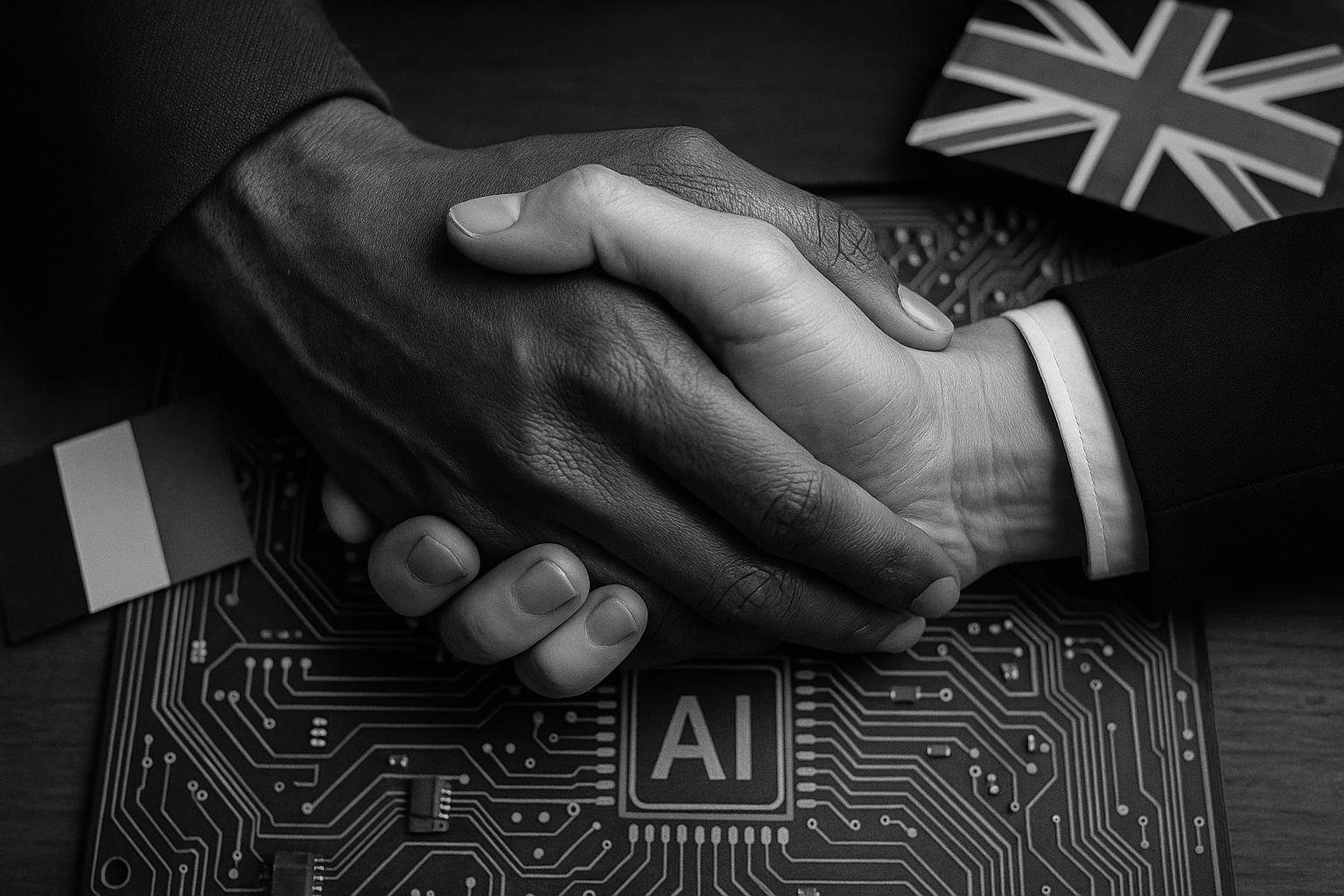
# Entente CordIAle initiative formalises UK-France partnership for ethical AI innovation



The Entente CordIAle partnership, formalized during French President Emmanuel Macron's state visit to the United Kingdom, marks a significant step in advancing collaborative artificial intelligence (AI) research between the two nations. This strategic Franco-British alliance unites leading academic institutions including the University of Oxford, University of Cambridge, Institut Polytechnique de Paris, HEC Paris, and Université Paris-Saclay. It endeavours to foster excellent, ethical, and sovereign AI development in Europe through a framework focused on five core areas: academic mobility, joint scientific events, shared doctoral supervision and interdisciplinary research, engagement with industry, and alignment with European AI strategy.

