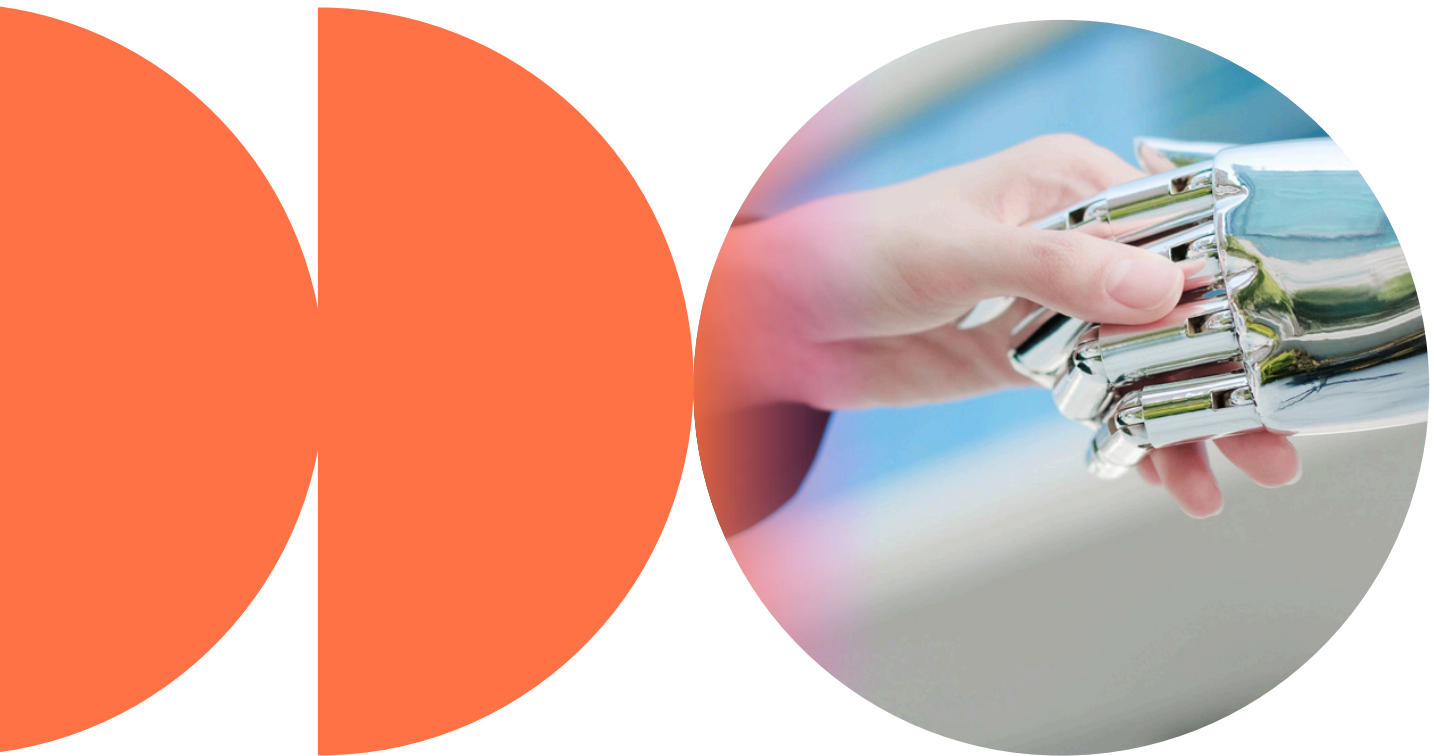# Una Europa Challenge: Data Science and Artificial Intelligence for Social Welfare

21–25 July 2025 I Universidad Complutense de Madrid

For doctoral and early-career researchers
at Una Europa partner universities

Apply by 4 May 2025

With the support and partnership of:

CÁTEDRA BOSCH·UCM en Inteligencia Artificial | ALFIE | BOSCH | Co-funded by the European Union

Una Europa Challenge: Data Science and Artificial Intelligence for Social Welfare

This is an intensive five-day programme designed for Una Europa doctoral and early-career researchers across all disciplines passionate about creating ethical and socially responsible AI solutions for social welfare. Participants will work on real-world challenges and design AI tools that address important social issues, guided by the principles of AI for Good—with a strong focus on ethics, bias, and human rights.

The programme combines hands-on co-design activities -like hackathons and youth design assemblies- with expert ethical support. Emphasizing both technical excellence and ethical reflection, this challenge fosters a new generation of AI practitioners who are not only innovative but also socially responsible.

Why should I apply?

This is a unique opportunity to join a dynamic, inclusive learning environment guided by professors from Una Europa Universities, experts from this initiative's sponsor Bosch, and partners of the EU funded project Assessment of Learning Technologies and Frameworks for Intelligent and Ethical AI (ALFIE). By embedding ethical oversight at every stage of development, the Una Europa DSAI Challenge for Social Welfare cultivates not only innovative solutions but also a lasting sense of societal responsibility in its participants. You will:

- Gain access to curated datasets, validation tools, and ITU's AI for Good publications.
- Get practical experience in ethical AI design through co-design collaboration and feedback.
- Win recognition through awards for technical excellence and ethical integrity.
- Develop essential skills, including teamwork and presentation techniques.

