
(imec)

Richard Stevens
(IDC)

Andrejs Vasiljevs
(Tilde)

Tuomo Tuikka
(VTT)

Juan Bernabé-Moreno
(IBM)

Antonis Ramfos
(ATC)

Daniel Sáez
(ITI)

Jeanette Nilsson
(RISE)

Joost Geurts
(INRIA)

Davide Dalle Carbonare
(Engineering Ingegneria Informatica)

Robert Seidl
(Nokia)

Shane Ó Seasnáin
(TU Eindhoven)

Rob Smeets
(Philips)

Dominique Grelet
(ATOS)

Stefan Gessler
(NEC)

Fabrice Tocco
(Dawex)

María Pérez
(UPM)

Harald Schöning
(Software AG)

Patrick van der Smagt
(Volkswagen Group)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS 2024

The General Assembly appointed 2 new directors during the General Assembly meeting that took place on November 2024: **Dolores Ordóñez (AnySolution)** and **Fabrice Tocco (Dawex)**, both of them representing SMEs.

The Board of Directors (BoD) organised 12 official meetings during 2024:

- BoD 86 - 26 January (online)
- BoD 87 - 22 February (online)
- BoD 88 - 11 March (Darmstadt)
- BoD 89 - 22 March (online)
- BoD 90 - 26 April (online)
- BoD 91 - 23 May (online)
- BoD 92 - 27 June (online)
- BoD 93 - 17 July (online)
- BoD 94 - 17 September (online)
- BoD 95 - 25 October (online)
- BoD 96 - 18 November (online)
- BoD 97 - 9 December (Luxembourg)

The BoD meets regularly (on a monthly basis). The main topics for discussion during the year 2024 included:

- Strategy, strategic agenda and plan implementation
- Progress on Task Forces and outcomes. When needed review on mandates and/or leadership
- Membership strategy
- Strategic projects
- Financial management
- Alliances Partnershps and collaborations
- Monitoring events progress

BDVA organised 3 official General Assembly (GA) meetings during 2024

- GA 30 - 12 March (online)
- GA 31 - 10 June (online)
- GA 32 - 26 November (online)

GOVERNANCE - TECHNICAL BOARD

Here are the representatives of the BDVA Technical Board in 2024:

Pekka Abrahamson
Full professor of software engineering
Tampere University

Jordit Cabot
Head of the Software Engineering RDI Unit
Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST)

Edward Curry
Full professor of software engineering
Insight (National University of Ireland Galway)

Simon Dalmolen
Senior Scientist (Data Ecosystems)
TNO

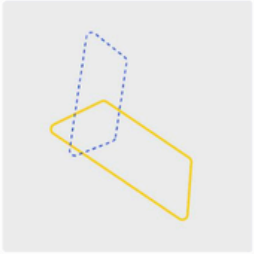
Rafael del Hoyo
Leader of Big Data and Cognitive Systems
ITAINNOVA: Technological Institute of Aragon

Valerio Frascolla
Director of Research and Innovation
Intel Corporation

Zoltan Mann
Associate Professor - Data protection
University of Amsterdam

Andreas Metzger
Adjunct Professor of Software Engineering
Paluno (University of Duisburg-Essen)

Jeanette Nilsson
AI Ecosystem Driver
RISE



Andrea Panizza
everis Italia SpA Manager
NTT Data

María S. Pérez
Full professor
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Sonia Santiago
R&D Engineer
ITI

Shane O'Seasnáin
Director Eindhoven AI Systems Institute (EAISI) Program Board
Eindhoven University of Technology

Tuomo Tuikka
Lead, Data Space Solutions
VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland

Yingqian Zhang
Associate Professor of AI for Decision-Making
Eindhoven University of Technology

Daniel Alonso Román
Senior Technical Lead Big Data and AI ecosystems
BDVA

GOVERNANCE - TECHNICAL BOARD

The BDVA Technical Board meets on a regular monthly basis. In 2024, there were 9 meetings in total (February, March, April, May, July, September, October, November and Dececember). The main topics for discussion during the year, and where the experts composing the board provided their guidance and feedback, have been:

- BDVA Technology Reference Framework and Data Value Creation Framework
- Data Spaces Support Center blueprint v1.0 and v1.5
- Involvement and contribution from BDVA to standardisation bodies: CEN CENELEC JTC21, CEN Trusted Data Transactions, CEN CENELEC Focus Group Data, dataspaces, cloud and edge
- Data quality discussion and paper (published in June 2024)
- DSBA technology convergence exercise
- BDVA big strategic themes and agenda (published in August 2024)

MEMBERSHIP

The Members of BDVA comprise:

- Small, medium and large enterprises (representing actors on the overall data and AI value chain, from technology and service providers, integrators, users, start-ups and innovators).
- Research organisations and Academia (both public and private organisations), the public sector, Industry associations and NGOs.

Discover BDVA's members!

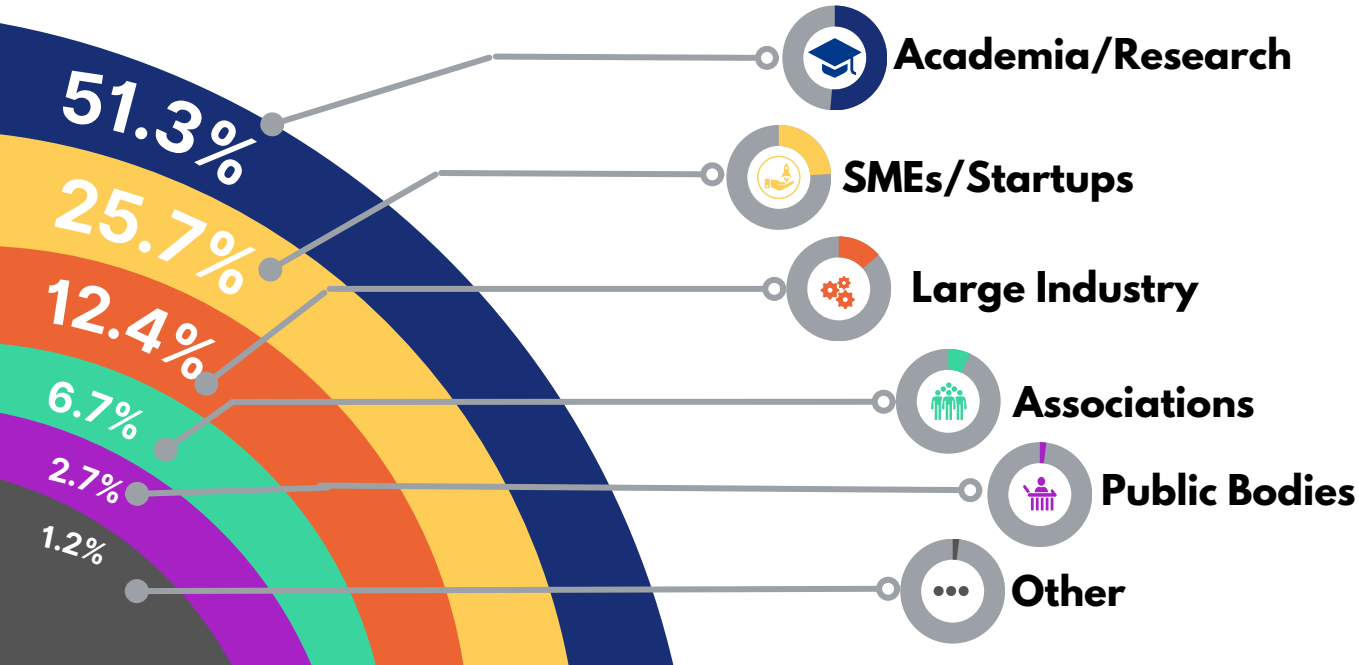
There are two types of membership: **Full Members** and **Associated Members**.

- **Full Members** can participate in all the activities of the Association, have full voting rights and can be elected to be part of the Board of Directors. Full members enjoy all the benefits of the Association. Full members can lead activities and are at the forefront of task forces and can enjoy all the benefits of the Association.
- **Associated Members** can participate in the activities designated for Associate members without voting rights.

Membership approval is granted by the General Assembly upon BoD proposal. The BoD can provide provisional membership approval. If you have any further questions please contact us at **info@bdva.eu**

Apply for BDVA membership now!

MEMBERSHIP TYPE DISTRIBUTION IN 2024



NEW MEMBERS 2024

BDVA's General Assembly (GA30, GA31 and GA32) accepted **23 new members in 2024**, 5 new members on 12 March, 10 new members on 10 June and 7 on 26 November.

AnySolution (Spain)

Artech International BVBA (Belgium)

BlueGen.ai Solutions B.V. (Netherlands)

CACTUS DIGITAL SA (Greece)

Dell Technologies (Ireland)

ELTE-Soft Nonprofit Ltd (Hungary)

EPCC, the University of Edinburgh (UK)

Finnish Geospatial Research Institute (Finland)

Gigasys Solutions (UK)

Headai Oy (Finland)

INESC TEC (Portugal)

innomine Digital Innovation Hub Nonprofit Kft. (UK)

Inova DE GmbH (Germany)

Institute of Information Systems and Networking (SUPSI) (Switzerland)

King's College London (UK)

Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V. (Germany)

Open Data Institute (UK)

Reprex besloten vennootschap (Reprex B.V.), Netherlands

Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd (Finland)

The Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal asbl (Belgium)

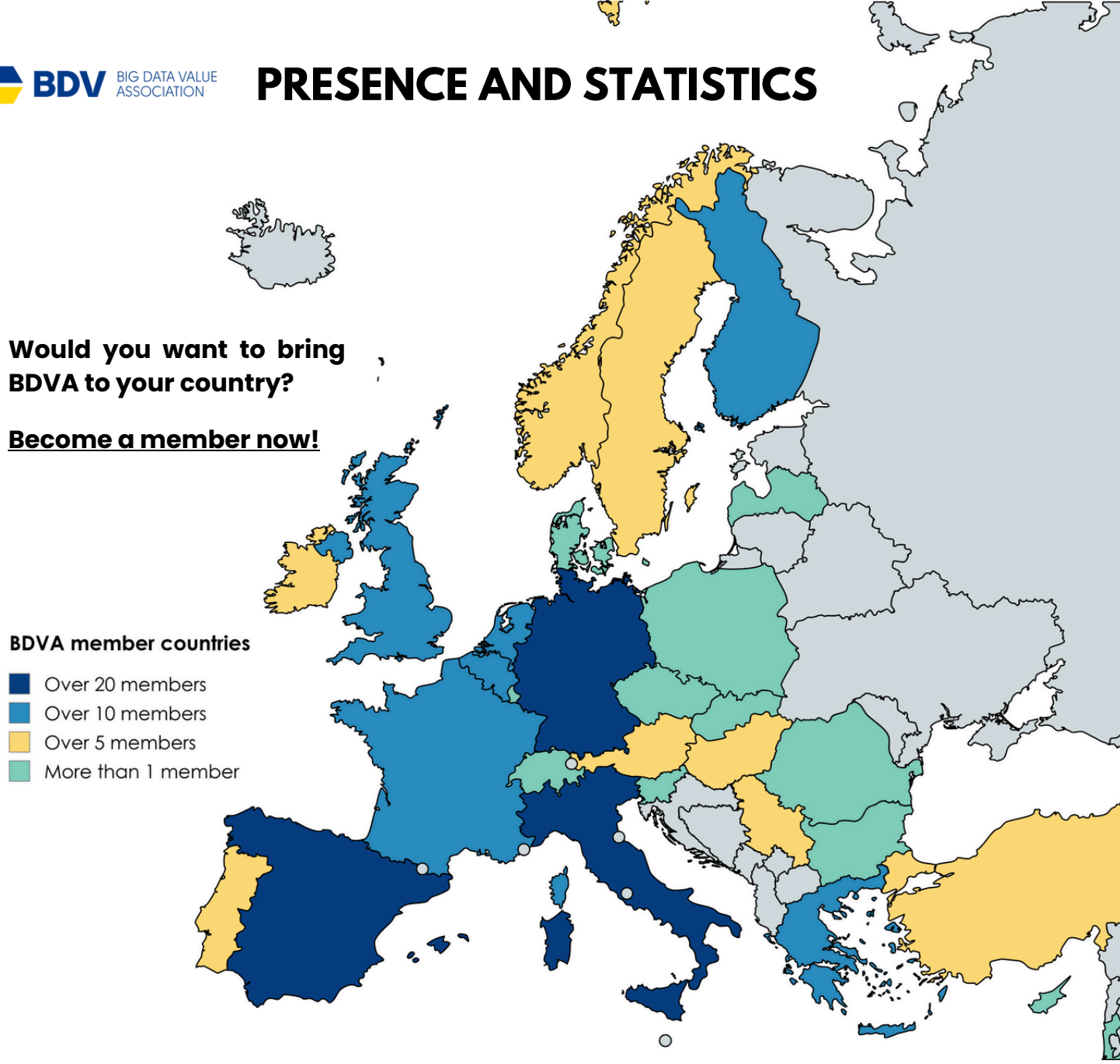
VizLore Labs Foundation (Serbia)

Wroclaw Center for Networking and Supercomputers (Wroclaw University of Science and Technology) (Poland)

*full members

**associate members

PRESENCE AND STATISTICS



Would you want to bring BDVA to your country?

Become a member now!

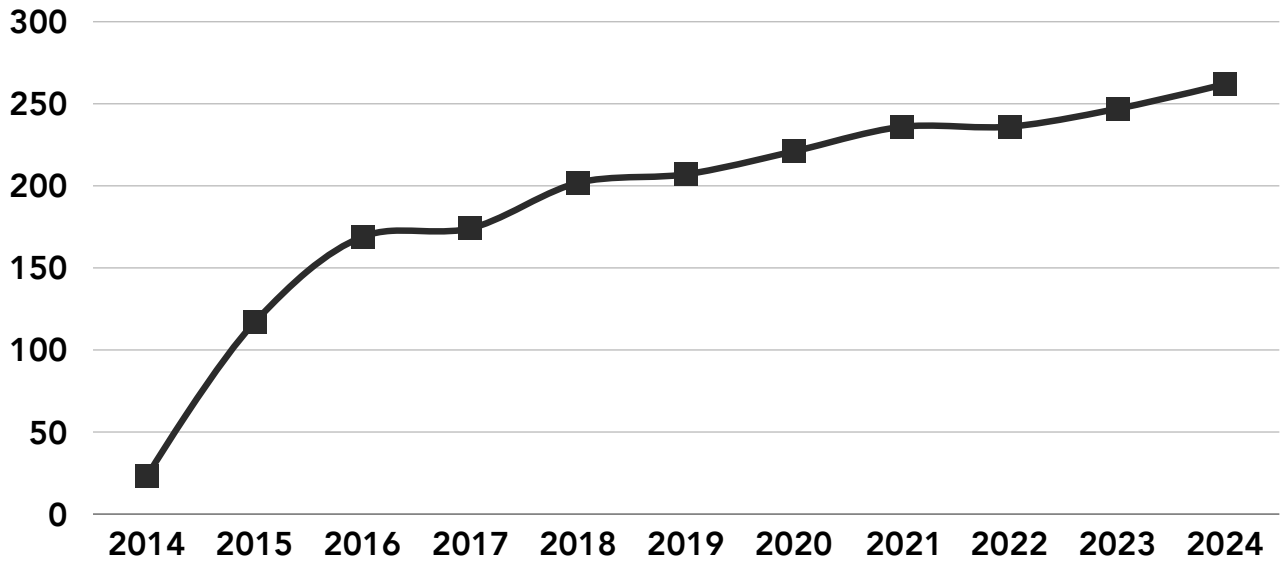
262 members in 29 different countries

BDVA is open to new members to further enrich the data value and AI ecosystem and play an active role. If you are a business industry or technology provider, a start-up or a large company, public or private, research, academia, association or public authority and if the future of Data and AI, or how Data and AI will shape your organisation matters to you, then BDVA is the place to be.

