

## **EuroHPC JOINT UNDERTAKING**

## DECISION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EuroHPC JOINT UNDERTAKING No 62/2025

# Endorsing the selection of the OpenEuroLLM project receiving access time to EuroHPC supercomputers for being strategic for the Union

## THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EuroHPC JOINT UNDERTAKING,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 of 13 July 2021 on establishing the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking and repealing Regulation (EU) 2018/1488<sup>1</sup>, in particular to Article 17(8) thereof, as amended by Council Regulation (EU) 2024/1732 amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1173 as regards a EuroHPC initiative for start-ups in order to boost European leadership in trustworthy artificial intelligence<sup>2</sup>, (hereinafter "the Regulation"),

Having regard to the Statutes of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking annexed to the Regulation (thereinafter "Statutes") and in particular to Article 1(i) thereof,

Having regard to Governing Board Decision No 02/2022, of 14 June 2022, approving the definition of specific rules to grant access time for initiatives considered as strategic for the Union,

#### **WHEREAS**

- (1) Pursuant to Article 1 of Decision No 02/2022, of 14 June 2022, any initiative considered as strategic for the Union in the meaning of the Regulation shall be granted access time for the use of EuroHPC systems free of charge, where appropriate, and without a call for expression of interest.
- (2) Following Recital (14) of the Regulation, "the Union should provide an opportunity for its supply industry to leverage on such investments, leading to their uptake in large-scale and emerging application fields such as personalised medicine, climate change, connected and automated driving or other lead markets that are underpinned by artificial intelligence, blockchain technologies, edge computing or more broadly by the digitalisation of the European industry".
- (3) In the AI Continent Action Plan, the EU has set out a comprehensive roadmap to secure European technological and economic sovereignty in AI. The Plan combines large-scale investment in AI Factories and AI Gigafactories, a European "data union",

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OJ L 256, 19.7.2021, p. 3–51

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> OJ L, 19.6.2024, p. 1-5.

and sovereign cloud, and compute capacity, with a view to reducing dependence on non-EU infrastructure and platforms and anchoring frontier AI capabilities in Europe under EU rules and values. By building its own world-class AI infrastructure, data space and talent base, Europe aims to become a genuine "AI Continent".

- (4) Within the scope of the Apply AI Strategy and building on the Union's existing assets including in particular its world-class EuroHPC computing infrastructure, strong scientific talent, and a distinctive emphasis on open-source development and safety, the Commission will help the development of pan-European platforms using multilingual AI technologies, focusing on the development of an AI model at the technology frontier that will reinforce Europe's sovereignty and competitiveness in a trustworthy and human centric manner.
- (5) The OpenEuroLLM project has been retained for EU funding under the Digital Europe Programme (DEP), responding to the urgent need to have available a sovereign European, multilingual, competitive and compliant base Large Language Model. Its main focus is to develop strong multilingual foundation models for EU official languages and beyond, and ensure easy and sustainable access to those models ready to be fine-tuned to a wide range of applications.
- (6) The Commission has confirmed the eligibility of the request as being strategic and informed EuroHPC JU of their wish to assign Union special access time for a strategic EU initiative to create powerful, multilingual AI models for all official EU languages, in particular related to the OpenEuroLLM project.
- (7) On the basis on the conditions for special access to EuroHPC systems, the Executive Director requests for the Governing Board endorsement.
- (8) Following the Executive Director's assessment, the Governing Board

#### HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

## Article 1

The Governing Board endorses the proposal to assign Union Special Access time on EuroHPC supercomputers under the following bases:

- a) EuroHPC Joint Undertaking shall commit 25% of the total resources for Strategic Initiatives allowed by the Regulation, to the OpenEuroLLM project, meaning 2.5% of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking compute time on the three EuroHPC AI-optimised supercomputers suitable for the project: JUPITER, Leonardo, Lumi and MareNostrum5 supercomputers.
- b) The applicant shall be allowed to use the remaining 25% of the total resources for Strategic Initiatives until any other Strategic Initiative is accepted to receiving access time to any of the requested systems.
- c) This commitment will be valid from 01.01.2026 onwards until 31.03.2028. The commitment can be adjusted downwards if the project fails to fill its assigned time on

any of the systems assigned.

- d) OpenEuroLLM shall provide on yearly basis a summary report of the work performed on the systems and the resources consumed, justifying any diversions from the original planning.
- e) The OpenEuroLLM project receiving computing time from the EuroHPC systems should commit to ensure that the following wording is added to all project dissemination activities: "We acknowledge the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking for awarding this project access to the EuroHPC supercomputer [insert], hosted by [insert] in [insert] through a EuroHPC JU special Access call".

## Article 2

The Executive Director shall inform the applicant of the conditions for granting access, in the terms specified in its assessment and reproduced in Article 1 above.

#### Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Luxembourg, on 4 December 2025

For the Governing Board

[signed]

Rafal Duczmal

The Chair