



# WORLD SUMMIT AI

## GUARDIANS OF TOMORROW: SHAPING THE NEW AI PARADIGM

**07-08 October 2026**

**Taets Art & Event Park, Amsterdam**

**10,000+**  
Attendees

**300+**  
Speakers

**10**  
Tracks

**10**  
Years  
of AI

**We do AI  
different.**



Founded in 2017 with the unwavering belief in a future where tech is more diverse, equitable and safe. For the betterment of humankind, and the planet we all share. Nine years later, we are the world's largest #AICommunity. 500,000-strong and counting. Represented in over 167 countries across the globe.

Our community is an open, reciprocal ecosystem, where everyone is offered a seat at the table. Where everyone can bring something powerful to that table – and take something powerful away.

**We have a duty to #DoAIDifferent.  
Are you with us?**



# About World Summit AI

World Summit AI is the world's leading AI summit, bringing together the people shaping how AI is researched, governed and deployed globally. Since launching in Amsterdam in 2017, the summit has become a critical meeting point for enterprise leaders, big tech, start-ups, researchers, policymakers, investors and ethical experts from across the global AI ecosystem.

Now entering its 10th anniversary edition, World Summit AI continues to set the global AI agenda, spotlighting real-world applications, emerging technologies, and the risks, benefits and opportunities of artificial intelligence. The summit is renowned for hosting the world's most influential voices in AI and for fostering meaningful collaboration across industries and sectors.

World Summit AI sits as the anchor of World AI Week, the world's leading gathering of the global AI community. A high-energy series of 100+ cutting-edge events across business, science, technology and networking.

# 2026 Featured Speakers



**Zico Kolter**  
Board of OpenAI  
Professor at  
**Carnegie Mellon University**



**Franziska Bell**  
PhD, CDAO  
**Ford**



**Grady Booch**  
Chief Scientist for  
Software Engineering  
**IBM**



**Dr Ling Ge**  
Chief Investment  
& Strategy Officer [EMEA]  
**Tencent**



**Pierre-Yves Calloc'h**  
Global Chief Digital  
Officer  
**Pernod Ricard**




**Alice Xiang**  
GlobalHead [VP]  
of AI Ethics & Lead  
Research Scientist  
**SONY**



**George Robson**  
Partner  
**SEQUOIA**



**Marzieh Fadaee**  
Head of  
**cohere**




**Vladimir Botsvadze**  
Advisory Board Member  
**USAII**



**Artemis Seaford**  
VP of AI Safety  
**Eleven Labs**



**Prof Sir Nigel Shadbolt**  
Member, UK Council for Science  
and Technology; Principal, Co-  
Founder & Chairman  
**Jesus College OXFORD** **open data institute**



**Nour Al Hassan**  
Founder & CEO  
**NEED LOGOS**



**Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov**  
Chief AI Officer  
**ebay**



**Bart Becks**  
Board Member  
**EISMEA**



**Jelle Prins**  
Advisory Board Member;  
co-author co-founder  
Dutch National AI Plan **cradle**



**Jeannette Gorzala**  
ViceChair - AI Board of the  
Austrian Government;  
CEO and Founder  
**A**



**Marco Bressan**  
Chief Scientist  
**Santander**



**Bala Muthiah**  
Director of Engineering  
**lyft**



**Kimberly Washington**  
Founding BoardMember of  
Generation AI, Reuben College  
Co-Founder & CEO  
**DSB**



**Taavi Madiberk**  
Board Member, European  
Innovation Council;  
CEO & Co-Founder  
**skeleton+**

[Check out the full line up](#)

# 2026 THEME

## Guardians of tomorrow: Shaping the new AI paradigm

The 2026 World Summit AI theme, "Guardians of Tomorrow: Shaping the New AI Paradigm," captures a defining moment in the global dialogue on artificial intelligence. At the heart of the 10th edition of WSAI lies a powerful idea: the new paradigm of AI is not shaped by technology alone, but by human intention.

As AI continues to gain understanding and reasoning, it is imperative that we as a community, become active stewards, putting the necessary safeguards in place and to ensure AI remains a catalyst for good.

Reflecting on a decade of transformation, WSAI has had a front row seat to the AI paradigm shift over the past 10 years, from analytical, to agentic and now to reasoning.

### But what comes next?

At WSAI we believe the next evolution of what it means for AI to "think" and act will be forged by our global community. The next horizon will engage business leaders, technologists, policymakers, and ethicists to collectively design.