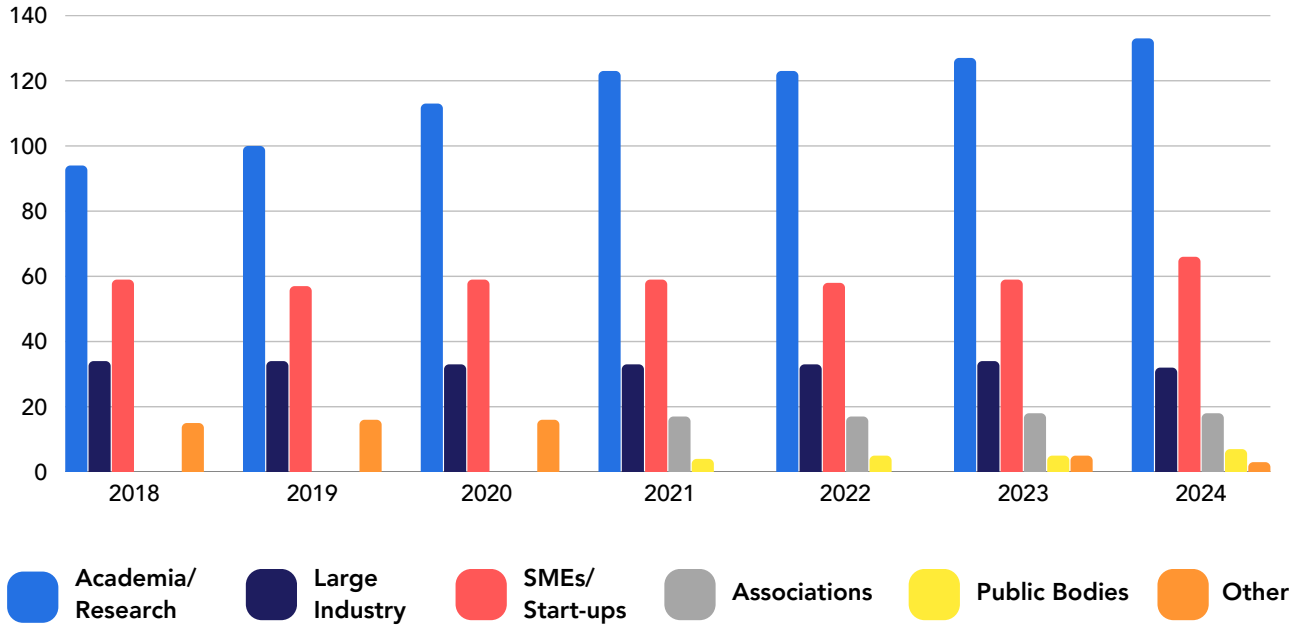
Find out more about BDVA's value proposition!

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

BDVA MEMBERSHIP GROWTH (2014-2024)



BDVA MEMBERS 2018-2024



BDV BIG DATA VALUE ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS 2024

1001 Lakes
AdQuiver Media SL
AI Sweden
Almende
AnySolution
Appcent
Aristotelio Panepistimio Thessalonikis
Armengaud Innovate GmbH
Artech
Asociatia Transilvania IT
Asociation De Usuarios De Internet(AUI)
ATB
Athens Technology Center
AUSTRALO Interinnov Marketing Lab SL
Austrian Institute of Technology
AVL List GmbH
Barcelona Supercomputing Center
Bavarian Research Alliance (Bayerische Forschungsallianz GmbH)
BEIA Consult International
Big Data Value Center
Binare Oy
BlueGen.ai Solutions B.V.
BluSpecs
Bournemouth University
Brainport Development NV
Bright Data Ltd.
Bureau de recherches géologiques et minières (BRGM)
Cactus Digital SA
CAS Software AG
CCG/ZGDV - ICT Innovation Institute
CEA France
CeADAR - Center for Applied Data Analytics Research
CEFRIEL s.cons.r.l.
Centre de la Recherche Scientifique, CNRS
Centre for Social Sciences (CSS)
CETaqua, Centro Tecnológico del Agua
Chamber of Commerce and Industry Slovenia, The ICT Association of Slovenia, ICT horizontal network
Charles University in Prague
CINECA
CINI
City of Espoo
CNR Florence
CNsys PLC
CODE4THOUGHT P.C.
Consorzio Intellimech
Consorzio TOPIX
CORE Innovation Centre
CRS4
CSC - IT Center for Science Ltd.
CTIC Technology Centre
DataRiver
Dawex Systems
De Vlaamse Radio- en Televisieomroeporganisatie nv (VRT)
DECSIS - Sistemas de Informacao, SA
Dell Technologies
Demos Research Institute Oy
DFKI (German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence)
Digital Catapult Ltd.
Digital Partners
Dublin City University
eBOS Technologies
EGI Foundation
Eindhoven University of Technology, EAISI (Eindhoven AI Systems Institute) Data Science Center Eindhoven
Ekitia (Occitanie Data)
ELTE-Soft Nonprofit Ltd
ENGIE Lab Crigen
Engineering
Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE)
EPCC
Eurecat
EUROGI
Eviden (atos)
Exmile Solutions Ltd (MarineTraffic)
FEUGA
Finnish Geospatial Research Institute
Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra
Fondazione Bruno Kessler
Fondazione LINKS
Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
Forum Virium Helsinki
Foundation for Research and Technologies Helleas(FORTH)
Fraunhofer
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU), Chair of Technical Information Systems
FTK e.V.
Fundación CARTIF
Fundacion INCLIVA
GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences
GFT Italia S.r.l.
Gigasys Solutions
Gradiant
HeadAI
Heidelberg University Computing Centre
Helmholtz Association
Huawei
i2Cat
IBM
IDC
IDEKO
IDENER Research & Development AIE
Ikerlan
ILVO - Instituut voor Landbouw Visserij en Voedingonderzoek
imec
IMT - Institut Mines-Telecom
Indra
Indra
INESC TEC
Information Technologies Institute - Centre for Research and Technology Hellas
Inlecom Group BVBA
innomine Digital Innovation Hub Nonprofit Kft.
Innovalia
Inova DE GmbH
Inria
Insight (National University of Ireland Galway)
Inspur (Inspur Electronic Information Industry Co.,Ltd)
Institut de Recherche Technologique SystemX
Institut Mihajlo Pupin
Institute for Computer Science and Control (former name MTA SZTAKI)
Institute for Energy Technology
Institute of Communication and Computer Systemsl (ICCS)
Institute of Information Systems and Networking (SUPSI)
Instituto de Biomecanica de Valencia (IBV)
Instituto Tecnologico de Aragon (Itainnova)
Intel
Intrasoft International
IT Innovation
IT4Innovations, VSB – Technical University of Ostrava
ITI
ITML (Information Technology for Market Leadership)
JAMK University of Applied Sciences

BDV BIG DATA VALUE ASSOCIATION

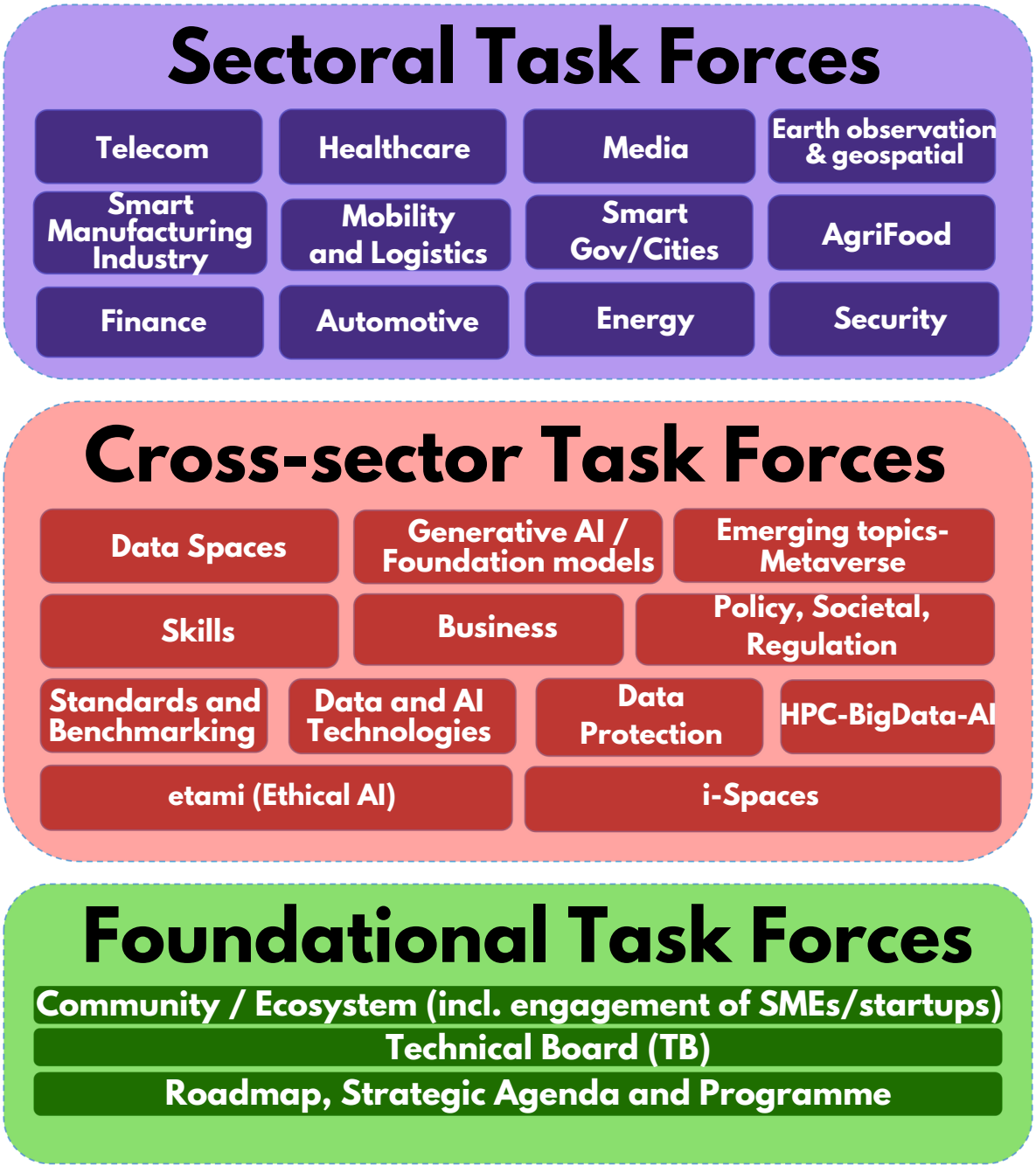
MEMBERS 2024

Joanneum Research Forschungsgesellschaft mbH
Jot Internet Media
Kadir Has University
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
King's College London
KInIT Kempelen Institute of Intelligent Technologies
Know-Center GmbH
KTH Royal Institute of Technology
Kuveyt Türk Katılım Bankası A.Ş.
L3S Research Center
Leonardo Spa
Universidad de Murcia
Lortek
Luleå University of Technology
Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology
Lynkeus
Mälardalen University
Martel GMBH
Maxfone SRL
Maynooth University (National University of Ireland Maynooth)
Meditech
metaphacts GmbH
Microsoft
Ministry of Economy and Finance / Directorate of Information Systems and Innovation
Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V.
Mondragon Goi Eskola Politeknikoa JMA, S.Coop
Mozaika
NCSR 'Demokritos'
NEC Laboratories Europe GmbH
Neumann Technology Platform
Neuropublic
Nissatech
Nokia
Norwegian University of Science and Technology
NOVA Information Management School
NTT Data (Everis)
Nuromedia GmbH
Ontotext ("Sirma AI" EAD)
Open Data Institute
Orange
Organon Analytics
Oxys Consulting
Pangeanic BI Europa SL
Philips electronics Nederlands BV/Philips Research
Plan4all
Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI)
Porini SRL
Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center
Prizztech Ltd - Robocoast
Qbeast Analytics SL
Quantos S.A. - Statistics and Information Systems
Reprex besloten vennootschap (Reprex B.V.)
RES IT
RISE Research Institutes of Sweden AB
S&D Consulting Europe (former ETA Consulting)
SAP
SatCen
SCIoI TU-Berlin
Semantic Web Company
SESTEK
SICOS BW GmbH
Siemens
SIMAVI
Singularlogic S.A.
Sintef
Sirris
Software AG
Software Competence Center Hagenberg (SCCH)
Space Applications Services
St. Pölten University of Applied Science
Suite5
Tampere University
Tampere University of Applied Sciences Ltd
TeamDev S.r.l.
Technical University of Denmark (DTU)
Tecnalia
Tekniker
Teknopar Industrial Automation
Terrasigna
Thales
The Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal asbl
The Spanish National Research Council
Ticbiomed
Tiga Health
Tilburg University
Tilde
TNO
TRAGSA Group
Tree Technology (former Treelogic)
Trialog
Trilateral Research & Consulting
TU Wien
Ubiwhere
UDE Paluno (Univ. Duisburg-Essen)
Uni Systems
UNIBO - University of Bologna
Uninova
UNITO - Università degli Studi di Torino
Universidad de Alicante
Universidad de Málaga
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid
Universidade da Coruña (UDC)
Università Degli Studi di Padova
Universitat Politecnica Valencia
Universitat Rovira i Virgili
University of Amsterdam
University of Belgrade - School of Electrical Engineering
University of Granada
University of Helsinki
University of Murcia
University of Novi Sad Faculty of Sciences
University of Oslo (Department of Informatics)
University of Oulu
University of Pavia (Department of Economics and Management)
University of Piraeus, Data Science Lab.
University of Sofia
University of Southern Denmark
University of St.Gallen
University of Szeged
University of Tartu (UT)
University of the Basque Country
University of Twente, Digital Society Institute
Value Date
Vicomtech
VITO (Vlaamse Instelling voor Technologisch Onderzoek)
VizLore Foundation
Volkswagen Group
Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)
VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd
Western Norway Research Institute
WINGS ICT Solutions P.C.
Wroclaw Center for Networking and Supercomputers (Wroclaw University of Science and Technology)

TASK FORCES

BDVA's Task Forces (TFs) are the main instrument to develop BDVA activities and are established to take care of specific matters within the 'Objectives' of the Association under the authority of the BoD. As BDVA's TFs channel the input from the members around the most important topics for the association, they support its mission and vision. Through BDVA's Task Forces, our members actively contribute to the European data and AI R&I agenda and develop guidelines and strategic roadmaps for industry and policymakers.

BDVA Task Forces are organised according to their nature: Sectoral Task Forces (12) focused on particular sectors, Cross-sector Task Forces (12) going in-depth on aspects of Data and AI or similar relevance to all sectors and the Foundational Task Forces (3) providing support to the rest.



TASK FORCE NEWS 2024

This section summarises the focus and outcomes of the Task Forces during 2024. The BDVA Task Forces are organised alphabetically.

Task Force Agrifood

For 2024, members of the **Task Force Agrifood** maintained their strong engagement in agriculture-related European projects. They contributed to the ongoing development of the Technology Code of Conduct for Agriculture and the BDVA Strategic Agenda. The task force collaborated with members active in the field of agricultural Data Spaces and organised a session within EBDVF 2024 titled **"Leveraging AI and Data Spaces to Revolutionise Agrobusiness"**. It examined how Data Spaces can unlock the full potential of data collected throughout a sustainable agro-industrial chain. It explored how a more holistic and sustainable data management approach enhances decision-making and fosters new synergies, then looked at ZeroW, a Data Space offering secure and reliable sharing of data among actors at different points in the supply chain. Finally, it highlighted the use of Geospatial Large Language Models (GeoLLM) in agriculture, showcasing how these models can enhance decision-making by providing data-driven insights on crop yields, health and resource allocation.

Task Force Automotive

This Task Force focuses on **Big Data and Artificial Intelligence applications** applied to the Automotive sector. TF Automotive participated at EBDVF 2024 with a session on automotive innovation around advancing collaboration in artificial intelligence (AI), data and robotics. The emphasis was on road transport. The main drive is Europe's current challenges in adopting transformative technologies such as AI, big data and edge/cloud computing within the automotive industry. Engineers across mechanical, electrical, and electronic disciplines are often constrained by rigid workflow models, the need to meet systemic properties like safety and robustness, and the necessity of adhering to strict regulatory standards. This session aimed at exploring how these constraints can be addressed through the adoption of modern software tools and technologies. Participants gained insight into recent developments designed to bridge the gap between traditional engineering requirements and the potential of next-generation digital solutions. The agenda saw inputs from the CoGNETs and FAME projects as well as from large companies from Austria and Hungary.

Another activity in 2024 by the Automotive Task Force is related to the **CCAM Multi-Cluster Meeting**, in which both the TF Leads and BDVA Secretariat took part as part of an endeavour brought forward by the TF Leads to enhance the cooperation with the CCAM community and brings the data and AI perspective into their work. The final goal is to promote and assess the impact of the use of ADR (AI Data and Robotics) in the automotive sector.

Task Force Data Protection

In 2024, the **Data Protection Task Force** focused on privacy within the context of Data Spaces. The outcome of its work was the publication of a White Paper titled **"Leveraging the Benefits of Combining Data Spaces and Privacy-Enhancing Technologies."** Data spaces and Privacy Enhancing Technologies (PETs) share a mutual objective: facilitating access to data insights while maintaining confidentiality, yet the development of data spaces and PETs is driven by two different communities. BDVA has joined forces with **CoE-DSC** to develop the publication, highly relevant for the ecosystem and our two organisations. This document provides recommendations on organisational, business and technical aspects for further aligning the initiatives of Data Spaces and Privacy-Enhancing Technologies. BDVA, CoE DSC and the authors wanted to make the Data Spaces and PETs communities aware of the importance of joining forces and seeing how PETs can be combined within data spaces.

