



LLM-BRIDGE

LLM Booster for Regional Innovation and Digital Growth in Europe

ALT-EDIC Week 2026

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**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Why LLM-BRIDGE?

Clear need to **strengthen Europe's technological sovereignty** and **ethical AI leadership** to **reduce its dependency on foreign actors**

Strategic priorities (Draghi, 2024):

- Priority AI verticals for EU companies.
- More compute capacity for training/fine-tuning models.
- EU-wide framework for “computing capital” to support SMEs.

LLM-BRIDGE: Goal & Vision

Supporting European startups and scaleups in the fast-growing domain of **Large Language Models (LLMs)** in order to contribute to creating a **sovereign, competitive European Generative AI ecosystem** that embeds our **culture, values, and languages**.

LLM-BRIDGE Partners



ADRA Association



AI Coalition 4 NL



ALT-EDIC



CINECA



EIT Digital



HUB France IA



prg.ai



grnet



CSC



AKI

Project Overview

Funding from the European Union's **Digital Europe Programme**

Duration: 36 months: **September 2025 – August 2028**

Objectives:

Connecting **research, innovation** and **market deployment** by linking

**Technical
Excellence**

- HPC resources
- Data spaces
- Benchmark infrastructures

+

**Entrepreneurial
Capacity-building**

- Venture Incubation & Acceleration programmes

Programmes

Venture Incubation Programme

- **1 incubator + 30 early-stage startups** per cohort (Generative AI, LLMs, NLP, Multilingual AI)
- Aims to **accelerate product and customer validation**
- **Technical resources, guidance, support**
- **25.000 € for 5 best performing startups**

Acceleration Programme

- Tailored support in **investment readiness, scaling, and regulatory compliance** for startups aiming at Series A funding
- Culminates in focused **investor matchmaking**

Entrepreneurial Education Programme

- Equip **GenAI startup founders** with **skills in scaling, fundraising, cross-border expansion, combining business strategy with ethical AI & sustainability.**
- Strong focus on **inclusivity**

Expected impact: Transforming Europe's AI landscape

For Europe

- **Economic Growth & Competitiveness**
- **Strategic Autonomy & Digital Sovereignty**
- **Cultural & Linguistic Diversity Preservation**

For Stakeholders

For SMEs & Startups

- Funding opportunities via incubation & acceleration programmes
- Access to compute and resources
- Investment readiness support

For Researchers & Academics

- Collaborative R&D on foundation models with access to pan-EU datasets and compute
- Knowledge sharing

For Citizens & Society

- Better AI choices: locally developed models that are transparent, fair and respect users' privacy
- Multilingual AI tools that preserve and promote European languages and cultural diversity

What Do We Aim to Achieve by August 2028?

Venture Incubation Programme (VIP)

3 successful cohorts of the 12-week long VIP.
3 incubators, 90 incubated startups.
Min. 30 MVPs validated and scaled to market readiness

Acceleration Programme

Min. **30 market-ready startups** supported across 2 sequential cohorts.
10 ventures attracting investment post-programme.
>150 investors engaged at Investor Roundtable Summits.
€5M in VC funding mobilised (pre-seed & seed).

Entrepreneurial Education Programme

4 successful cohorts of the Entrepreneurial Education Programme.
140 startup participants.
Min. 40% female-led and diverse teams.

How to Get Involved

Applications for our **Venture Incubation Programme** are **currently closed**, but our **Acceleration and Entrepreneurial Education Programmes** will open soon – stay tuned!

We welcome synergies in areas such as:

- Compute & Infrastructure: HPC, AI Factories, or cloud access pathways
- Data & Models: Language resources, datasets, model ecosystems, or evaluation expertise
- Regulatory & Legal: AI Act, GDPR, licensing, or procurement guidance
- Technical Support: Mentoring, documentation, or startup workshops
- Market Access: Introductions to corporates, investors, or public authorities
- Long-term Collaboration: Concrete support routes beyond the project period

Follow us for updates or contact us to explore opportunities!



Website: <https://www.alt-edic.eu/projects/llm-bridge>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/llm-bridge>

THANK YOU