**Become a guardian of tomorrow and join us next year to shape the economic, technological and ethical dialogues driving the new paradigm of AI.**



# MAINSTAGE 2026

The topics that grip our attention and challenge our thinking:

**Digital sovereignty and National resilience:**  
Safeguarding autonomy in the face of global dependencies

**Physical AI and humanoid robotics:** A leap forward or a step toward dependency?

Human-AI collaboration OR conflict?

**AI Infrastructure:**  
efficiency, sustainability & scalability

Consent in an age of ambient intelligence:  
Navigating privacy and trust

Who is winning the 'Battle of the Browsers'? AI, control, and the future of the Web

**Smart machines, dumber minds?**  
Navigating the Brain Drain in the age of AI

**Safe and secure AI:**  
Protecting systems, people, and society

# Track 1 ADOPT AI

Dive into real-world use cases and strategic insights from leading global CAIO's that show how AI is transforming enterprises from the inside out.



## CORE THEMES

- **Core adoption and measuring ROI:** Moving from experiments to embedded capability to create business value
- **Generative, agentic and multimodal AI:** Use cases from pilots to being embedded across workflows
- **Data, architecture and model strategy:** From data readiness to mixing frontier APIs with open-source and specialized domain models
- **Managing governance, risk and regulation:** Building a single, coherent framework that aligns AI use with business goals, legal obligations, and risk appetite
- **Security:** Securing the full AI pipeline, not just the app

### WHO ATTENDS

CAIOs, CDOs, CIOs, CTOs

VPs/ Directors/ Heads of:

- AI/ Machine Learning
- Analytics
- AI Product
- Technology

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# Track 2 BUILD AI

The brightest minds building and developing AI systems and applications share their unique insights from the frontline of AI.

## CORE THEMES

- **Foundation models beyond text:** the impact of multimodality
- **AI Workflows:** Hear use cases on the latest AI-assisted development workflows
- **Building AI:** Learn about how Dev and engineering leaders are building AI systems, agents and multimodal AI apps
- **Founder-Builder-Scaler:** Showcasing how leading AI innovators are building and scaling real-world AI products
- **From Prompt to Context:** Hear the advancements in the optimisation of prompt and context engineering
- **AI Leadership:** Learn strategies for being the driving force for AI initiatives and taking AI from ideation to application

### WHO ATTENDS

- AI/ MLOps/ML Engineer
- Data Scientist
- AI Product Manager
- Computer Vision Engineer / Robotics Engineer
- Start-up Founder/ CTO

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# Track 3

## AI LABS

Hear from the AI research labs that are at the forefront of innovation, advancing AI technologies from natural language processing and healthcare, to robotics and ethical AI.



# CORE THEMES

- **How intelligent systems are reshaping our societies:** Exploring groundbreaking AI research applications in precision health, medical imaging, neuroscience, energy systems, agriculture, and environmental sustainability and more
- **Robotics & Autonomous Systems:** Developing AI-driven systems for physical interaction, learning, and autonomous operation
- **From Research to Real-World Impact:** Accelerating discovery and translating AI advances into deployed systems, products, and societal value
- **Quantum AI:** making the impossible computable?
- **Diverse and equitable AI futures:** Advancing trustworthy, explainable, inclusive, and human-centred approaches to artificial intelligence

## WHO ATTENDS

- Chief Scientist/ CSO
- Research Engineer
- AI/ML Research Scientist
- Data/ML Scientist
- Professor/Dr/Lecturer
- Head of Lab

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# TRACK 4: FRONTIER FOUNDERS

Spotlighting the Founders revolutionising AI and insights from global VC investors backing the future

## CORE THEMES

### INVESTOR INSIGHTS



Get into the heads of global investors and big tech on what they are looking for in the next generation of start ups

### THE MAGIC 8 BALL



See what's coming down the track for AI and unpack the opportunities and challenges it presents for Founders

### THE BIGGEST TRENDS



Get access to the latest insight on trends disrupting the industry

### AI FOUNDER Q&AS



Hear from Founders who are leading the next generation of AI unicorns

# Networking & Visibility for Start-ups & Investors



## EXPANDED START-UP SHOWCASE

10 AI start-ups to go head to head in the start-up showcase. A unique opportunity to raise their profile and be seen by potential investors, big tech and enterprise to foster collaborations and potential funding opportunities

## START-UP ACCELERATOR

This area is for start-ups who want guaranteed visibility and to have a space on the expo floor where investors and customers can drop by, check out demos or products

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## INVESTORS CLUB

Identify potential AI start-ups, emerging technologies, and innovative projects for investment opportunities



## Track 5

# SOVEREIGN AI FORUM

In 2025, sovereignty became the hot topic, with every nation working to build national strategies that would retain control over AI infrastructure, data, and rules, rather than relying entirely on foreign platforms and vendors.