Task Force Data Spaces

This Task Force focuses on all aspects of data sharing and how they contribute to the realisation of European Common Data Spaces. In particular, and according to the BDVA mission and objectives, it explores how data spaces generate value in alignment with industry and business needs, with a strong emphasis on the role of AI as a key enabler. The main activities and achievements of the Task Force during 2024 have been the following:

1) Task Force monthly meetings (9), devoted to discussing relevant aspects and host pitches, presentations and keynotes from members as well as external expert guests. Examples of these dedicated thematic presentations during Data Spaces monthly meetings are:

- Data product (technical / VTT and legal / KUL perspectives)
- Fair Digital Objects (from FDO Forum)
- Semantic Interoperability Framework (from Interconnect project)
- Data Space in Tourism (AnySolutions)

2) Publications:

- **"Leveraging the benefits of combining data spaces and privacy enhanced technologies" (March 2024)**
- **"Elevating Data Quality: A Paradigm Shift for Data Spaces and AI Needs" (May 2024)**

3) Dedicated sessions in BDVA events:

- Workshop: **"Data Value – Application in Data Spaces"** (dedicated session at Data Week / Data Spaces Symposium)
- Workshop: **"AI-ready Data products"** (dedicated session during Data Week – Luxembourg 2024, 10 December 2024)
- Workshop: **"Deep dive on Semantic Interoperability in Data Spaces"** (dedicated session at EBDVF2024)
- Workshop: **"Value Creation in Data Spaces"** (dedicated session at EBDVF 2024)
- Contributions to BDVA Strategic Agenda (specially theme on **"Expanding data-driven ecosystems across sectors and (global) value chains"**)
- Contribution to standardisation activities where BDVA is participating (e.g. CEN Trusted Data Transactions, CEN Focus Group)
- Contribution to Data Spaces Support Center blueprint (versions v1.0 and v1.5), and more specifically to the building block **"Value Creation Services"**, for which BDVA is the penholder

Task Force Emerging Topics

Task Force Emerging Topics was created with the goal of „incubating" new trending topics in the field of AI and Data. In 2024, the Task Force started its involvement in the **OPENVERSE project** under the Horizon Europe Coordination and Support Action, where the topic of human-centered European Virtual Worlds is being developed. This activity is undertaken in cooperation with **Task Force Media**. Besides engagement in the project, members of the Task Force Emerging Topic, were presenting the current technological trends during the events such as EBDVF 2024.

Task Force Energy

In 2024, the TF Energy contributed with the session **"Leveraging the energy data space for deploying Digital Twins and big data AI services to speed up energy transition"** at the EBDVF24 in Budapest. The session was on leveraging the Energy Data Space for deploying Digital Twins and big data AI services to speed up energy transition. The event highlighted the progress made by the Energy Data Space in facilitating data sharing among energy sector stakeholders. A number of technological building blocks and components had been made available with the aim of addressing the longstanding reluctance of energy operators to share data.

The Energy Data Space enforced principles of interoperability and trust, which empowered data owners with full control over their data assets. Moreover, the introduction of appropriate business models helped ensure fair value distribution across both regulated and non-regulated stakeholders within the energy ecosystem.

Discussions during the event focused on the extent to which the Energy Data Space had evolved into a key enabler for large-scale energy data sharing. Several noteworthy experiences were presented, particularly in the areas of Digital Twins and AI-powered services. These innovations were shown to play a pivotal role in supporting and accelerating the green energy transition.

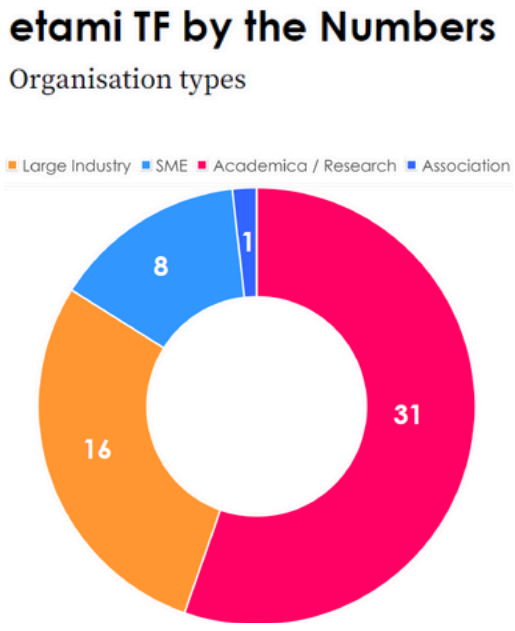
Task Force etami

etami focusses on addressing the social, legal and business risks of AI systems. It rethinks AI lifecycle models to enhance quality and promotes auditing throughout the system's life cycle, ensuring responsible AI deployment. etami's solutions are tested across various domains and supported by specialised software tools. With BDVA's diverse network of members, it helps etami to develop what is crucially missing in the AI landscape: the bridge between solid research and its translation into reliable and trustworthy engineering practice, while keeping universal ethical values at the centre.

etami members were engaged in several initiatives throughout 2024, resulting in the publication of two deliverables:

- **"Fit for the AI Act"** – an analysis of the recently adopted AI Act.
- **"Field of Action"** – an exploration of various AI-related challenges from the perspective of ethical adoption of AI, including Risk Management and Data Governance.

In addition, Etami actively participated in public consultations on the General-Purpose AI Code of Practice. This involved engaging in dedicated workshops and appointing BDVA representatives to contribute to European Commission-led plenary meetings on the topic. Finally, etami organised a session at EBDVF 2024 titled **"New Frontiers in AI Act Operationalisation."** The discussion focused on the checks and governance principles necessary to ensure ethical compliance at all stages of AI deployment.



Human-centric AI

etami focusses on making AI a reliable and trustworthy technology.

Guidelines

etami translates European and global principles for ethical AI into actionable & measurable guidelines, tools & methods.

Processes & tools

etami creates processes & tools to enable ethical, trustworthy & legal AI.

Ethical AI

etami raises questions around fairness & non-discrimination, which lie at the heart of trustworthy and ethical AI.

Task Force Generative AI

In 2024, the BDVA Task Force on Generative AI was formalised to address the wide-ranging challenges and opportunities presented by Generative AI (GenAI). Given its cross-sector impact, a coordinated and holistic approach is essential. A central priority is building robust infrastructure for training and operating foundation models, supported through collaboration with AI Factories, the Task Force HPC-BD-AI, and the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking.

Secure and privacy-compliant data access is vital, as is addressing systemic risks such as synthetic data proliferation, automated phishing, and deepfakes. Rigorous evaluation of foundation and generative models is crucial to ensure their reliability. Identifying high-impact use cases and overcoming adoption barriers in business and industry is equally important. Successful deployment also depends on specific technical skills, including human-in-the-loop integration.

Ensuring model explainability is key to transparency and trust, while adherence to ethical standards and regulations—such as the EU AI Act—is essential. This is supported through cooperation with Task Force etami. Strategic foresight, addressing emerging challenges, and aligning technical innovation with business needs are central to sustainable progress.

The Task Force has set medium- to long-term goals, including the creation of a dedicated forum to tackle key challenges and support the practical deployment of GenAI. This forum will foster collaboration, co-creation, and partnerships—particularly in research and development—through initiatives such as Horizon Europe.

The Task Force will also contribute to European Commission programs like GenAI4EU and synthetic data initiatives, representing BDVA members' interests. It will provide strategic guidance to support members in adopting GenAI, offering insights into existing foundation models and the need for industry-specific ones.
Coordination with other BDVA Task Forces—across sectors like healthcare and areas such as HPC, data spaces, data protection, and industrial AI trustworthiness—will ensure an integrated approach. Partnerships, including with Adra, will also be actively pursued.

Task Force Healthcare

For 2024, the **Task Force Healthcare** focused on synthetic data, a topic gaining significant attention in times of data-intensive models. To address this, the Task Force committed to develop two key papers:

- Technological, Ethical/Clinical, and Regulatory Challenges for Synthetic Data Generation and Use in Healthcare
- Unleashing the Potential of AI-Powered Biomedical Synthetic Data: Overcoming Challenges and Embracing a Brighter Future

Beyond these publications, the Task Force also raised awareness on the topic by organising the EBDVF 2024 sessions **"Synthetic Data in Healthcare"** and **"Showcasing innovative research for synthetic data generation from the HealthData4EU cluster projects: AISYM4MED, SYNTHEMA, SECURED"**. The first session hosted an insightful panel discussion on the use Synthetic Data in Healthcare, where representatives from diverse disciplines came together to explore the future of healthcare innovation, while the second session covered innovative approaches and results from key projects of the **HealthData4EU Cluster**, each with distinct objectives.

Task Force HPC-Bigdata-AI

The **HPC-Big Data-AI Task Force** aims to promote the integration and convergence of HPC, Big Data and AI technologies. As this high-level objective depends heavily on international cooperation, this BDVA Task Force is engaged in the work of the EuroHPC JU, of which BDVA is a private member. This means also an involvement in the Research & Innovation Advisory Group – one of two Advisory Groups of the Industrial and Scientific Advisory Board of EuroHPC JU. In 2024, the main topics of discussion during the regular meetings of the Task Force were the topics related to the AI Factories and the input to the Multi-annual Strategic Program of the EuroHPC JU.

Regarding the AI factories, the Task Force has identified four pillars where BDVA can support strongly their setting-up and adoption:

- Networking layer of AI factories, that homogenizes them at the user level, with common governance rules that ensure fair and seamless access to services for EU users is required in order to fully achieve their objectives.

- Linking AI Factories with industry (industrial AI), to get industry on board and foster their participation in the discussion to identify specificities and to understand their needs.

- Looking at the whole lifecycle from lab to market (aligned with GenAI4Europe), to identify how the different stages of the Generative AI lifecycle are supported by AI Factories, in order to guarantee the "lab to market" flow and to propose business models that can contribute to their sustainability

- Connecting AI Factories to data and data spaces, by leveraging BDVA's central role in a dynamic ecosystem that integrates data, data spaces, industrial AI, and HPC. This connection enables AI Factories to access private industrial data through data spaces under clearly defined conditions and usage policies, offering a significant advantage to AI innovators and advancing the mission of AI Factories.

Regarding this last point, BDVA has assembled a group of experts within its community to discuss this connection and explore potential next steps. BDVA has compiled insights from these discussions into the document: 'AI Factories and the Data Challenge: Access, Acquisition, and Usage of Data – Connection to Data Spaces.' This guide is designed to support those working on bridging AI Factories and data spaces.

Task Force Mobility and logistics

The TF was revamped with new TF.leads (LIST and NetCompany) in January 2024. The new management gave a vision to cover areas such as:

- Personal Mobility – (Mobility as a Service (MaaS))
- Logistics - checking also on energy efficiency
- Automotive - Electric, Connected, Autonomous Vehicles.

The Task Force participated at the Data Week 24 Part 1 in Darmstadt in the **"Data Spaces and Digital Twins"** session co-organised with other TFs such as Automotive and Smart-City in the context of the Data Spaces Symposium, focusing on the integration of Mobility Data Spaces and Digital Twin technologies in urban environments. This event intended to delve deep into the different aspects of digital mobility ecosystems, offering a comprehensive view of cutting-edge data collection, data-driven modelling, simulation techniques, and tangible use-cases.

Task Force Policy, Societal, and Regulation

The **Task Force Policy, Societal, and Regulation** follows closely the policy-making activities, especially those of the European Commission. In addition to its internal knowledge-sharing activities, the Task Force collaborates with other BDVA Task Forces. This was evident in the context of public consultations on the Code of Practice for General-Purpose AI, where the Task Force contributed its expertise on regulatory matters.

Furthermore, the Task Force organised a session during the EBDVF 2024 event on the topic of **"Data, AI, and Interoperability: Shaping the Regulatory Sandbox Ecosystem for Innovation,"** where synergies between various types of regulatory sandboxes were explored.

Task Force Skills

In 2024, members of the **Skills Task Force** participated in the **LeADS project on Advanced Digital Skills**, which successfully concluded last year. As part of this initiative, they contributed to a report providing recommendations for the development of ADS in Europe, which is available **here**. Additionally, they actively took part in several high-level forums organised in collaboration with the European Commission and experts in the field.

Task Force Smart Governance and Smart Cities

The Task Force looked at key European legislative and technological initiatives, like Interoperable Europe Act and AI Act, which represent potential transformative booster for the Public Sector. The TF looks at the evolution of public services through enhanced data sharing, AI-boosted decision making (and even policy making), and cross border collaborations among stakeholders. In this setting, from local to central government levels, the implementation of data spaces and the increased awareness of data protection are crucial for public sector innovation.

At EBDVF 24 in Budapest, the TF organised the session **"Future of Public Sector services via improved Interoperability and AI"** with the aim to present the vision around a more interconnected, efficient, and citizen-centric public sector. During the session the LDT CitiVERSE EDIC and Data EDIH initiatives were invited to give evidence on their impact on future public digital services.

Within this broader context, the session addressed the growing implementation of data spaces and the heightened awareness surrounding data protection—particularly in relation to personal data. These factors were identified as crucial elements in a complex and dynamic public sector innovation landscape, influencing changes from the local level—led by cities and municipalities—to national government initiatives.

The event emphasised how these combined efforts are improving public service delivery and advancing citizen-centric governance. By connecting legislative frameworks, emerging technologies, and practical implementations, the session provided a comprehensive vision for a more integrated, efficient, and people-focused digital public sector.

Task Force Smart Manufacturing

In 2024, the **Task Force Smart Manufacturing** focussed on mapping its network, strengthening its connections with relevant stakeholders. Lastly, it undertook some knowledge sharing activities, including a session at EBDVF **"Improving Data Maturity of Manufacturing SMEs".** The session fostered dialogue among diverse stakeholders within the European SMEs ecosystem, pinpointing priorities that address a range of aspects such as technical enablers, policies, and pilots, and gathered data for further analysis by the task force.

Task Force Standards and Benchmark

The **Standards and Benchmark Task Force** focusses on the evolution of international standardisation activities in Big Data, Artificial Intelligence and Data Governance. To this end, it actively collaborates with relevant Standard Development Organisations and participates in various initiatives.
In 2024, the Task Force has been directly involved in:

- **The CEN Trusted Data Transactions Workshop (CWA)**
- **CEN-CENELEC JTC 21 on Artificial Intelligence**
- **ISO/IEC JTC 1 SC 42**
- **The CEN Focus Group on Data, Dataspaces, Cloud, and Edge**
- **The DSSC Standards Working Group**

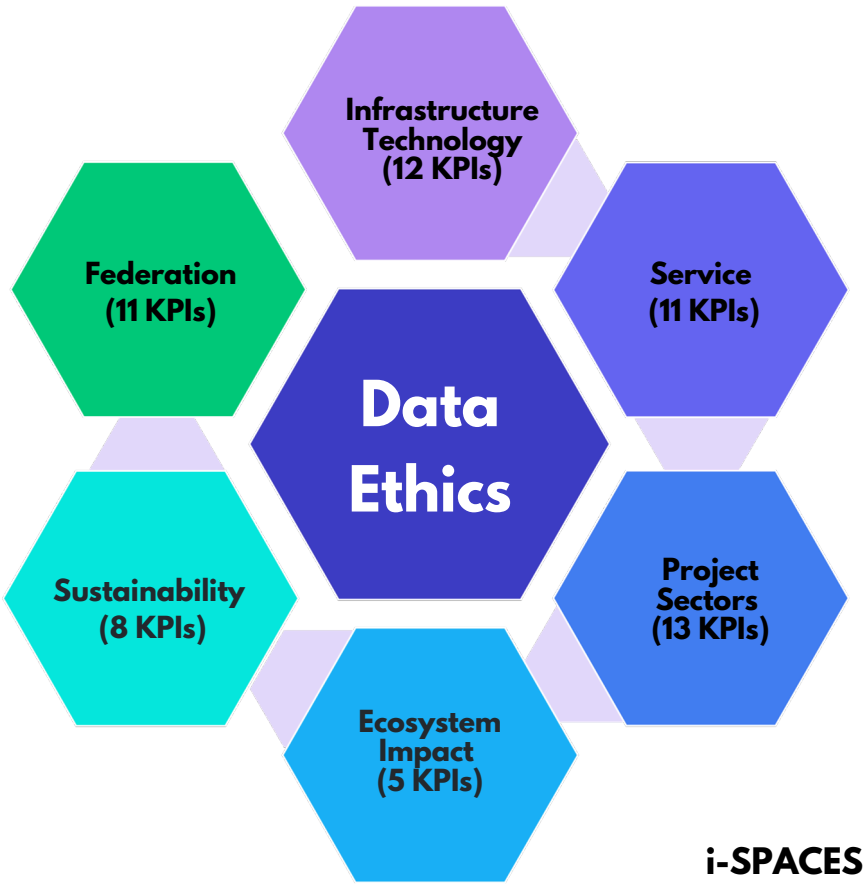
In addition, the Task Force continuously monitors ongoing standardisation initiatives, promotes engagement in these efforts, and tracks the participation of its members.

i-SPACES

European Data Innovation Spaces, or i-Spaces in short, have been a fundamental part of the Big Data Value Association's Strategic Agenda from the very beginning. Early on, the BDVA community realised the need for a tool to support businesses and researchers in order to extract value out of their data. More in the pages to come.

BDVA's i-Spaces community brings together organisations with experimentation facilities to promote secure data-sharing, introducing the i-Space quality label as a benchmark. By federating, they form a super-core for Europe, facilitating the evolution and adoption of data-driven innovation and AI technologies through a pan-European federated catalogue. **Learn more about i-Spaces!**

Recognised as pivotal instruments for driving data-driven innovation, these hubs accelerate uptake across sectors, offering secure environments for experimentation in both private and open data. BDVA offers a quality label to these data innovation spaces based on domains like infrastructure, services, projects, ecosystem impact and ethics.



i-SPACES LABEL KPIs

i-SPACES PILLARS (KPIs)

- The **'Infrastructure'** pillar: the computing power and storage capacity, the allocated resources, the data access methods and privacy and the integrity security measures.

