Blue Ocean Labs

BOL-E-0001 · NEXT STEPS

# Next steps for elected officials

Scan for the full editorial and sources

From the editorial Europe's AI Moment: Relevance Without Capability by Thomas Nimmo, November 9, 2026.

## In brief

Europe's AI programs are reported mostly by what is announced. The editorial proposes judging them by what is delivered.

## Use the five stages as an oversight checklist

For any AI program in your jurisdiction, ask for figures at each stage:

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Announced** | **Allocated** | **Deployed** | **Operational capabilities** | **Impact** |

### Questions for your political circle

For party leadership, your group and colleagues:

1. *"Where do we stand on using European savings to finance AI, and with what safeguards for savers?"*
2. *"Should we commit to reporting AI investment by stage, announced to impact, wherever we govern?"*
3. *"How does this fit our growth agenda for the next EU budget negotiations?"*

### Steel-man questions for experts, policy makers and industry representatives

These test the editorial's own argument at its strongest. Put them to Blue Ocean Labs as well.

1. *"What is the strongest case that Europe should regulate and buy AI from abroad rather than build its own capacity?"*
2. *"Is the EU–US venture capital gap overstated, given that European companies rely more on bank and public finance?"*
3. *"If the EIC Fund has improved since 2022, what independent evidence shows it?"*
4. *"Could a new European fund move faster than reforming existing institutions, and what would that cost?"*
5. *"What does it cost Europe to act too late, and what does it cost to act badly?"*

## ↑ Questions ready to table

### To the Commission (European Parliament)

- *For AI Factories, AI Gigafactories and InvestAI, what has been allocated and deployed so far, and what capabilities are operational?*
- *What follow-up has been given to the Court of Auditors' 2024 recommendations on AI coordination and monitoring?*
- *How will the Commission measure whether InvestAI mobilizes its €200 billion target?*

### To national ministers

- *How much of our national contribution to supercomputing and AI Factories has been deployed?*
- *How does our national promotional bank coordinate with the European Investment Fund and InvestEU on AI growth financing?*

### To regional and local authorities

- *Are AI infrastructure projects in our area judged on use and demand, or on construction announcements?*
- *Which public institutions (hospitals, administrations, transport operators) could serve as reference customers through procurement?*

## Connected issues

- **Growth:** financing for companies to scale up.
- **Savings and capital markets:** the €440 billion Euro area households hold in US tech companies.
- **Security:** dependence on technology controlled elsewhere.
- **Public services:** procurement.

## Request a briefing or source verification

Briefings are available to any elected official or staff member, regardless of party. Write to info@blueoceanlabs.io, subject "BOL-E-0001 briefing".

## Who else to ask

**AI Act implementation and EU AI policy:** European AI Office (https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/ai-office), European Commission.

**Access to AI Factories and their services:** EuroHPC Joint Undertaking, Consult an Expert (https://eurohpc-ju.europa.eu/consult-expert_en).

**The EIC Fund:** European Innovation Council, "What is your question about?" (https://eic.ec.europa.eu/what-your-question-about_en).

**InvestEU and the European Tech Champions Initiative:** European Investment Fund (https://www.eif.org/).

**Audit findings and their follow-up:** European Court of Auditors (https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/publications/SR-2024-08).

**The generator procurement case:** European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) (https://anti-fraud.ec.europa.eu/).