THE KI BUNDESVERBAND AND THE JOINT EUROPEAN DISRUPTIVE INITIATIVE PARTNER FOR EUROPEAN DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY, INNOVATIONS IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & AI APPLICATIONS AT EUROPEAN LEVEL

Berlin, Brussels, Paris, Rome, Tallinn - April 21, 2022

The KI Bundesverband (German AI Association) and the Joint European Disruptive Initiative (JEDI), the European ARPA, signed a strategic partnership to drive innovation in Artificial Intelligence to promote European digital sovereignty and a democracy-supporting digital ecosystem.

The collaboration includes joint efforts to develop Large European AI Models (LEAM), participation of KI Bundesverband in JEDI's Moonshot Committees (scientific working groups), and JEDI GrandChallenges, in particular on AI for Climate and AI for Healthcare. Both organizations are committed to raising awareness of the major societal impact of AI for Europe and European citizens.

To this end, Ms. Vanessa Cann, Executive Director of KI Bundesverband, said, "*Collaborating with JEDI is the next logical step for us. We expect this collaboration to further strengthen our position in the European AI ecosystem. JEDI's expertise and large network will be of direct benefit to several of our initiatives, such as LEAM. We are sure that this collaboration will bring us one step closer to our goal of AI developed in Europe and based on European values being widely applied.*"

Mr. André Loesekrug-Pietri, Chairman of JEDI, stated, "*We are looking forward to this promising collaboration with the KI Bundesverband. They represent a strong and diverse group of innovators driving AI in Germany.*" He added, "*Our first JEDI GrandChallenge already focused on using AI for drug discovery against Covid19. This partnership will add strong value to our upcoming AI-related GrandChallenges, including our Democracy 2.0 Challenge and our AI & Climate Challenge.*"

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About the KI Bundesverband – The German AI Association is Germany's largest AI network with more than 360 AI companies as members. These members are committed to ensure that AI is applied in the spirit of European and democratic values. To achieve this, the Federal Republic of Germany and the EU must become attractive AI locations for entrepreneurs, where willingness to take risks is appreciated and innovative minds meet the best conditions. The German AI Association stands by the side of AI entrepreneurs by representing their interests towards politics, business and media. It is involved in several projects such as the initiative LEAM to enable large European AI models, the Gaia-X project, OpenGPT-X to develop a large European language model and initiator of the European AI Forum. Visit us on https://ki-verband.de/en/ and follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter.

About JEDI - The Joint European Disruptive Initiative (JEDI) is the European advanced research projects agency (ARPA) with a mission to bring Europe and free societies in a leadership position in emerging and breakthrough technologies. JEDI is launching GrandChallenges to push the frontiers of science & innovation, with a radical new method based on purpose-driven research, speed, full focus on excellence, interdisciplinarity, and bold 'moonshot' risk-taking. Powered by more than 4600 technology and scientific leaders from academia, industry and deeptech startups in 29 countries, JEDI is fully independent and financed by engaged foundations, companies, individuals and public institutions. Follow us on LinkedIn and twitter @eurojedi.