- The **'Projects in Sectors'** pillar: the number of projects the i-Spaces have been involved per sector, the number and the growth of participating companies in the project, as well as the existence of knowledge and expertise of the personnel required by the sector.

- The **'Service'** pillar: the level of technical support provided by the i-Space. Among others, it includes indicators on technical support on big data management, analytics, data visualisation, new data and AI regulations, as well as data sharing and data spaces.

- The **'Ecosystem and Impact'** pillar: indicates the number of collaborations of the i-Spaces with companies, SMEs, academia, startups and outreach activities of the i-Space on local, regional, national, European or international level.

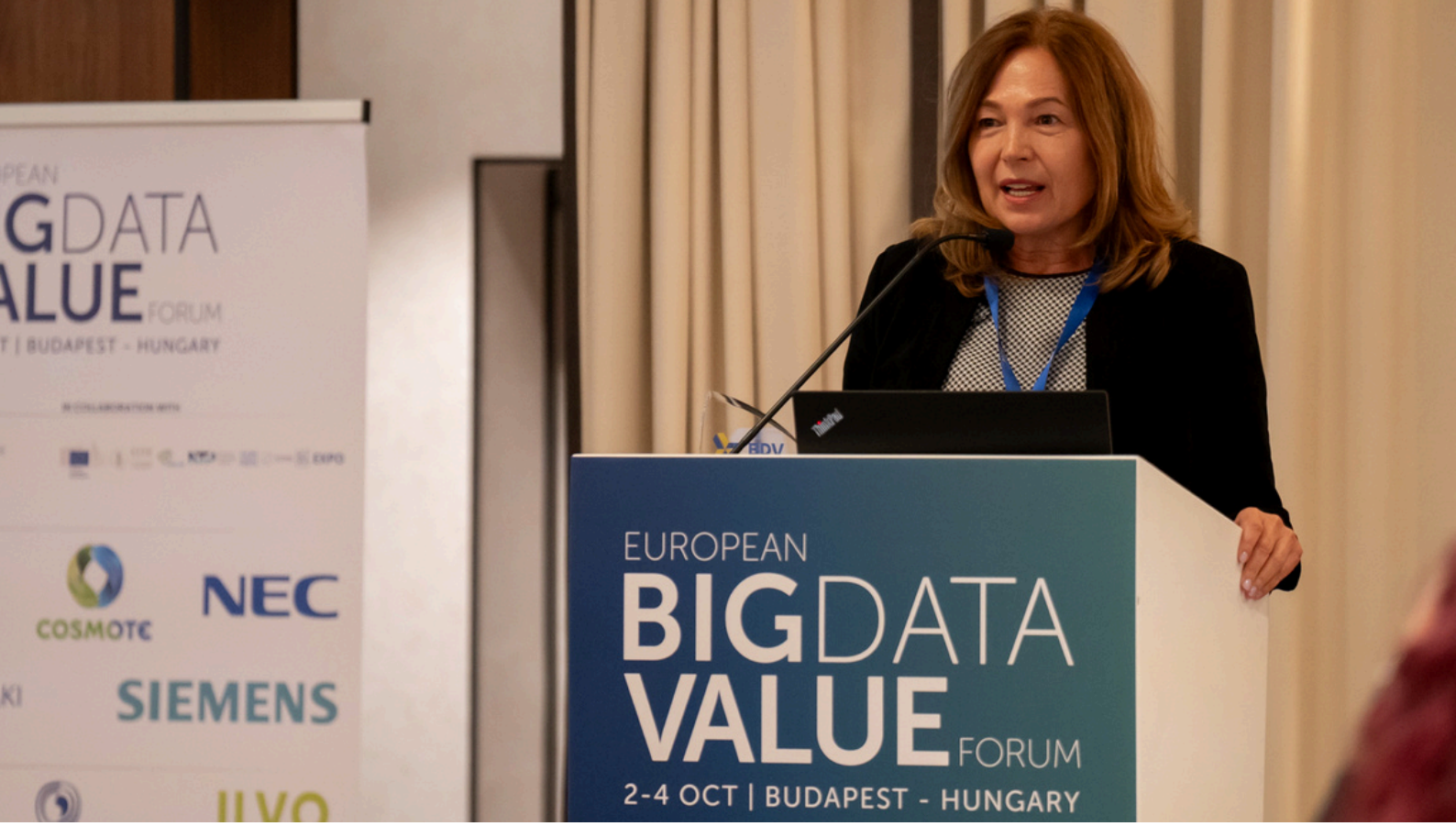
- The **'Sustainability'** pillar reflects the viability of the i-Space's business strategy, including information on the business plan goals, strategies for growth, impact, outreach and services strategy, as well as the model of economic sustainability.

- The **'Federation'** pillar indicates the compliance of the i-Space with the federation catalogue manager, the federation Learning Management System and it also shows the contribution and the participation of the i-Space to the federation.

NEWS 2024

BDVA launched the 9th call for i-Spaces on 15 July 2024. Hubs applying for the i-Space designation are subjected to a comprehensive maturity evaluation. The recognised hubs are evaluated and given a label according to one of these 5 categories: starter, bronze, silver, gold and platinum.

In 2024, two new organisations were granted the BDVA i-Spaces label: the **Data Space Demonstration Centre of Catalonia (i2CAT)** and **GATE i-Space** (both have obtained the **BDVA i-Spaces silver label**). The community of labelled i-Spaces consists of a total of 31 innovation hubs. Find all details of the 2024 call for i-Space labels **here**.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BIGDATA
VALUE FORUM
2-4 OCT | BUDAPEST - HUNGARY
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EUROPEAN
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ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

BDVA organises multiple activities with members, collaboration partners, policy makers and the extended community all over the year. Some of these activities take place online and some physically. BDVA also contributes to other communities' activities. This section summarises the overall the activities and events developed during 2024. A more extended explanation of the key events (EBDVF and Data Week) can be found in the annexes or in the sections of collaborations and projects.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES WITH MEMBERS

In addition to the regular Task Force interactions, the BoD and GA meetings, BDVA organises regular activities for all members interested. Those activities are called "Activity group meetings" (AG). During 2024 BDVA organised 6 AG meetings that complemented all physical events along the year, complementing the physical 3 1-day Data Week events organised in March, May and December 2024.

ACTIVITY GROUP (AG) ACTIVITIES (6 meetings)

18.1 AG58 (online) topics: Digital Twins

15.2 AG59 (online - jointly with DSSC) topics: Get to know the new Horizon Europe projects on Data life cycles and Workshop & open discussion, together with running HE projects on data sharing in the common EU data spaces

25.4 AG60 (online) topics: Privacy Preserving Technologies and Data Spaces/Data sharing , Pitches from members, and updates from BDVA TF

21.6 AG61 (online) topics: Consolidation of BDVA Strategic Agenda 2024

23.10 AG62 (online) topics: BDVA Feedback on AI Act (trustworthy General-Purpose AI), AI Factories and EuroHPC, Standardisation, and presentation of some BDVA projects

20.11 AG63 (online) topics: The European Data Market Study 2024 – 2026 and Monitoring Tool, HiPEAC - Computing Continuum from edge to Cloud, SEMIC semantic interoperability of public services

In addition to the regular activities, BDVA organises tailored workshops and activities as per demand and need of the members and Task Forces.

BDVA DEP Specialised matchmaking event, on 23 January 2024, a workshop focussing on 3 newly released calls for proposals on Advanced Digital Skills that were published under the Digital Europe Programme.

Semantic Interoperability framework (Interconnect project) / Deep dive workshop, online, organised by Daniel Alonso on 24 June (only for BDVA members).

The first draft of the **General Purpose AI Code of Practice** was released on 14 November. Responses to the three rounds of consultations were submitted over the following five months, support from the TFs GenAI, etami and Policy and Societal. Several workshops and discussions devoted to the topic organised.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

BDVA EVENTS:

Data Week 2024 (Part 1)
12 March, 2024
Darmstadt, DE

Data Week 2024 (Part 2)
5 June, 2024
Leuven, BE

Data Week 2024 (Part 3)
10 December 2024
Luxembourg, LU

European Big Data Value Forum (EBDVF) 2024
2 - 4 October 2024
Budapest, HU

EVENTS ORGANISED IN COLLABORATION:

Data Spaces Symposium 2024: 12-14 March 2024

BDVA co-organised alongside FIWARE Foundation, Gaia-X European Association for Data and Cloud AISBL, the International Data Spaces Association (IDSA) and Data Spaces Support Centre the premier global event dedicated to the future of data spaces, the **Data Spaces Symposium, from 12-14 March 2024 in Darmstadt (Frankfurt).** The event brought together the brightest minds, leading innovators and pioneering organisations to shape a connected, data-driven world. Find out more in the **DSBA** and **DSSC** segments.

EuroHPC Summit 2024: 18-21 March

BDVA, as one of the private members of the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC JU), was part of the programme committee of the EuroHPC Summit 2024.
BDVA organised sessions at EuroHPC Summit 2024, had a stand and organised a cocktail with the other private partners: ETP4HPC European Technology Platform for HPC and European Quantum Industry Consortium (QuIC) on Wednesday, 20 March, from 18:00 CET. **Find out more in the EuroHPC page.**

20×30: LEADS - Europe's Advanced Digital Skills Summit: 16 May 2024

BDVA co-organised this event on 16 May 2024, in Madrid, a pivotal gathering to propel Europe towards its ambitious goal of adding 20 million new ICT specialists by 2030, underpinning the Digital Decade policy initiative. In an era of rapid technological evolution, Europe's competitive edge hinges on its ability to develop and maintain advanced digital skills. Find out more about LEADS.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

EVENTS WHERE BDVA WAS ACTIVELY PRESENT:

Research to Reality: Digital Solutions to European Challenges – physical event organised in Brussels on 5 February 2024, by the EC and the Belgian presidency. BDVA Secretary General chaired a session on AI in Healthcare and multiple members joined the event.

Adra-e European Convergence Summit 2024 (online), on 19 June 2024 where Secretary General moderated a panel.

FIWARE Global Summit 2024, took place in Naples from 18-19 September. where BDVA Secretary General participated in a CEO round table.

CEN Workshop on Trusted Data Transaction in Context, public event, in Brussels on 24 September (part of CEN CWA TDT). BDVA Secretary General moderated a panel.

IoT Summit 2024 took place in Brussels, on 25 September, where BDVA Secretary General spoke in a panel.

Workshop on Semantic Interoperability in Data Spaces at EBDVF 2024, 1 October 2024, Budapest, Hungary

EuroHPC JU user days 2024 took place in Amsterdam, from 22-23 October.

Digital Tech Summit 2024 took place in Copenhagen from 30-31 October, attended by BDVA Secretary General, who started discussions over EBDVF 2025.

DeployTour kick off event, took place in Mallorca from 4-5 November 2024, where we attended and participated in panel as DSSC and BDVA.

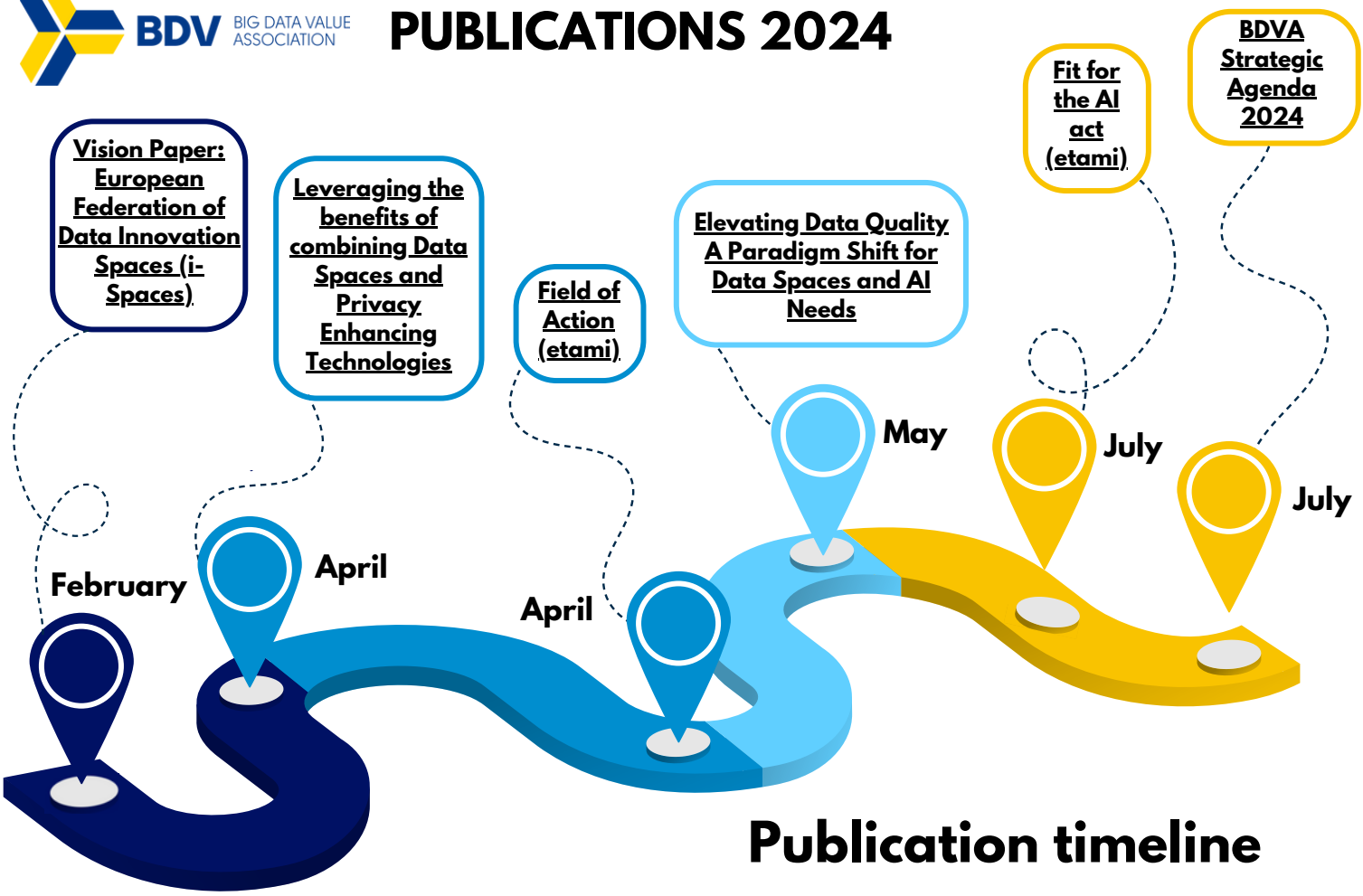
ADRF - Adra Forum 2024: BDVA organised a session on 5 November 2024

Gaia-X Summit 2024 took place in Helsinki from 14-15 November, where the BDVA Secretary General participated in a DSBA panel

Gaia-X Spain Data Spaces Summit & Hackathon took place from 3-4 December in Madrid, where the BDVA Secretary General participated in a DSBA round

Data Summit Luxembourg 2024 took place on 11 December at the European Convention Center Luxembourg, where the BDVA Secretary General gave a speech related to the BDVA community and competitiveness, taking also part in a panel.

PUBLICATIONS 2024



As knowledge-sharing and teamwork are foundational pillars for BDVA, we are glad to share our publications with our community.

VISION PAPER: EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF DATA INNOVATION SPACES (I-SPACES)

The i-Spaces Federation brings together leading organisations across Europe to support secure, ethical, and innovative use of data and AI. In a fast-moving digital environment, AI developers need instant access to data and computing, SMEs need help to become data-driven, and data holders need incentives to share responsibly — all within a complex regulatory framework.

i-Spaces are certified innovation hubs that provide trusted environments for data experimentation, guided by the i-Space label. By federating, they offer a pan-European catalogue of tools, computing resources, and ethical frameworks to drive adoption of AI and data technologies.

The Federation supports SMEs, strengthens regional ecosystems, and ensures alignment with European values and regulations. It plays a key role in building fair, secure, and sustainable data value chains, contributing directly to EU data policy implementation.

LEVERAGING THE BENEFITS OF COMBINING DATA SPACES AND PRIVACY ENHANCING TECHNOLOGIES

Data Spaces, central to the EU Data Strategy, offer a trusted, sovereign framework for data sharing, supported by governance and technical structures like interoperability, usage control, and trust mechanisms. Privacy-Enhancing Technologies (PETs) allow analysis of sensitive data without exposing it, reducing information leakage risks. PETs deliver built-in privacy protections at a technical level. Integrating PETs into Data Spaces expands service offerings, supports more use cases, and streamlines access for participants, improving efficiency and scalability. Likewise, Data Spaces ease PET adoption by providing predefined roles and operational structures. For data providers, PET integration reduces implementation risks and vendor lock-in. PET providers gain from the growing demand driven by the EU's Data Spaces initiative. However, aligning architectures, business models, and governance remains a challenge. Joint role models and privacy patterns could bridge these gaps by enabling technical and operational interoperability.