But as we move through this sovereign journey, we must stop and ask - what is the end goal? What is AI sovereignty and what is its impact on the economy, the society and geopolitics?



## CORE THEMES

- **Openness Vs Control:** How can states and enterprises balance strategic autonomy with global interdependence
- **Talent, Research and Innovation Ecosystems:** Building the levers of long-term sovereignty
- **Infrastructure, Chips and Cloud:** Strengthening the backbone of AI sovereignty
- **Achieving AI Sovereignty:** How to secure resilient access to GPUs, storage, and energy for national or regional AI stack
- **Data Sharing & Security:** Data residency, localization and mechanisms for privacy, consent, and secure data sharing across borders and sectors

### WHO ATTENDS

Leadership responsible for:

- National AI Strategy
- National Security
- AI Infrastructure/Cloud/Inference providers
- AI Systems/ Model Development

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# Track 6 AI MEDIA

AI has revolutionised content creation - from ads to film and sound. This new track will explore how AI innovators are revolutionising content creation and the impacts on creative output.

## CORE THEMES

- **Gen AI Create:** Using generative models to create text, images, video, audio, or code faster and at scale
- **Next Gen AI Tools:** Exploring how the AI industry is innovating at pace to transform content creation - what are the latest innovations and how will they change the game?
- **AI Skills for the Future:** Explore how the creative workforce are adapting to the need for AI skills and how it is transforming workforce and workflows
- **Examining the impact of AI on copyright:** where protection increasingly depends on human creativity rather than machine-generated output.

## WHO ATTENDS

### AI Leadership from:

- **Video/Voice/Production workflow AI solutions**
- **Media & Entertainment**
- **Film, TV and music industries**
- **Creative, Marketing & Advertising**
- **Gaming studios**

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# Track 7-10: INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

In 2025, every one of our workshops were full. We heard you, practical opportunities to learn in small groups is what you need. We're delighted to have expanded the workshop offering, with four tracks across two days, giving you more opportunities than ever to immerse yourself in AI.

## EXECUTIVE AI LEARNING



As executives navigate what AI means for their businesses, these tailored workshops will upskill the exec to not only understand but maximise AI potential

## AI DEVELOPER-LED PROGRAMMES



Developer-led hands on sessions enabling you to deep dive into technical topics and walk away with unparalleled connections and insights

## SAFE & RESPONSIBLE AI STRATEGY



Get access to the latest insights and strategies for achieving safe, responsible AI development and deployment

## PEER TO PEER ROUNDTABLES



Need to chat about AI? Join one of our peer-led roundtables to have your say on the future of AI

# THE WSAI EXPERIENCE

With unlimited meeting and connection requests on the Inspired Minds app, over 100 exhibitors and 100 fringe events - you'll have a range of opportunities to network and make lasting connections.