What can I expect from this experience?

This learning experience will:

- Equip participants with the skills to design AI solutions that tackle critical societal issues.
- Foster a deep understanding of ethical principles in AI development.
- Encourage interdisciplinary collaboration through a unique structure that blends technical, journalistic, and ethical expertise.
- Offer hands-on experience with ethical framework, bias mitigation strategies, and real-time expert consultation.
- Explore the implications of the EU AI Act and its relevance to responsible AI development.

The course runs from Monday to Thursday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, with an afternoon session from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM. On Friday, classes take place only in the morning, concluding with an awards ceremony honouring the best projects.

What is the cost?

- There is a tuition fee of 127.50€ for all participants.
- Thanks to the course sponsors, primarily Bosch Spain, selected participants from Una Europa universities will have accommodation and meals fully covered.
- The only expense participants need to arrange is their transportation to Madrid.
- The program includes transportation from Madrid to El Escorial, where students will be accommodated from Sunday, the 20th, to Friday, the 25th, with full board (lodging and all meals) at at the EXE Victoria Palace, a 4-star hotel and a former 18th-century Royal Palace.

Am I eligible to take part?

The DSAI Challenge welcomes doctoral and early-career researchers from Una Europa universities with diverse academic backgrounds, all interested in developing ethical, responsible AI solutions for social welfare. Some examples of intended participants include:

- Computer Science & AI specialists integrating ethical frameworks into development practices.
- Data Scientists ensuring their analyses consider social impact.
- Social Science researchers studying technology's effects on communities.
- Law researchers and legal professionals exploring AI regulations.
- Philosophy researchers with expertise in ethics and societal implications.
- Public Policy experts analysing governance frameworks.
- Design specialists focusing on human-centred approaches.

English proficiency: B2 level or higher is required for full participation.

Academics from your university will review the applications and allocate places based on uniform criteria agreed upon by all participating Una Europa universities. Selected candidates will be notified no later than May 9, 2025.

About the venue

Organised by Universidad Complutense de Madrid, the Una Europa DSAI Challenge is embedded as one of the academic and cultural experiences at the Universidad Complutense Summer Courses, at the historic village of San Lorenzo de El Escorial (Madrid). It offers participants a unique opportunity to engage with cutting-edge knowledge while immersed in one of Spain's most significant heritage sites and a vibrant cultural experience. Beyond the core programme, participants can enjoy a diverse array of cultural activities, including concerts, exhibitions and live performances. Aditionally, they will have the opportunity to visit the magnificent Royal Monastery of San Lorenzo de El Escorial.

Registration is open!

Apply by 4 May 2025

Photo: Royal Site of the Monastery of El Escorial, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. © Alfredo Matilla (UCM).

Programme*

Date	Schedule
Monday 21 July: Orientation and topic assignment	10:00 - 11:00 Welcome Session: Mª del Rosario Cristóbal Roncero. Vice-Rector for International Relations, Universidad Complutense. Juan Antonio Relaño Pinilla. CIO, Bosch Spain. 11:00 - 11:30 Introduction to the challenge. 11:30 - 12:00 Coffee break. 12:00 - 14:00 Projects presentation and methododogy. 14:00 - 16:00 Lunch. 16:00 - 17:00 Groups formed, topics selected, ethical advisors assigned. 17:00 - 18:00 Projects development.
Tuesday 22 July: Problem exploration and ethical engagement	10:00 - 11:00 Introduction to the ETD hub. 11:00 - 11:30 Projects development and Youth Desing Assembly (YDA) interactions: AI act and bias. 11:30 - 12:00 Coffee break. 12:00 - 13:00 Keynote: Ethical AI. Samer Hassan (UCM / Berkeley Univ). 13:00 - 14:00 Projects development and YDA interactions. 14:00 - 16:00 Lunch. 16:00 - 18:00 Projects development, ETD validations, YDA interactions.
Wednesday 23 July: ALFIE Workshop: solution pitches and ethical feedback	10:00 - 11:00 Keynote: Leo Martín Abad (Bosch), ALFIE Researcher (TBC) 11:00 - 11:30 ALFIE Workshop. 11:30 - 12:00 Coffee break. 12:00 - 14:00 ALFIE Workshop. Feedback by YDA. 14:00 - 16:00 Lunch. 16:00 - 18:00 Projects development.
Thursday 24 July: Refinement and validation	10:00 - 11:30 Projects development. 11:30 - 12:00 Coffee break. 12:00 - 13:00 Keynote: TBC. 13:00 - 14:00 Projects development. 14:00 - 16:00 Lunch. 16:00 - 18:00 Projects development. YDA consultations & report.
Friday 25 July: Final presentations and awards.	10:00 - 11:30 ETD Hub validation and group presentations. 11:30 - 12:00 Coffee break. 12:00 - 13:00 Best Project Award. Closing session.

*Please note: this programme is not final and may be subject to changes or modifications
Venue: EXE Victoria Palace. Juan de Toledo, 4, 28200 San Lorenzo de El Escorial, Spain.