



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 7.1.2022

C(2022) 96 final

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Bundesrat for its Opinion on the Communication - Promoting a European approach to artificial intelligence {COM (2021) 205 final}.*

*In particular, the Commission welcomes the Bundesrat's support to its approach to create an ecosystem of excellence for artificial intelligence in Europe, as well as its support to the risk-based approach to the regulation on artificial intelligence. The Commission also agrees that the development of skills, and the attraction and retention of talent, are key elements to ensure that the adoption of artificial intelligence will benefit all European citizens and enable its implementation. To that end, the Commission started a structured dialogue on digital education and skills with Member States and stakeholders.*

*With regard to funding for artificial intelligence, the Commission has steadily increased investments: under the current Multiannual Financial Framework, the Commission has proposed to dedicate at least EUR 1 billion per year from Horizon Europe and the Digital Europe Programme to artificial intelligence, representing an increase of 100% from the values pledged during the first Coordinated Plan on Artificial Intelligence, in 2018.*

*Significant investments are also being made on the 'enablers' of artificial intelligence, i.e. data and computing, such as the Common European Data Spaces or the purchase of high-performance computers. Furthermore, the Commission will be leveraging public funding to incentivise investments from Member States and the private sector, notably through the use of investment funds under InvestEU, public-private partnerships or industrial alliances (e.g. on microelectronics), and Important Projects of Common European Interest.*

*As to supporting research and businesses, in particular small and medium sized enterprises, the Commission has proposed, in the Coordinated Plan on Artificial Intelligence, measures aimed at supporting the roll-out of innovative technologies from the lab to the market, such as the testing and experimenting facilities. Furthermore, as the Bundesrat notes, the Commission strongly encourages Member States to use funds coming from the Recovery and Resilience*

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*Facility, leveraging the Digital Europe Programme, in order to strengthen their digital transition.*

*The creation of a proportionate, horizontal and risk-based legal framework which is future-proof and sensitive to the evolution of technology also aims to offer the necessary conditions for businesses to thrive in the European market by providing legal certainty and trust to users. The Commission strongly agrees that the Union must be at the forefront of the development of new and ambitious global norms and standards, and is participating in bilateral and multilateral efforts with like-minded countries, of which the EU-US Trade and Technology Council is one example.*

*The Commission hopes that the clarifications provided in this reply address the issues raised by the Bundesrat and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Thierry Breton  
Member of the Commission*