## THE START-UP ACCELERATOR



## HACKATHONS



## ON STAND CONTENT



## AI TOOL DEMOS



## STRANGER DINNERS



## WORKSHOPS



## SUMMIT PARTY



## AI-POWERED MATCHMAKING



## NETWORKING EVENTS

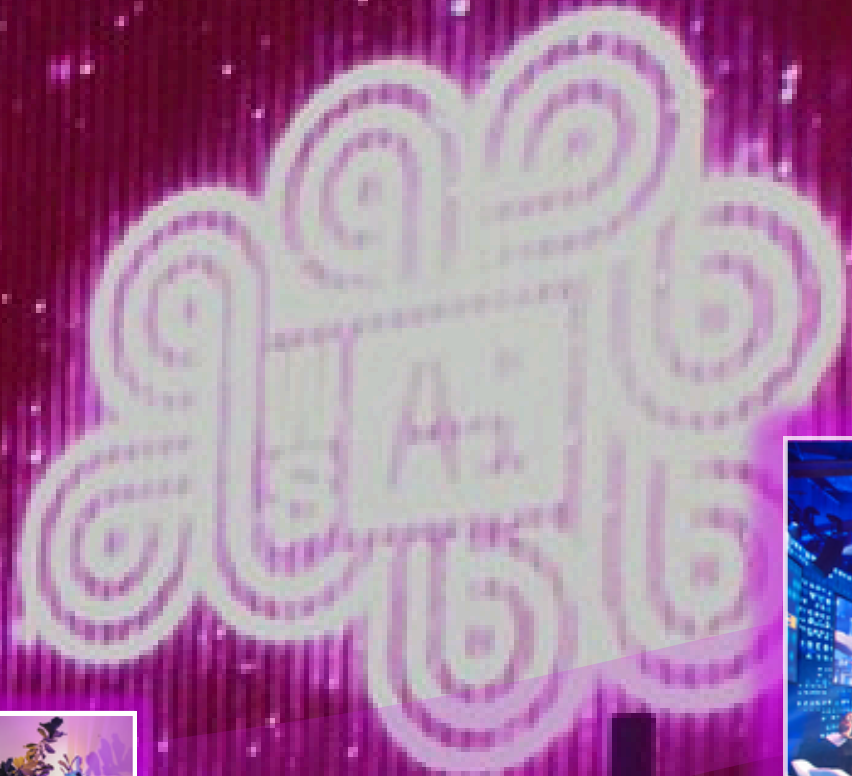


## WORLD AI WEEK





**World  
Ai  
Week  
2026**  
**AMSTERDAM**  
**5 – 9 October**



The world's leading week-long gathering of the global AI community. A high-energy series of 100+ cutting-edge events across business, science, technology and networking. Together, they showcase how AI is transforming business and society, with a focus on automation, creativity, diversity, innovation, responsibility and optimisation.

With over 15,000 attendees expected, it's a unique chance to connect with leaders across business, science and technology all in one place – a first in the AI ecosystem.



# Parties

With the 10 year anniversary we will be launching a series of celebrations across the city for the community to join. Watch this space...



## **World Summit AI - the world's largest gathering - is having its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary!**

World Summit AI Amsterdam 2026 will mark a major milestone as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the world's leading AI summit.

Following a record-breaking 2025 edition, which saw the highest ever attendance, unprecedented media coverage, and more partnerships than any previous year, the summit continues to set the standard for innovation, collaboration, and thought leadership in artificial intelligence.

As we head into this landmark year, WSAI Amsterdam 2026 promises to be bigger and better than ever—celebrating ten years of impact, showcasing cutting-edge AI developments, and shaping the next decade of responsible and transformative AI adoption worldwide.

[\*\*REGISTER NOW\*\*](#)

**Forbes** **TIME** **The Guardian**

**FORTUNE**

**lHUFFPOSTl**

**BBC**  
**WORLD**

**NewScientist**

**TC**  
**TechCrunch**

**WIRED**

**The**  
**Telegraph**



**MIT**  
**Technology**  
**Review**



**IN THE EYE**  
**OF A**  
**GLOBAL**  
**CONVERSATION**

"Imitation is the highest form of flattery... but there is only one World Summit AI!"

**FORTUNE**

Great event where enterprise and academia meet to join forces and push the limits of AI even further.

**Senior Scientist, Philips**

"From thought-provoking panels about AI governance, to measurability of success and what the workforce of tomorrow looks like, we've been at the heart of conversations shaping the future of AI."

**Chief Technology Officer, Synchrotron**

'A global force for good, focusing the attention of the data science and business communities on how our most cutting edge tools can deliver a brighter future for us all.'

**Forbes**

"Where the most powerful, innovative ideas in AI are born. It's where the world looks for the next big thing in Tech and Science."

**Microsoft**



# WORLD SUMMIT AI GLOBAL SUMMIT SERIES

**MONTRÉAL**

**SAN  
FRANCISCO**

**AMSTERDAM**

**QATAR**



offering you a complete way of life.

# THE VENUE

Taets Art and Event Park

Zaandam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

# TAETS

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## ART AND EVENT PARK

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2026

Registration opens at 07:30am

**The opening session** starts at 09:00 am on both days – this is a high security summit so please arrive early to ensure you clear registration and grab a seat.

**NOTE:** Capacity in the Main Stage hall will be limited throughout the event and places will be allocated on a first-come first-serve basis. Those with VIP tickets can relax with reserved front row seating.

### Travel Information

Getting to the venue

There are multiple ways to get to Taets (including taxi, [train](#), [ferry](#) and Uber)

Coaches

Coaches will operate between Taets Art & Event Park and Central Amsterdam. The timetable will be shared closer to the event date.

# THE FULL AI ECOSYSTEM

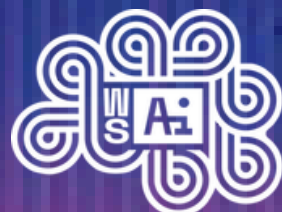


# We are the world's largest AI community

Over 500,000 and counting. Across 167 countries worldwide. All daring to #DoAIDifferent. The only thing missing? You.

# Get in touch

Contact us for more information  
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