The initiative aims to create a long-term partnership for innovation that balances technological advancement with ethical responsibility. The collaboration’s focus on ethical and sovereign AI reflects a shared commitment to rigorous scientific standards while safeguarding societal values. The academic communities involved address a broad spectrum of AI domains including machine learning, robotics, computer vision, mathematical foundations, and AI ethics, underlining the interdisciplinary nature of this endeavour. Oxford is particularly notable for housing six Centres for Doctoral Training and several Turing AI World-Leading Researcher Fellows, illustrating the depth of expertise it brings to the partnership.

Professor Irene Tracey, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, emphasised the importance of international cooperation in advancing responsible AI in a statement made during the partnership’s announcement. She highlighted the initiative’s grounding in existing ties and mutual dedication to innovation that benefits society. This sentiment was echoed during an AI event at Imperial College London, where President Macron spoke alongside DeepMind co-founder Sir Demis Hassabis and Mistral AI CEO Arthur Mensch. Macron described the UK-France relationship as "critical," underscoring the need to combine talents, laboratories, and financing capacities to tackle shared challenges in AI development.

Further strengthening the partnership, Professor Geraint Rees, Vice Provost of Research, Innovation and Global Engagement at University College London (UCL), noted the launch of the Inria-UCL Joint Centre during Macron’s visit. This centre exemplifies ongoing collaboration beyond the core partnership, promising to enhance AI cooperation across the UK and France by integrating academic and industry expertise.

The partnership’s emphasis on interdisciplinary research and ethical AI corresponds with similar work being conducted by leading figures such as Professor Marina Jirotka at the University of Oxford. As director of the Responsible Technology Institute, Jirotka leads initiatives on responsible innovation, including research into robotics, AI, and machine learning. Her work on proposals like the ‘Ethical Black Box,’ designed to record AI decision-making, aligns neatly with the partnership’s values of transparency and accountability.

Moreover, the University of Cambridge contributes to the initiative through interdisciplinary centres such as the Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence. This centre draws together scholars from computer science, philosophy, and social sciences to ensure that AI development maximises benefits for humanity. Its collaborations span institutions both within the UK and internationally, reinforcing the global perspective necessary for ethical AI research.