This paper targets R&I communities, offering guidance on aligning organisational, technical, and operational aspects—starting with operational process integration via common Privacy Patterns.

FIELD OF ACTION (etami)

AI relies on learning from data. While much progress has been made in model design and training, data itself is often treated as a given—despite its quality being hard to assess without modelling it first.
Yet, ensuring the data used reflects the real-world problem is crucial. For example, a skin cancer detection model trained on images of fish isn't suitable for people in Lapland.
Beyond data privacy, AI data governance must also consider ethics: fairness, transparency, and accountability.

Why involve both research and industry?

Academically, there's a lack of standardised data documentation practices—creating scope for research output. Industry partners, meanwhile, offer real-world data and use cases, helping to shape practical, applicable solutions.

ELEVATING DATA QUALITY: A PARADIGM SHIFT FOR DATA SPACES AND AI NEEDS

Data quality refers to how well data meets standards and represents reality, impacting all stages of the data lifecycle. It's vital for all participants in the data value chain and influences the value derived from data. As data sharing grows, quality ensures the reliability and usability of shared information. In data spaces—collaborative environments where data is exchanged—maintaining high data quality is essential for trust and success. These spaces also provide the tools and governance needed to ensure data quality.

With the rise of AI, ensuring data meets quality standards is more critical than ever. The growing volume of data used for AI applications requires adherence to the AI Act's quality requirements. This document aims to present various perspectives on data quality, highlight the link between data quality and data spaces, promoting quality-by-design and scalable sharing, focus on AI-specific data quality needs, as outlined in the AI Act. It also provides recommendations to enhance data quality. Intended for all stakeholders in the data lifecycle, including providers, users, designers, and AI practitioners, this document emphasizes the importance of high-quality data for AI model development.

FIT FOR THE AI ACT (etami)

On 2 February 2024, EU member states approved the AI Act. The final version will be published in July, and by August 2026, full compliance is mandatory across the EU.

Whether this is a success may depend on your role in AI, but the impact will be wide-reaching. AI systems can move quickly from research to real-world use, often without the oversight needed. Research labs focus on concepts, not market-ready, certifiable products – and the result has been a wave of poorly regulated tools, with scandals to match. The AI Act aims to change that, requiring transparency and quality for certain AI applications. Like CE marking for appliances, it introduces safety, trust, and accountability. From mid-2024, anyone building, using, or providing AI in the EU must act.

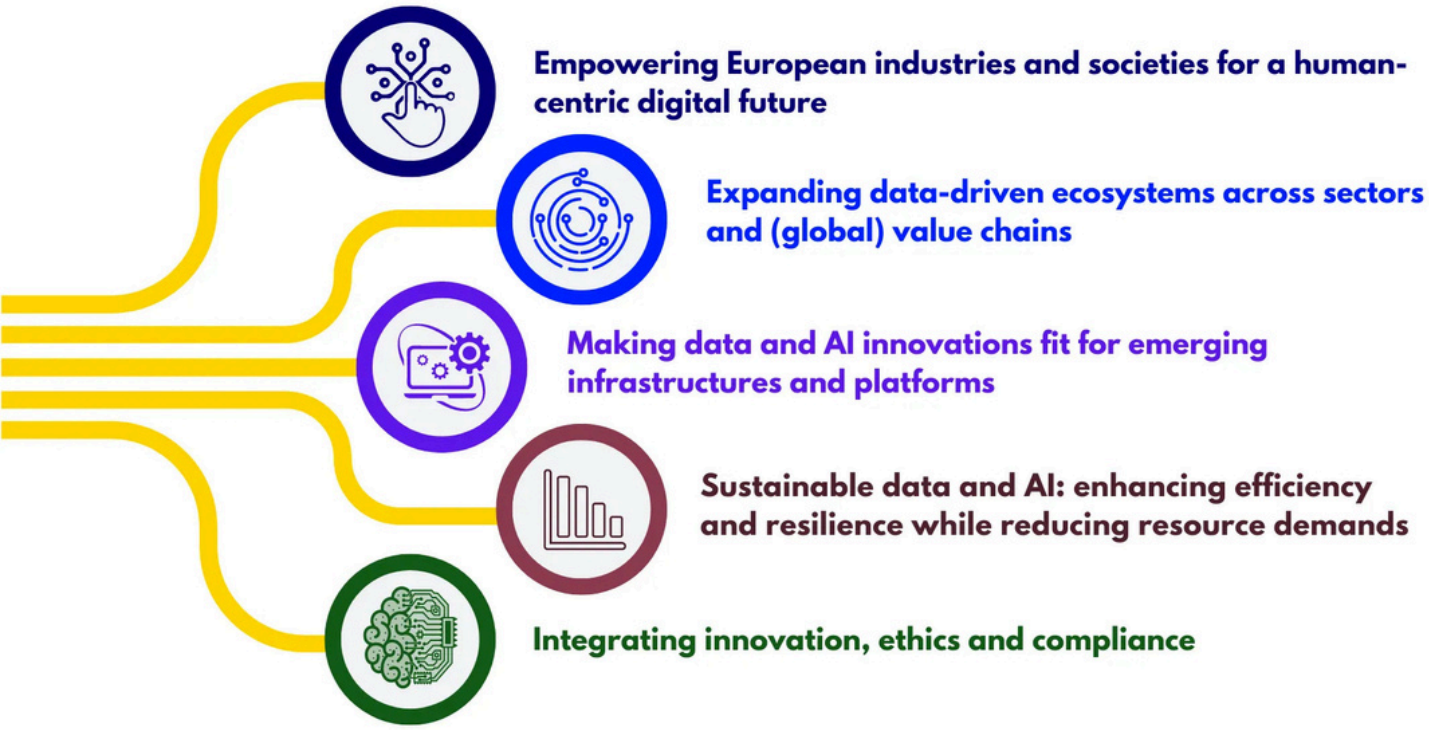
This document highlights key steps to consider – not as legal advice, but as a starting point.

BDVA STRATEGIC AGENDA 2024

BDVA published in July 2024 its **Strategic Agenda**, a key document that aims to guide the activities of BDVA community, identifying key challenges, opportunities, regulations and policies, and social and technological trends in Europe and globally.

The Strategic Agenda provides insights and recommendations to policymakers and industry stakeholders based on identified research, innovation, and deployment challenges within the established scope of BDVA. Finally, it is intended to set the priorities for BDVA Task Forces and create a cohesive framework for collaboration among them, ensuring synergies with external communities and partners.

The **BDVA Strategic Agenda 2024** is articulated around five strategic themes:



The Strategic Agenda is a dynamic document designed to adapt and evolve over time. While the main strategic themes have been set up as a consistent guide in the years to come, the associated insights, challenges, opportunity and priorities will be regularly reviewed and updated, ensuring that they remain relevant and capable of impacting the ongoing discussions in the research and innovation ecosystem. This agenda is the result of a community driven collaborative work, developed through a series of workshops and activities with members, projects and other stakeholders during the last months.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES 2024

BDVA Social Media

BDVA is present on **LikedIn**, **X (formerly known as Twitter)** and **YouTube**. In 2024, BDVA's LinkedIn account reached over **5500 followers**, 1100 more compared to the previous year, a **24,5% increase** - which was mainly organic growth, as we did not focus on paid ad campaigns throughout the year. **X** followers stagnated, something to be expected -as the Social Media platform changed drastically ever along with the business approach of the new ownership. Most accounts of associations, organisations and institutions have either stagnated or lost followers on the former Twitter.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES 2024

BDVA news and Social Media

In 2024 we delivered 52 news items to BDVA's community. Top articles included:

The DSSC Blueprint v1.5 was released

New "Generative AI and Data Spaces" white paper

Two new calls for AI factories

EuroHPC JU and AI Factories pillar: call to be launched in September 2024

Call for i-Space labels 2024

AI Act published in the Official Journal of the EU

A major milestone toward AI factories

Joint Statement for an Ambitious FP10

BDVA's New Task Force: Generative AI / Foundation Models

DS4SSCC - Round 1 of the Open Call for Pilots

New paper: Elevating Data Quality A Paradigm Shift for Data Spaces and AI Needs

OpenVerse Ecosystem Task Force (OETF) launch

20×30: Europe's Advanced Digital Skills Summit

BDVA and CoE DSC joint white paper on combining Data Spaces and PETs

Members of the European Parliament adopt the AI Act

BDVA's position paper on "Data Sharing Spaces and Interoperability!

The European Commission launched a new AI innovation package

Second staff working document on Common European Data Spaces etc.

DS4SSCC 👉 Round 1 of the Open Call for Pilots ❗

General News Project news 06/06/24

New paper 👉 Elevating Data Quality A Paradigm Shift for Data Spaces and AI Needs

BDVA General News 29/05/24

The Alliance for Language Technologies (ATL-EDIC) is looking for a director!

News Policy news 21/05/24

FRONTIER introduces ANTME – a new online platform to streamline EU traffic

News Project news 15/05/24

Call for BDVA i-Space 2024 labels is open – apply before 19 July ❗

BDVA General News 17/06/24

EBDVF 2024: Sponsorships & partnerships available ❗

BDVA Event news Events General 12/06/24

Meet BDVA's 10 new members ❗

BDVA Event news General News 11/06/24

EU-Japan: take part in a digital mission ❗

General News 11/06/24

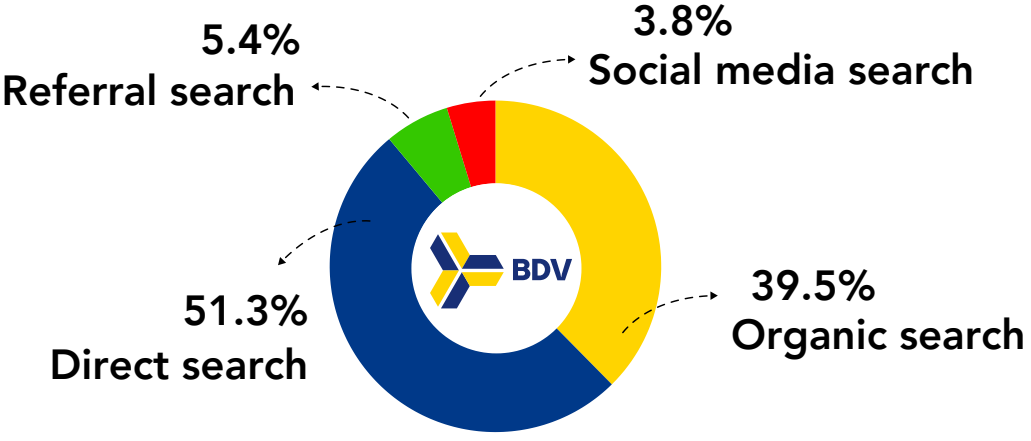
WEBSITE UPDATES 2024

BDVA's website

BDVA developed a new website: the project was initiated in 2023 and concluded with final migration in February 2024.

In 2024 our website attracted over 5800 unique visitors and over 12.000 sessions, out of which 51.3% represented direct search, 39.5% organic search, 5.4% referral and 3.8% from Social Media. BDVA will continue to adapt and meet the needs of our growing community in 2024.

BDVA WEBSITE STATISTICS



Our collaborations & partnerships

Linking research to market.

Data Spaces Business Alliance

Network of Collaborations

AI, Data and Robotics Partnership

Standardisation bodies

Computing Continuum

EuroHPC JU

BDV BIG DATA VALUE ASSOCIATION

Linking technology to policies.

COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

EuroHPC Joint Undertaking

BDVA is one of the three participating private members of the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC JU), alongside the European Technology Platform for High Performance Computing (ETP4HPC) and the European Quantum Industry Consortium (QuIC). BDVA represents the Data and AI community in the Joint Undertaking.

The European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking (EuroHPC JU) is a legal and funding entity, created in 2018 and located in Luxembourg to lead the way in European supercomputing. The EuroHPC JU allows the European Union and the EuroHPC JU participating countries to coordinate their efforts and pool their resources to make Europe a world leader in supercomputing. This boosts Europe's scientific excellence and industrial strength, support the digital transformation of its economy while ensuring its technological sovereignty. The EuroHPC JU was created in 2018, reviewed in 2021 by Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173, and amended in July 2024 by means of Council Regulation (EU) 2024/1732.

BDVA contributes to the EuroHPC with our large community of data and AI industries and researchers and with our experience in supporting data innovators and AI entrepreneurs through our i-Spaces network. We create synergy between HPC, AI and data ecosystems for the development of AI Factories, with big data & Industrial AI use cases.

As a member of the EuroHPC JU, BDVA has a presence in the RIAG (Research and Innovation Advisory Group), with 2 official representatives and 1 observer. We started the year with a composition, after which there were new appointments. From BDVA Jeanette Nilsson (RISE) and Patrick van der Smagt (VWG) were appointed as official representatives, while Anna Hermsen (TNO) was appointed as observer. Through the RIAG, we provide input to the JU MASP and advances in topics of relevance to the Big Data Value Association.

BDVA President Thomas Hahn is an observer in the Governing Board. BDVA participates in all RIAG and JU meetings. Highlights from 2024 for BDVA:

- With the updated regulation and the announcement of the AI factories, BDVA has stimulated discussion with its members (through its Task Forces), Data Spaces and other players and **produced a discussion document (released publically in 2025, but delivered in 2024)** in relation to the **AI Factories and the data challenge: access, acquisition and usage of data.** Connection to data spaces. The document was really produced in 2024. Other actions to mention are the specific session in EBDVF 2024 in relation to AI factories (there are 2).

- EuroHPC Summit 2024: BDVA organised sessions, had a stand and organised a cocktail with the other private partners: ETP4HPC European Technology Platform for HPC and European Quantum Industry Consortium (QuIC) on Wednesday, 20 March, from 18:00 CET.

- Annual IKOP financial reporting. Obligation of the private members in collaboration with the members of the Association.

- Participation in the EuroHPC JU User Day in October 2024

- Input to the MASP via our RIAG members based on inputs from our TF on HPC-BigData-AI

EuroHPC website

The Data Spaces Business Alliance is a collaboration of four entities: Big Data Value Association (BDVA), FIWARE Foundation, Gaia-X European Association for Data and Cloud AISBL and the International Data Spaces Association (IDSA). DSBA represents over 1000 leading key industry players, associations, research organisations, innovators, and policymakers worldwide.

DSBA was launched in September 2021 with the goal of accelerating business transformation in the data economy. It's the first initiative of its kind, uniting industry players to realise a data-driven future in which organisations and individuals can unlock the full value of their data. Data spaces are key to achieving sovereign, interoperable and trustworthy data-sharing across businesses and societies – a key step to the data economy of the future. The Alliance embraces this reality, converging the best skills, assets, and experience in Europe into a one-stop-shop for data spaces, from inception to deployment.

In 2024:

- DSBA partners co-organised with the Data Space Symposium the premier data spaces event, Data Spaces Symposium, from 12-14 March 2024 in Darmstadt (Frankfurt), alongside the Data Spaces Support Centre

- DSBA progressed in Technology Convergence activities and contribution to DSSC through the Technical Architecture Board

- DSBA hubs: the DSBA hubs network. composed of the hubs of the 4 Associations, kept growing and showed visibility through the **Hubspace** and several workshops were organised with this community

- Regular joint presentations in events and regular CEO and Presidents meetings for alignment

Data Spaces Business Alliance website

The Computing Continuum is a collaborative platform driving Europe's computing systems innovation and alignment. It focuses on research, technology development, and strategic partnerships, and is composed of 15 associations that are at the heart of the Europe computing landscape. Members of the initiative are joining on a quarterly basis, in order to strengthen the collaboration, align aspects of their respective strategic agendas and explore potential synergies.

The first meeting of the year, held virtually on March 27th, focused on discussing and drafting the mission and strategy of the Computing Continuum (CC). On June 28th, BDVA presented the five strategic themes comprising its Strategic Agenda, along with an overview of its events for the year.

All members of the initiative had the opportunity to meet personally in Brussels on September 25th, in a full-day meeting, during which main worldwide geopolitical trends affecting the activities, like hyperscalers evolution and Ukraine's war were discussed. Special emphasis was given to Dragi's report and its impact on the different technologies composing the continuum, especially competitiveness and its trade-off with European values. BDVA presented with some detail its strategic pillar on how to make data and AI innovations fit for emerging infrastructures and platforms, highlighting the importance of AI Factories and how BDVA is planning to contribute to their set-up and adoption. An important action point from the meeting was the decision to work toward a shared terminology for the computing continuum. Leveraging its experience with the Data Spaces Support Center glossary, BDVA volunteered to lead this initiative.

The final meeting of the year was held virtually on December 19th and included BDVA's presentation of a plan to develop the CC glossary, supported by a collaborative spreadsheet for gathering terms and definitions. The concept of IT sustainability was also introduced, alongside the creation of a dedicated working group, in which BDVA expressed interest in participating. These activities are set to continue in 2025.

