



Info session ENGAGE.EU Think Tank June 2026

Thursday 15 January 1pm

ENGAGE.EU

The European University
Engaged in Societal Change



Joining as Associate Partner of Higher Education:





Applications are now open

Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- The research theme: Responsible AI & Society
- What is an ENGAGE.EU Think Tank : aims and expected outcomes
- Format & structure of the Think Tank
- Travel & accommodation
- Application process
- Q&A

Welcome !

Hosting academic team

- Jean-Guy Mailly (UT Capitole – IRIT)
- Moncef Garouani (UT Capitole – IRIT)
- Sandra Laporte (UT Capitole – TSM-R)



The research theme

- The overarching topic is **Responsible AI and Society**
- The focus is on
 - Evaluating the impact of (Responsible) AI on Society with the tools of social sciences
 - Providing methods (inspired by social sciences) to help creating more responsible AI



Responsible AI & Society

- Nowadays, AI is ubiquitous
- Raises ethical concerns (e.g. biases and fairness, transparency, privacy, job replacement)
- Guaranteeing “good” behaviour from AI systems remains challenging
- The European Commission AI Act calls for "striking a balance between promoting AI research and innovation while ensuring Europeans can benefit from safe and trustworthy AI “



Need to assess the societal impact of AI with an integrative approach

Responsible AI & Society

Research Gap addressed by the Think Tank

- **Objectives of the Think Tank**

- To explore the risks and opportunities of AI with an inter-disciplinary perspective
- Understand the implications of responsible AI for public policy, management, regulation
- Develop performant AI innovations accounting for these safeguards

- **From the perspective of law, economics, business, etc**

- How to evaluate the impact of AI on people and society?
- How to define meaningful guidelines for responsible AI?

- **From the perspective of computer science**

- How to implement responsible AI following the guidelines from social sciences?



What is an ENGAGE.EU Think Tank ? What is not ?

The Think Tank is not a traditional academic conference or seminar.

The emphasis is on idea creation and community building, rather than presenting or refining existing research.

Its core purpose is to provide space and time for researchers to develop future-oriented, innovative research ideas.



Main objectives of the Think Tank

Participants are given time and interaction opportunities to explore societal challenges—particularly related to AI—and to **build long-term networks within the ENGAGE.EU alliance.**

- To **collaboratively define new research topics and questions**
- To **encourage interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary collaboration** by bringing together researchers from diverse fields.
- To create a community of researchers that continues beyond the event.



Outcomes

- Have identified a concrete research project or question.
- Consider possible data sources.
- Identify collaborators they wish to work with.

The **final outcome is flexible and participant-driven**: it may lead to a policy paper, academic publication, or serve as a foundation for a future grant application.

The key expectation is that participants agree on a clear, concrete research direction to pursue together after the Think Tank



Timeline

What	When	How
Call closes	8 February 2026	
Announcement of selected participants	Early March 2026	By email
Onboarding session #1	15 April 2026 (PM, 2 to 3hrs)	Online
Onboarding session #2	19 May 2026 (PM, 2hrs)	Online
Think Tank	9-12 June 2026	In person



A very preliminary program...

	Tuesday 9	Wednesday 10	Thursday 11	Friday 12
AM	Arrivals	Sub group Work	Keynote speaker	Final presentations
PM	Opening keynote	Sub group Work	Sub group Work	Farewell
Evening	Welcome diner	Free/diner/visit	Free/diner/visit	Departure

Expectations

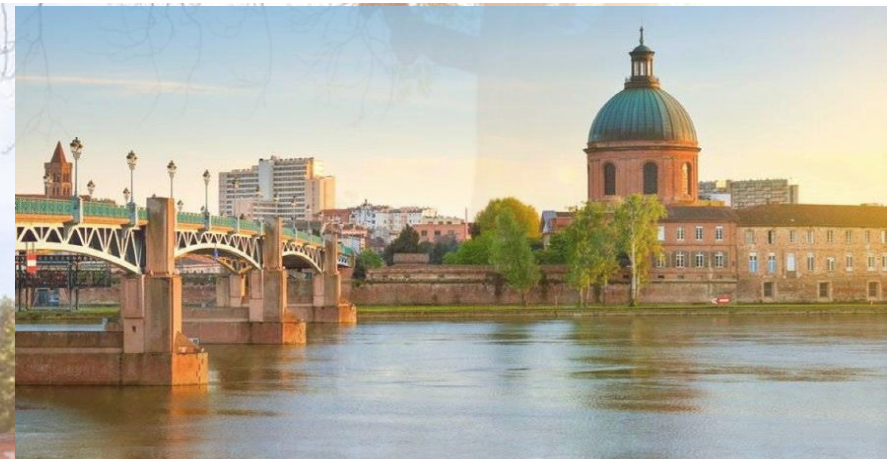
- Be in Toulouse for the entire duration of the Think Tank;
- Not combining this event with other activities;
- Have the intention of continuing collaboration after the event, whether through formal workshops, joint publications, funding applications, or research projects;
- Join our online community : ENGAGE.EU research community platform;
- Be “engaged” during the event.



Travel & accommodation



- Expenses covered by ENGAGE.EU;
- Travelling by train is strongly encouraged;
- Blagnac airport (TLS).



Toulouse Matabiau station

Application process – next steps

<https://www.engageuniversity.eu/engage-eu-think-tank-2026-toulouse/>

1. Complete the online application form
2. Submit a brief CV, including list of publications to the Think Tank contact point at your university by 8 February



Selection process



Submitted application will be evaluated by each of the ENGAGE.EU partners and by the academic leads.

Applications are evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Demonstrated high quality research (potential);
- Demonstrated interest in collaborative research project;
- Established relevant for the research in the theme of the Think Tank;
- Clear motivation to contribute to future research/output with ENGAGE.EU colleagues.

Final decision also consider : cohort composition including but not limited to complementary of research interests, disciplinary balance, institutional diversity and demographic diversity.



Thank you for your attention!



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