In sum, the Entente CordIAle Paris-Saclay – Oxford-Cambridge AI Initiative represents a landmark in Franco-British academic collaboration. It not only unites some of Europe’s foremost AI research powerhouses but also signals a commitment to advancing technology in ways that reflect shared values and strategic priorities. By bridging expertise across disciplines and national borders, the partnership aims to shape the future of AI innovation in a way that serves societal interests responsibly and sustainably.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.edtechinnovationhub.com/news/franco-british-ai-partnerships-formalized-during-macron-visit-linking-ucl-oxford-cambridge-and-french-research-institutions), [[2]](https://www.ip-paris.fr/en/news/entente-cordiale-paris-saclay-oxford-cambridge-ai-initiative-strategic-franco-british-partnership), [[3]](https://www.cam.ac.uk/news/british-french-research-partnership-on-ai), [[4]](https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2025-07-09-oxford-joins-franco-british-partnership-cooperate-ai-research-training-and)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.edtechinnovationhub.com/news/franco-british-ai-partnerships-formalized-during-macron-visit-linking-ucl-oxford-cambridge-and-french-research-institutions), [[4]](https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2025-07-09-oxford-joins-franco-british-partnership-cooperate-ai-research-training-and)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.edtechinnovationhub.com/news/franco-british-ai-partnerships-formalized-during-macron-visit-linking-ucl-oxford-cambridge-and-french-research-institutions), [[4]](https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2025-07-09-oxford-joins-franco-british-partnership-cooperate-ai-research-training-and)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.edtechinnovationhub.com/news/franco-british-ai-partnerships-formalized-during-macron-visit-linking-ucl-oxford-cambridge-and-french-research-institutions)
* Paragraph 5 – [[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marina_Jirotka)
* Paragraph 6 – [[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leverhulme_Centre_for_the_Future_of_Intelligence)
* Paragraph 7 – [[1]](https://www.edtechinnovationhub.com/news/franco-british-ai-partnerships-formalized-during-macron-visit-linking-ucl-oxford-cambridge-and-french-research-institutions), [[2]](https://www.ip-paris.fr/en/news/entente-cordiale-paris-saclay-oxford-cambridge-ai-initiative-strategic-franco-british-partnership), [[3]](https://www.cam.ac.uk/news/british-french-research-partnership-on-ai), [[4]](https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2025-07-09-oxford-joins-franco-british-partnership-cooperate-ai-research-training-and)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.edtechinnovationhub.com/news/franco-british-ai-partnerships-formalized-during-macron-visit-linking-ucl-oxford-cambridge-and-french-research-institutions> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.ip-paris.fr/en/news/entente-cordiale-paris-saclay-oxford-cambridge-ai-initiative-strategic-franco-british-partnership> - The Entente CordIAle Paris-Saclay – Oxford-Cambridge AI Initiative is a strategic Franco-British partnership launched on 9 July 2025 during French President Emmanuel Macron's state visit to the UK. This collaboration involves five leading institutions: Institut Polytechnique de Paris, HEC Paris, Université Paris-Saclay, University of Oxford, and University of Cambridge. The initiative aims to foster excellent, ethical, and sovereign artificial intelligence in Europe by focusing on academic mobility, joint scientific events, collaborative research projects, engagement with industry, and alignment with national and European strategic priorities. ([ip-paris.fr](https://www.ip-paris.fr/en/news/entente-cordiale-paris-saclay-oxford-cambridge-ai-initiative-strategic-franco-british-partnership?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.cam.ac.uk/news/british-french-research-partnership-on-ai> - The University of Cambridge, along with Institut Polytechnique de Paris, HEC Paris, Université Paris-Saclay, University of Oxford, and University of Cambridge, has formalised a strategic partnership in artificial intelligence. This collaboration, named the Entente CordIAle Paris-Saclay – Oxford-Cambridge AI Initiative, aims to foster excellent, ethical, and sovereign AI on a European scale. The partnership focuses on academic mobility, joint scientific events, collaborative research projects, engagement with industry, and alignment with national and European strategic priorities. ([cam.ac.uk](https://www.cam.ac.uk/news/british-french-research-partnership-on-ai?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2025-07-09-oxford-joins-franco-british-partnership-cooperate-ai-research-training-and> - The University of Oxford has joined the Entente CordIAle Paris-Saclay – Oxford-Cambridge AI Initiative, a strategic Franco-British partnership in artificial intelligence. This collaboration, involving Institut Polytechnique de Paris, HEC Paris, Université Paris-Saclay, University of Oxford, and University of Cambridge, aims to foster excellent, ethical, and sovereign AI on a European scale. The partnership focuses on academic mobility, joint scientific events, collaborative research projects, engagement with industry, and alignment with national and European strategic priorities. ([ox.ac.uk](https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2025-07-09-oxford-joins-franco-british-partnership-cooperate-ai-research-training-and?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leverhulme_Centre_for_the_Future_of_Intelligence> - The Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence (CFI) is an interdisciplinary research centre within the University of Cambridge that studies artificial intelligence. Funded by the Leverhulme Trust, the centre brings together academics from computer science, philosophy, social science, and other fields. It collaborates with institutions such as the Oxford Martin School at the University of Oxford, Imperial College London, and the University of California, Berkeley. The CFI focuses on ensuring that humanity makes the best of the opportunities presented by artificial intelligence. ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leverhulme_Centre_for_the_Future_of_Intelligence?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marina_Jirotka> - Professor Marina Jirotka is a professor of human-centered computing at the University of Oxford and director of the Responsible Technology Institute. She leads a team working on responsible innovation in fields including robotics, AI, machine learning, quantum computing, social media, and the digital economy. Jirotka is known for her work on the 'Ethical Black Box,' a proposal that robots using AI should be fitted with a type of inflight recorder to track decisions and actions in uncontrolled environments. ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marina_Jirotka?utm_source=openai))