Computing Continuum website

The AI Data Robotics Association

The AI, Data and Robotics Association (Adra, asbl) was founded on May 21, 2021, by five European organisations: BDVA, CAIRNE, ELLIS, EurAI and euRobotics . Adra was created as the private side of the European Partnership on AI, Data and Robotics, one of the European Partnerships in Cluster 4 (digital, industry, and space) in Horizon Europe. The Partnership was officially launched when Adra signed an MoU with the European Commission on June 23, 2021.

BDVA is a founding member and a very active contributor to Adra and partnership activities. BDVA has contributed to the new ADRA SRIDA and regularly contributes to other Adra activities and events (ADRF, etc).

Adra website

VALUE OF PROJECTS

Collaboration and knowledge-sharing are the pillars of the BDVA community. We deeply value the backing and passion of our partners and collaborators in shaping the European data and AI landscape.

Collectively, we enhance competitiveness and foster innovation. BDVA is committed to supporting our partners and collaborators with unwavering professionalism and dedication, as we strive to reach our objectives of fostering an innovation ecosystem that facilitates the data-driven digital evolution of Europe's economy and society.

DATA SPACES SUPPORT CENTRE

The Data Spaces Support Centre (DSSC) aims to contribute to the creation of common data spaces, that collectively create a data sovereign, interoperable and trustworthy data sharing environment, to enable data reuse within and across sectors, fully respecting EU values, and supporting the European economy and society. Funded by the European Commission as part of the Digital Europe Program, the Data Spaces Support Centre is aimed at the public sector and companies that want to create sovereign data spaces.

During 2024, BDVA contributed to the ecosystem and DSSC community efforts, dealing with over 100 organisations and initiatives that directly contribute to data spaces or whose involvement is needed for alignment. BDVA is co-coordinator observer in the EDIB in the representation of the DSSC. BDVA is the penholder and main contributor to the Value Creation Services Building Block, as part of the DSSC Blueprint. BDVA has actively contributed to the identification and synergies and has contributed to the dissemination and communication activities of the project.

DSSC website

LEADS ADVANCED DIGITAL SKILLS

LEADSx2030 has leveraged data, knowledge and networks to deliver on the ambitions of the Digital Decade. It coordinated the SO4 ADS Cluster of the DIGITAL Programme and distilled relevant insights to promote its successful development and formulated recommendations for driving excellence and specific inputs for policy actions. LEADSx2030 provided up-to-date and leading-edge knowledge and insights to support the success of the DIGITAL SO4 and work towards the ever-changing digital decade.

During 2024 BDVA mainly contributed to the co-organisation of the 20×30: LEADS - Europe's Advanced Digital Skills Summit, on 16 May 2024 in Madrid. It was a pivotal gathering to propel Europe towards its ambitious goal of adding 20 million new ICT specialists by 2030.

LEADSx2023 website

EUHUBS4DATA

Most of Europe's SMEs lag behind in data-driven innovation. To tackle this problem, the EU-funded EUHubs4Data project has built a European federation of Data Innovation Hubs based on existing key players in this area and connecting with data incubators and platforms, SME networks, AI communities, skills and training organisations and open data repositories. The European federation of Data-Driven Innovation Hubs aimed at consolidating the European reference for data-driven innovation and experimentation, fostering collaboration between data driven initiatives in Europe, federating solutions in a global common catalogue of data services, and sharing data on a cross-border and cross-sector basis.

The project successfully ended in 2024. Since then, BDVA has given continuity to major assets such as the community, some of the Federation assets and Data Week.

EUHubs4Data website

OpenVerse

OPENVERSE is a Coordination and Support Action (CSA), funded under Horizon Europe programme. It's rooted in the ambition to elevate the European Union's landscape, responding to the global tech competition and fostering technological sovereignty. The vision of the OPENVERSE project is to create inclusive, open, and ethically responsible European Virtual Worlds, enhancing the European Union's technological sovereignty in the global arena. Its strategy involves integrating diverse technological expertise, fostering collaborative innovation, and ensuring interoperability, privacy, and security in digital environments. OPENVERSE aims to lay the foundational framework for these Virtual Worlds, combining user co-creation with extended reality technologies, addressing legal and ethical challenges, and guiding future policy and industry standards for globally influential Virtual Worlds.

BDVA is in charge of the ecosystem development and liaisons with standards. In this context, during 2024 BDVA mapped hundreds of European and national initiatives, organised several workshops with the relevant ones, contributed to the input to the Openverse technical framework and set the foundation for the Standards work. BDVA has equally contributed to the dissemination and communication activities and it is actively aligning with the upcoming Partnership on Virtual Worlds.

OPENVERSE website

EUROPEAN LANGUAGE DATA SPACE

The project aims at building a trustworthy and effective data market for the exchange of language resources in the public and – even more importantly – in the private sector, in line with the EU Data Strategy. One of the Data Spaces currently under development is the Language Data Space (LDS). Through it, relevant stakeholders, e.g., from the publishing, language technology or press industry, will be able to exchange and monetise their language data and other language resources (e.g., language models) through a single platform, taking EU values and compliance with EU rules fully into account. As a result, the LDS will significantly increase the much-needed availability of clean, high-quality, compliant language data to support the development of state-of-the-art language technologies (LT) and AI-based LT services for a range of businesses. BDVA supports the initiative with dissemination, supports communication campaigns, social media coverage, etc.

BDVA is subcontracted by the European Language Data Space for communication activities.

European Language Data Space website

Destination Earth

STA4DestinE project lead by ETP4HPC

BDVA contributed as a subcontracted partner to the Strategic Technology Agenda for DestinE. A group of Associations, part of the Transcontinuum initiative and led by ETP4HPC, jointly contributed to this work, procured as part of the ECMWF Destination Earth Programme and led by ETP4HPC. BDVA contributed with a selected group of experts from its member organisations to this project and in particular to the Data Streaming white paper. The four experts from BDVA were selected through an open call at the end of 2022:: Valerio Frascolla, Dumitru Roman, María Pérez and Gabriel Antoniu.

Destination Earth website

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2024

Balance sheet 2024

2.985.018 €

Profit 2024

146.953 €

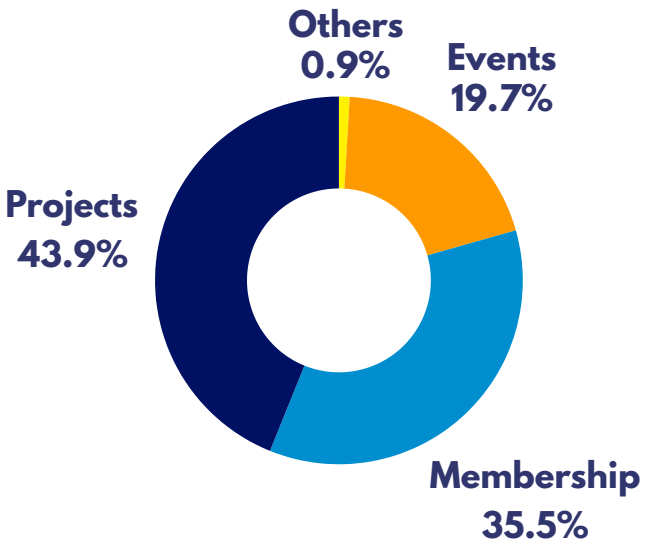
Accumulative profit 2024

1.569.533 €

Liquidity 2024

2.197.554€

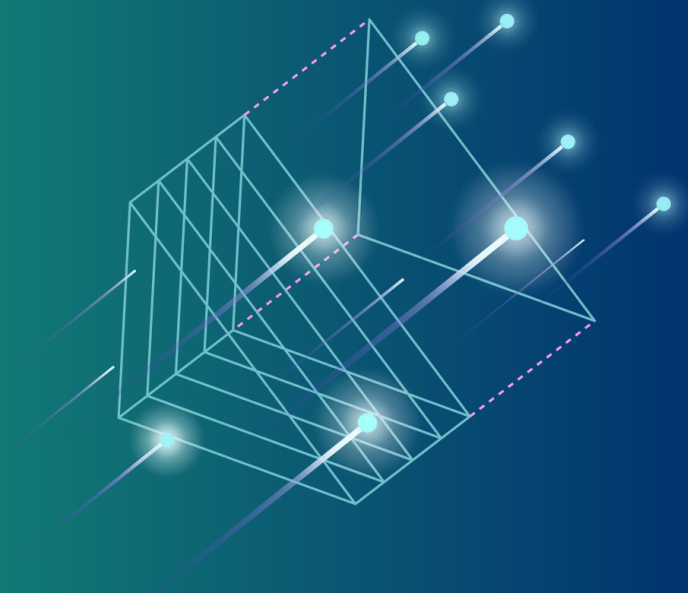
Income distribution 2024



EUROPEAN BIG DATA VALUE FORUM

2-4 OCT | BUDAPEST - HUNGARY

EUROPE FOR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP IN AI & DATA



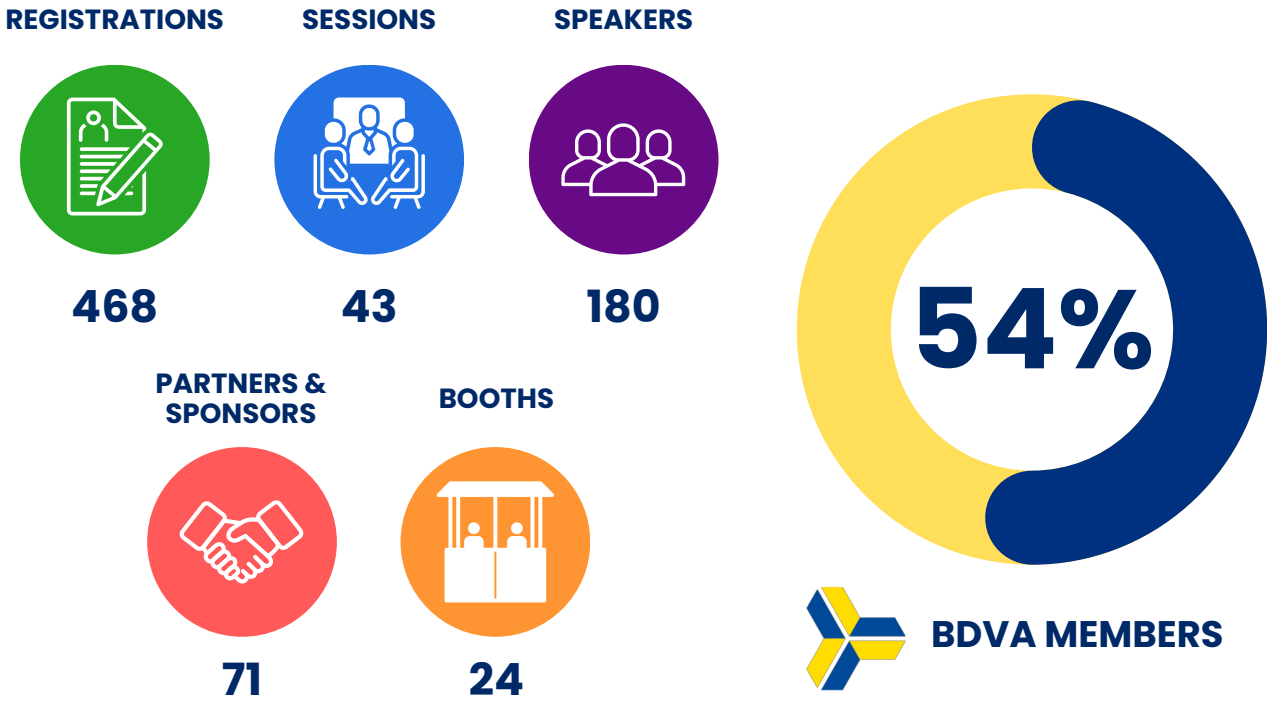
ORGANISED BY

BDV BIG DATA VALUE ASSOCIATION

IN COLLABORATION WITH

European Commission · ELTE Eötvös Loránd University · IDEAL-IST · NTP Neumann Technology Platform · HUN REN · SZTAKI · AI & AUT EXPO

EUROPEAN BIG DATA VALUE FORUM



European Big Data Value Forum is BDVA's flagship event, bringing the whole European data-driven AI research and innovation community together to share knowledge, collaborate and celebrate achievements. This year's event took place from 2-4 October 2024 in Budapest, Hungary. EBDVF 2024 was organised in collaboration with local partners. EBDVF brought together industry professionals, business developers, researchers and policy-makers from all over Europe and other regions of the world to advance policy actions and industrial and research activities in the areas of Data and AI.

The programme included the most important topics of the community, presented by our members, collaboration partners and representatives from European research and innovation projects. Together we delivered sessions and workshops shaping the way forward for big data and data spaces, illuminating how businesses can harness the power of Trustworthy AI and discuss the role of high-performance computing as an enabler for digital transformation. We took a comprehensive view of these topics from the perspective of many European economic sectors not forgetting the societal implications of the rapidly advancing technologies.

EBDVF was part of TechDays Hungary, a series of autonomously-organised events that took place from 30 September to 8 October in Budapest.

10% HUNGARY

11% GERMANY

9% GREECE

13% SPAIN

9% ITALY

EBDVF 2024 PARTICIPANTS CAME FROM

37 COUNTRIES

EBDVF 2024 AGENDA DAY 1

	PLENARY ROOM	ROOM GOLD	ROOM SILVER	ROOM BLACK	ROOM WHITE
8:00	Registration opens - morning coffee				
9:00		Consolidating Research and Policy along the Cognitive Computing Continuum with NexusForum.EU	How can HPC help with Big Data problems ?	The world of smart data at the service of Health	Accelerating smart farming digital transformation via big satellite data
10:00		Enabling Cloud Connected Labs of Future	Powering Manufacturing SMEs with Digital Twins: (E)DIHs Leading the Change2Twin Revolution	Showcasing innovative research for synthetic data generation from the HealthData4EU cluster projects: AISYM4MED, SYNTHEMA, SECURED	Interoperability of data spaces for seamless value creation networks
11:00	Coffee break				
11:30		AI Factories: Addressing the data challenge	Improving Data Maturity of Manufacturing SME	Synthetic Data in Healthcare	Leveraging AI and Data Spaces to Revolutionise Agrobusiness
13:00	Networking lunch				
14:00		Innovative Approaches to Extreme Data Challenges	Bringing Advanced Digital Technologies to Applications in the Road Transport Sector	Future of Public Service services via improved Interoperability and AI	Deep dive on Semantic Interoperability in Data Spaces
15:30	Coffee break				
16:00	Europe for global leadership in AI and Data: How we can achieve it following the European values				
	New frontiers in AI Act operationalisation				
17:00	AI Strategy Hungary 2030				
	Language Data Space – European Language Data				
	Semantic Interoperability: key takeaways and recommendations				
18:00	i-Spaces ceremony				
	Networking cocktail				

Plenary
Generative AI and Foundation models
AI Act implementation
Value creation in data spaces
Virtual Worlds
Healthcare and Pharma

Emerging topics
Technology Platforms
Automotive
Coffee breaks
Lunch
Social event

Convergence HPC- Big Data / AI
Public services
Manufacturing
Energy
Agri-Food

EBDVF 2024 AGENDA DAY 2

	PLENARY ROOM	ROOM GOLD	ROOM SILVER	ROOM BLACK	ROOM WHITE
8:30	Morning coffee / Exhibition				
9:00	Welcome statements from the organisers and collaboration partners				
	European Commission DG CNECT keynote speech				
09:45	Europe for Global leadership in AI and Data – A policy and research perspective (panel)				
10:40	Coffee break				
11:05	Europe for Global leadership in AI and Data – An industry perspective (panel)				
12:00	Leveraging Standards to Foster Trust and Interoperability in Data Spaces				
	Using Generative AI agents in the real world				
12:30	Networking lunch				
13:30		How to make AI Factory's the enabler of European competitiveness	GenAI for data and AI knowledge enginnering	Value Creation in Data Spaces	Towards a circular data-ecosystem for general-purpose robotics
15:00	Coffee break				
15:30		OpenWebSearch.eu – Web-data at your fingertips for Generative AI, Data Analytics and Search	Data, AI, and Interoperability: Shaping the Regulatory Sandbox Ecosystem for Innovation	The role of Manufacturing Data Spaces in the implementation of Digital Product Passports	Advancing Data Lifecycle Management: Tools and Strategies for Enhanced Monetisation
16:45		Applying Gen AI to European industry	RISK assessment and trust in socio-technical AI-systems	Digital technologies and processes for sustainable and secure data management, use and re-use of data	
17:45					The IntelliMan Project: AI-Powered Manipulation System for Advanced Robotic Service, Manufacturing and Prosthetics
18:00					Revolutionising Human-Robot Collaboration with Cognitive Control and Safe Interaction Through Proxy-Tactile Perception
20:15	EBDVF 2024 Social dinner: Spoon The Boat				

Plenary
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EBDVF 2024 AGENDA DAY 3

	PLENARY ROOM	ROOM GOLD	ROOM SILVER	ROOM BLACK	ROOM WHITE
8:30	Morning coffee / Exhibition				
9:00		Leveraging the energy data space for deploying Digital Twins and big data AI services to speed up energy transition	ExtremeXP: A new experimentation-driven and user-experience paradigm to AI and Data Analytics processes	Moving to the edge: the impact and implications of CEI continuum on Manufacturing	Data and AI for sustainable, human-centric Virtual Worlds
10:00		From theory to action: RecAL project as a data space for circular aluminium	Leveraging Technologies for Data Management to Implement Data Spaces		Expert talks on Virtual Worlds
10:45		Emergency Management: Challenges and Solutions		If you think AI is hot, wait until it meets Quantum Computing	Data Value creation via Sustainable and Ethical Data Sharing
11:45	Coffee break				
12:15	AI in Telecoms: The Data Challenge Let's build Data Spaces together! Generative AI and Data Spaces				
12:50	Simpl and the European data strategy The blueprint for data spaces - DSSC blueprint v1.5 (talk) Expanding data-driven ecosystems across sectors and global value chains (panel)				
	Event closing				
14:00	Networking lunch				

Plenary
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EUROPEAN
BIGDATA
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EUROPE


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#EBDVF24
Europe for Global leadership in AI and Data: How we can achieve it following the European values
EUROPEAN
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2024 | BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
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EUROPE


EUROPEAN
BIGDATA
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EBDVF PANELS

EBDVF 2024 showcased insightful panels, engaging the audience in interesting discussions, all relevant to the Data and AI ecosystem. Two panels addressed the main theme of our event, European leadership in AI & Data, one offering a policy and research perspective, while the other focusing on the industry perspective. You can go through the two plenaries during the following pages.

EUROPE FOR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP IN AI & DATA – A POLICY AND RESEARCH PERSPECTIVE

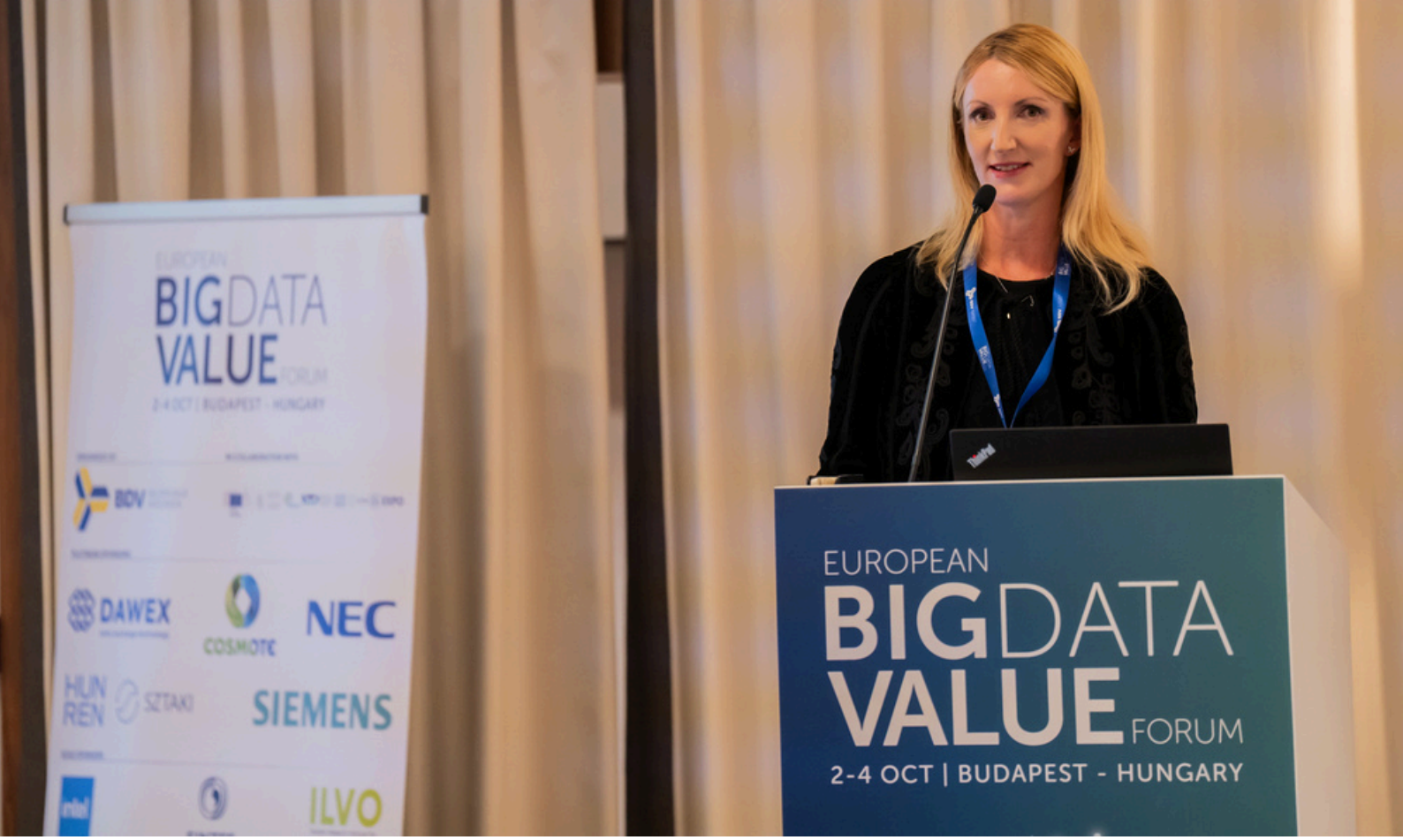
Europe's ambition to lead in AI and data innovation requires strategic policies and strong research institutions. A panel led by Edward Curry brought together experts like Cecile Huet, Peter Szegedi, Andras Benczur, Elena Simperl and Sylvia Ilieva to discuss Europe's opportunities and challenges in this domain. Key discussions revolved around Europe's AI strategy, funding initiatives such as InvestEU, and the importance of bridging research with market applications.

The Draghi Report highlights Europe's strengths in strategic sectors like energy and aerospace, emphasising the need for better data governance. Experts stressed the importance of high-quality datasets, AI experimentation facilities, and regulatory clarity to encourage data sharing. A human-centric approach remains a defining European advantage, but practical implementation is necessary to maintain global competitiveness.

EUROPE FOR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP IN AI & DATA – AN INDUSTRIAL PERSPECTIVE

A panel of experts discussed Europe's role in the digitalisation process, focusing on AI and data leadership from an industrial perspective. The panel was moderated by Valerio Frascolla, with Naja von Schmude, Zoltan Bodor-Toth, Zsigmond Varga, Patrick van der Smagt and Andrejs Vasiļjevs as speakers, which highlighted key challenges, including slow technology adoption, regulatory burdens and talent retention.

Panellists emphasised the need for a robust innovation ecosystem, AI Factories, and Data Spaces to strengthen European competitiveness. While Europe excels in research, experts stressed the importance of translating innovations into market-ready solutions. Addressing regulatory complexities, fostering industry collaboration, and ensuring access to computing resources were identified as critical steps toward global leadership in AI and data-driven industries.


EUROPEAN
BIGDATA
VALUE FORUM
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DAWEX
COSMOTE
NEC
HUN REN
SZTAKI
SIEMENS
ILVO


The Data Challenge in Telecoms


Generative AI and Data Spaces: Whitepaper
Whitepaper is built on hypothesis that the combination of GenAI and data spaces holds significant transformative potential
While acknowledging symbiotic collaboration, focus is primarily on potential of data spaces for GenAI
Why now? GenAI as (business + innovation) opportunity in Europe
High Quality Data
Community of Data Users/Owners
Data Goverance/compliance
Provides training data (Data Space 4 GenAI)
Data Space
Foundation / Generative AI
Provides models to enable (GenAI 4 Data Space)
Extract Value from Data
Faster innovation cycles
Synthetic Data
EUROPEAN BIG DATA VALUE FORUM
EUROPEAN
BIGDATA
VALUE FORUM
2-4 OCT | BUDAPEST - HUNGARY

DATA AND AI IN ACTION: SUSTAINABLE IMPACT AND FUTURE REALITIES

The final plenary panel of EBDVF 2024 brought together industry leaders to discuss the evolution of data-driven ecosystems and their role in global value chains. Speakers included Edward Curry, Thomas Hahn, Ulrich Ahle, Gábor Érdi-Krausz, and Julien Adelberger, moderated by Nuria De Lama.

Edward Curry emphasised that while setting up data spaces is straightforward, the challenge lies in extracting value from them. Businesses must focus on leveraging data to address real needs rather than just ensuring access. Thomas Hahn highlighted the role of data spaces in enhancing sustainability, resilience, and competitiveness, citing examples such as supply chain stability and battery recycling.

Ulrich Ahle discussed Gaia-X's role in ensuring interoperability, standardisation, and trust within data spaces, enabling seamless connections across industries. He shared an agricultural example where satellite data optimises fertiliser use. Julien Adelberger reinforced the adaptability of data spaces to external shocks and their potential as a global standard, with IDSA working on a universal data exchange protocol.

Gábor Érdi-Krausz outlined Hungary's commitment to developing a robust data ecosystem, especially in manufacturing. The panel agreed that AI will soon be a commodity, and true competitive advantage will come from high-quality, well-managed data.

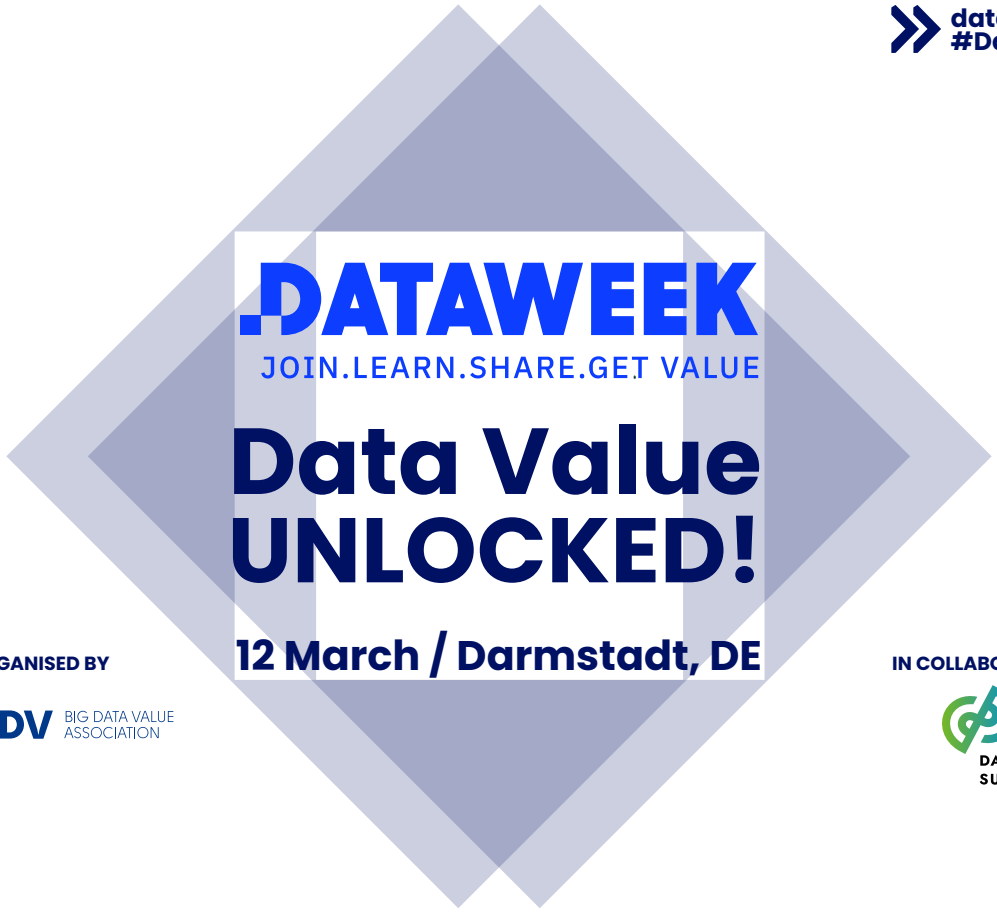
On a global scale, Thomas Hahn stressed that European industries must engage internationally, particularly in sectors reliant on global supply chains like battery production. Adelberger noted that while some industries require strict data control (e.g., healthcare, nuclear energy), others can benefit from international collaboration.

At the very end of the panel, the speakers did agree that currently the focus should be placed on the consolidation and implementation of various available initiatives across Europe. That will happen eventually, though there was no agreement over the time frame. While some believe data spaces will become commonplace in five years, Edward Curry suggested that broader societal changes may delay widespread adoption.

Find out more about each panel in the EBDVF 2024 report!


EUROPEAN
BIG DATA
VALUE FORUM

DATA WEEK (PART 1)



Data Week is the spring gathering of the European Big Data and Data-Driven AI research and innovation communities. During the event, the participants share knowledge and results, discuss topics of common interest, find synergies, build new collaborations, and identify new challenges and recommendations. Data Week links the communities and their results to European policies and market needs and brings European initiatives and activities closer to local communities.

On 12 March 2024, **Data Week (Part 1)** took place under the umbrella of the Data Spaces Symposium 2024, in Darmstadtium, Darmstadt (Germany). DSS is organised by DSBA (BDVA, FIWARE, Gaia-X, IDSA) and the Data Spaces Support Centre (DSSC).

Through DSS, Data Week opens up to a crucial gathering for pioneers in data space innovation, a platform to showcase cutting-edge, market-ready use cases, advanced technology solutions for both established and emerging data spaces and the outstanding work of the Data Spaces Support Centre in crafting a foundational blueprint for common European data spaces. Generative AI and Foundation models, Implementation of AI Act, involvement of SMEs and Startups in Data Spaces, Data monetisation, applications in data spaces and digital twins are some of the topics to be addressed on the 1st day of Data Week 2024.

DATA WEEK (PART 1) - PANELS

The first part of Data Week 2024 brought together industry experts, researchers, and policymakers to discuss the evolving role of data spaces, AI, and digital transformation. Through a series of panels, participants explored key challenges and opportunities in AI governance, data monetisation, digital twins, and sustainability.

A major topic of discussion was Generative AI, where BDVA members shared their experiences in adopting this technology. The AI Act Implementation and AI Ethics session provided insights into the upcoming European regulations. Panellists explored how organisations can comply with legal frameworks while ensuring ethical AI development, addressing transparency and accountability of AI.

Another session focused on SMEs and start-ups in data spaces. Data spaces are essential for Europe's data economy, yet challenges remain in creating sustainable business models, ensuring data quality, and integrating SMEs into the ecosystem. The panel examined how i-Spaces and European Digital Innovation Hubs support SMEs by providing access to computing power, business models, and ethical guidelines, helping them experiment and innovate in a trusted environment.

The topic of data monetisation explored ways organisations can generate value from data, while the DSBA Hubs introduced the initiative aimed at accelerating data space adoption and collaboration across Europe, with Spain chosen for the first pilot project.

Another session focused on data quality, emphasising its crucial role in AI performance. Experts discussed how data spaces ensure governance, traceability, and high-quality data, making AI models more reliable and impactful.

The integration of digital twins with data spaces was also a major theme, with discussions on how mobility data, AI, and simulation technologies are improving urban planning and smart city development. Similarly, the International Manufacturing-X Council emphasised the importance of international cooperation in smart manufacturing, enabling better data-driven decision-making across value chains.

The event also addressed HPC and its role in AI and data. With AI models requiring greater computational power, panellists explored how HPC infrastructure can support AI innovation and scalability, particularly for SMEs.


DATAWEEK
Data Value UNLOCKED!

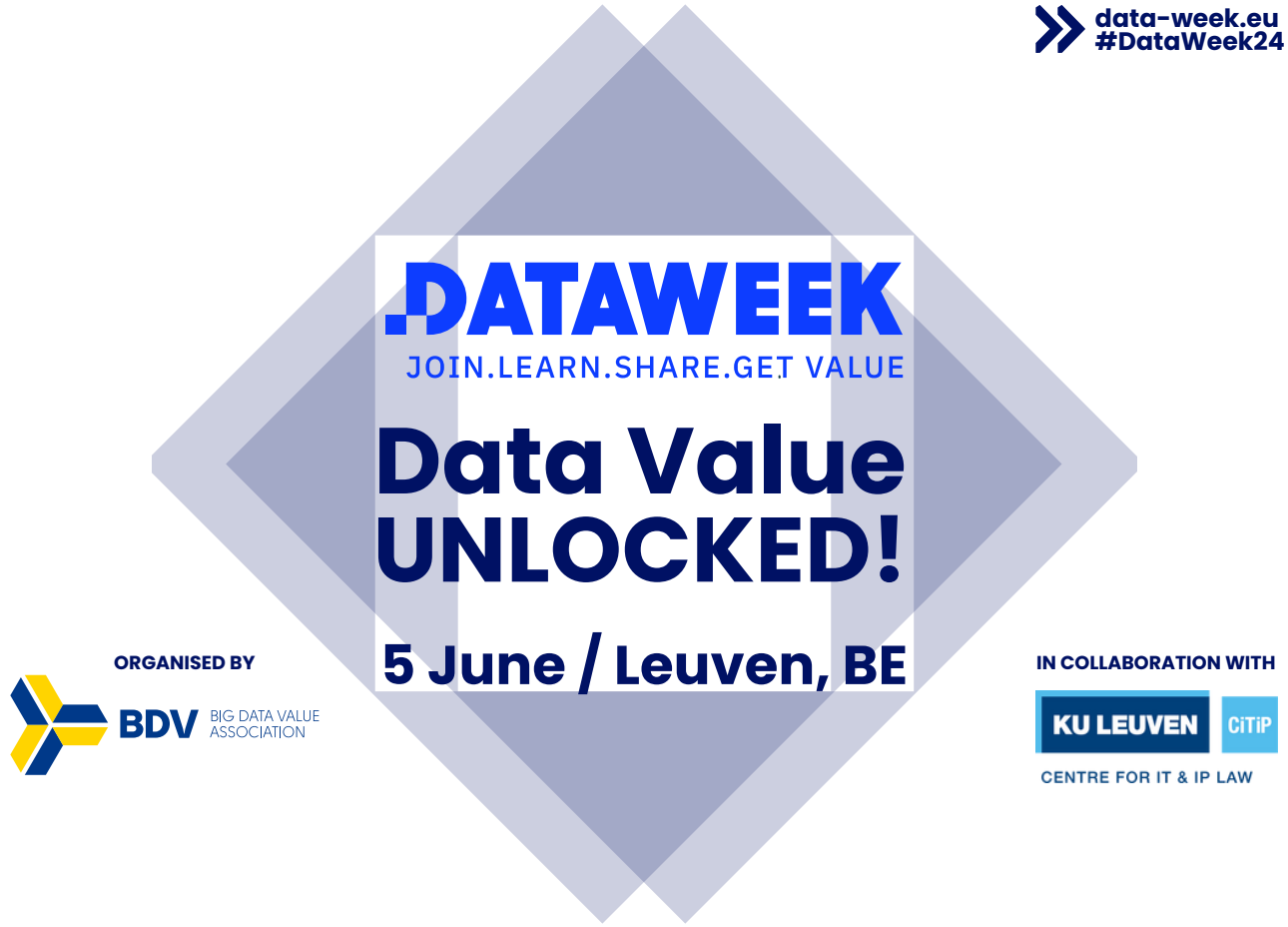

Benchmarking and Feedback
User Survey


Regulatory, business and technical foundation for data spaces within the Edge-Cloud-Continuum
European Union
China
NAFTA
Japan
IDSA Data Sharing
Gaia-X Data Trust Framework
FIWARE Data models
BDVA Data Value Creation
DSBA (Data Spaces Business Alliance)
Technical Convergence
Others
Eclipse
FIWARE
SIMPL
Data-EX
Others
Formal Standardization Bodies
ISO, ETSI/CEN/CENELEC, W3C etc.
Data regulations in economic regions
Data strategies implementation
User requirements, voice of the communities, coordinate technical specs and business requirements, support to "business design"
Alignment in technical specifications and standards to adopt
Technical implementation driven by OSS, place for the developer communities
Long-term investment security, adoption support etc. through norms and standards


BDV


Data Spaces Symposium
Data Spaces Business Alliance:
One voice, shared expertise,
pooled members

DATA WEEK (PART 2)



Data Week (Part 2) continued on 5 June 2024, in conjunction with the LAILEC conference organised by KU Leuven, in Leuven, Belgium. Our meeting's main topics gravitated around the legal and ethical aspects of data and AI: the AI Act implementation, Generative AI / Foundation models, Data quality, Data life-cycle projects, Synthetic Data and AI Regulatory sandboxes.

Organised by BDVA, Data Week centred its focus on the fundamental elements of Data Value creation. Artificial intelligence (AI) serves as a pivotal tool in unlocking data value through various means. Creating value from data also requires viewing it from an ecosystem perspective and fostering collaboration among multiple stakeholders, which lays the groundwork needed for research excellence, that is required to be rapidly put into action for competitiveness and societal benefit.


















DATA WEEK (PART 2) - PANELS

The second part of Data Week 2024 took part in Leuven and featured high-level discussions on the legal and ethical aspects of data and AI, including the implementation of the AI Act, Generative AI/Foundation models, and data governance. The plenary sessions gathered key policymakers, industry leaders, and experts to share insights on regulations, data spaces, and digital transformation in Europe.

The plenary session began with welcome remarks from Thomas Hahn, BDVA President, and Natalie Bertels, Legal Researcher at CiTiP – KU Leuven. This was followed by a keynote speech from Jack Hamande, Director General of Simplification & Digital Transformation at the Belgian Federal Public Service for Policy and Support. Later, Annelies De Craene, Product Owner at Vlaamse Smart Data Space, Digitaal Vlaanderen, provided insights into Flanders' efforts to develop linked data ecosystems. She highlighted the challenges and opportunities in establishing a trusted, efficient data-sharing environment, emphasising the need for robust governance models and seamless interoperability between public and private stakeholders.

Continuing the discussion, Coen Janssen, Policy Officer at DG CNECT, European Commission, provided an update on the European Trusted Data Framework and the current state of data legislation. He outlined the key aspects of the Data Act, Data Governance Act, and GDPR, focusing on interoperability, data-sharing frameworks, and standardisation efforts to build a unified European Single Market for Data. He stressed the importance of harmonised regulations to create a trusted and competitive data ecosystem across Europe.

The role of national data services in driving European data innovation was explored by Bert Verdonck, CEO of the Luxembourg National Data Service. He presented Luxembourg's contributions to European data space initiatives, focusing on data governance, secondary data use, and the role of data intermediaries. His talk underlined how national-level initiatives can support cross-border collaboration and contribute to a stronger European data economy.

AI and industrial innovation were also major themes at the event. Evangelia Markidou, Head of Sector at DG CNECT A1, European Commission, presented and discussed the AI Innovation Package and AI governance, particularly in the context of the AI Act. She examined the AI Office's role in enforcing AI regulations, as well as the AI Factories and GenAI4EU initiatives, which aim to develop and deploy generative AI and foundation models across strategic industries. Several AI-related calls were presented, showcasing the range of funding opportunities available in European projects.

DATA WEEK (PART 2) - PANELS

The plenary sessions also included contributions from the BDVA community. Daniel Antal, co-founder of Reprex B.V., introduced the Music Data Space, discussing challenges in data-sharing within the music industry and the need for improved metadata management to ensure fairer royalty distribution and artist recognition. Petra Dalunde, AI testing coordinator at RISE, presented AI Testing frameworks, emphasising the importance of transparent AI validation and the development of trustworthy AI standards.

Further insights came from Daniel Alonso, Senior Technical Lead at BDVA, who outlined the BDVA Strategic Agenda, highlighting key themes in AI, data spaces, and sustainability-driven innovation. Kristina Knaving, Focus Area Manager at RISE, introduced the Task Force GenAI, explaining how it intends to focus on exploring the topic of the AI models that are currently shaping Europe's digital transformation. Daniel Sáez, Technology Transfer Director at ITI, presented the i-Spaces Label 2024, showcasing the value of federated AI and data innovation hubs. The event also featured updates on the European Big Data Value Forum 2024, with Dóra Mattyasovszky-Philipp from SZTAKI and Edina Nemeth - National Contact Point at Horizon Europe.


State of play of the European Data Economy
10 December / 8:30 – 9:30 CET / The Laboratory
DATAWEEK
Data Value UNLOCKED!


LNDS
Data & AI innovation in the public sector


BDV
BIG DATA VALUE ASSOCIATION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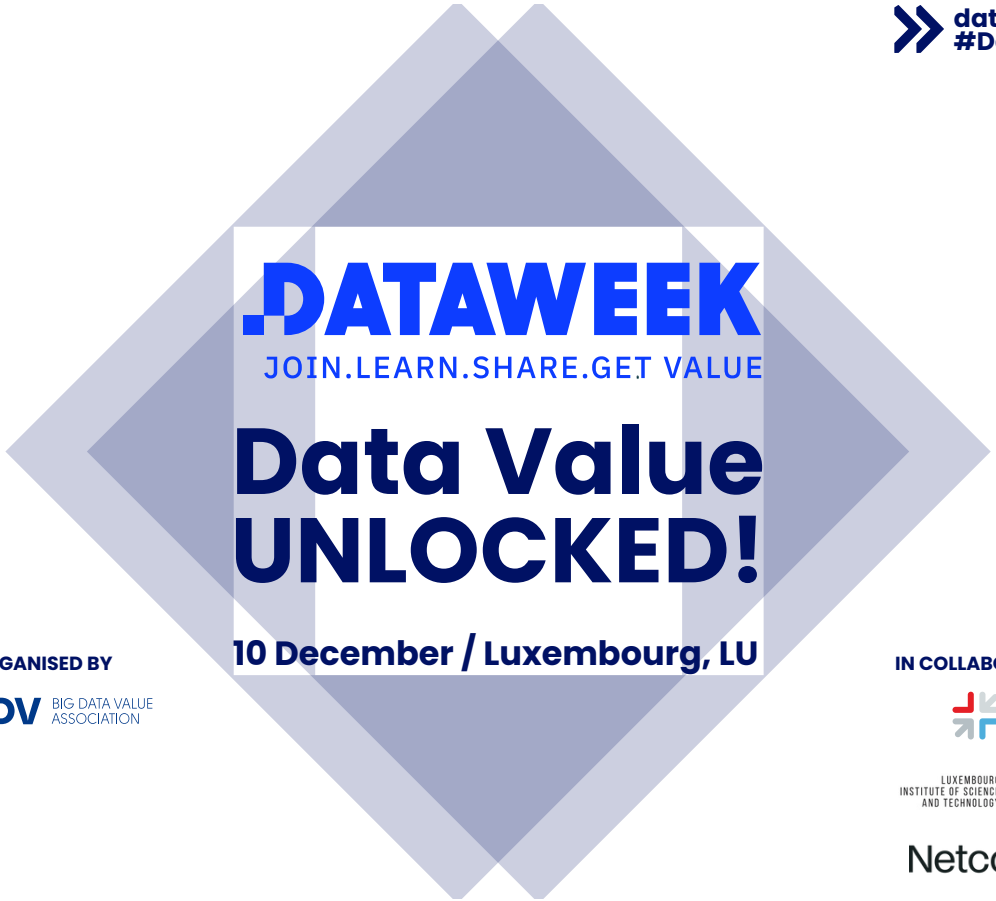
DATA WEEK (PART 3)



2024's DW trilogy concluded on 10 December 2024, in Luxembourg, through an event organised in collaboration with LIST, Netcompany-Intrasoft SA and Luxembourg National Data Service (LNDS). Data Week – Luxembourg took place at Novotel Luxembourg Kirchberg one day prior to the Data Summit Luxembourg organised by LNDS, which allowed attendees to join both events. Data Week – Luxembourg gathered 115 participants from the Data & AI ecosystem, BDVA family and friends, while also reaching out to the main representatives of the local scene.

Data Week always transcended the confines of a mere week-long discussion, as it embodied a fusion of several local and international events aimed at nurturing the field's growth. Each event delved into various topics that adhere to a core theme. Data Week 2024 extended its activities and events over the year to accommodate the dynamic changes that data and AI bring to our businesses and society, connecting our meeting days with other relevant events, emphasising the need for collaboration.

DATA WEEK (PART 3) - PANELS

The final part of Data Week 2024 took place in Luxembourg. During the opening plenary session, the speakers reflected on the state of play of the European Data Economy, highlighting emerging challenges, opportunities, and regulatory developments shaping the digital landscape. A session on data and AI innovation in the public sector examined how governments and institutions are leveraging AI and data-driven solutions to enhance public services, governance, and citizen engagement. The event also featured insights into Meluxina, Luxembourg's high-performance computing system, exploring its role in AI and Big Data activities. The discussion covered how Meluxina supports AI research, innovation, and industrial applications by providing advanced computational capabilities. A dedicated talk on EU initiatives and opportunities in the Smart City domain focused on Networked Local Digital Twins, explaining how digital twin technologies are transforming urban areas. The role of personal data stores in data spaces was explored in the context of Generative AI, addressing privacy, security, and data ownership challenges related to AI.

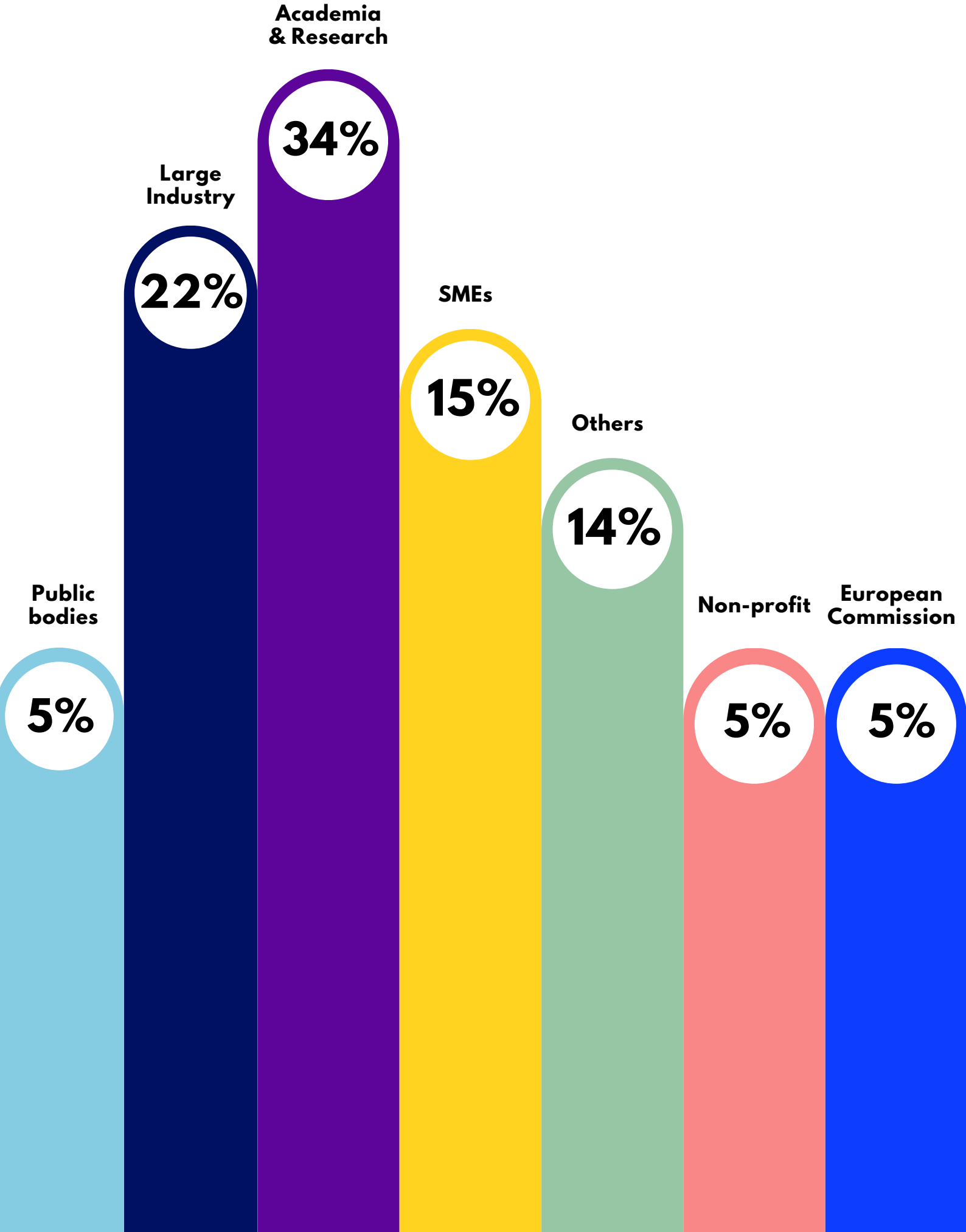
A plenary session on AI, Data, and Robotics for Raw Materials addressed Europe's reliance on critical raw materials. The talk highlighted how AI-powered sorting and recovery solutions could help recycle valuable materials from electronic waste, supporting a sustainable and circular economy. Another important topic was the Open Cybersecurity Data Space, which examined how data-sharing frameworks can enhance cybersecurity, risk detection and incident response across industries.

The Present and Future of AI-Powered Industries plenary explored how AI is redefining industrial productivity, with a focus on upcoming AI and large language model funding opportunities in 2025. A session on the AI Act adoption challenges addressed key implementation hurdles for businesses and regulators, discussing compliance strategies and the impact of new AI governance policies.

The event also featured discussions on clustering Data and AI projects to maximise impact and value creation, emphasising the importance of cross-sector collaboration and knowledge-sharing. The DataSpace4Health initiative was presented as an example of health data interoperability and innovation.
A keynote speech on the State of Play of the European AI Strategy was delivered by Evangelia Markidou, Head of Sector at DG CNECT A1, European Commission. She provided an overview of Europe's AI policy roadmap, focusing on ethical AI, regulatory frameworks and funding opportunities. The event concluded with closing remarks from BDVA officials, who reflected on the key discussions of all three parts of Data Week 2024 and outlined the next steps for Europe's data and AI community.

BDV BIG DATA VALUE ASSOCIATION

DATA WEEK



BDVA
Data, AI and Robotics (DAIRO) aisbl
Avenue des Arts, 56
1000 Bruxelles
Belgium

BDVA.eu
info@bdva.eu