MANOLO
CLOUD-EDGE EFFICIENT & TRUSTWORTHY AI

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PRESS RELEASE

MANOLO Summer School brings together the AI community in Thessaloniki, Greece!

AI researchers, professionals and innovators gathered in Thessaloniki, Greece, on 26-28 August 2026 for the MANOLO Summer School on Trustworthy AI & Innovation Lab. Hosted at the International Hellenic University, the three-day event brought together an international community to explore the latest developments in Trustworthy and Efficient AI, exchange knowledge and put ideas into practice through collaborative activities.

The Summer School welcomed 89 attendees, from more than 10 countries, bringing together diverse perspectives from research, academia and industry.

The 1st day set the foundations for the Summer School, with a comprehensive programme dedicated to Trustworthy and Efficient AI. Participants explored the foundations and legal implications of Trustworthy AI, with a particular focus on Explainable AI and the critical question of whether AI-generated explanations can be trusted. The programme also addressed key developments in Efficient AI, including Neural Architecture Search and Neuromorphic approaches, as well as resource optimisation across the cloud-edge continuum. The day concluded with a panel discussion on the future of Trustworthy and Efficient AI, opening the floor to different perspectives on the challenges and opportunities shaping the field.

On the 2nd day, the focus moved closer to the work of the MANOLO project and the practical application of Trustworthy and Efficient AI. Following an overview of MANOLO, experts presented work on Frugal AI and Neural Network Growth, Data Quality and Provenance, while dedicated sessions demonstrated how Efficient and Trustworthy AI can be applied across Robotics, Medical IoT and Mobile applications.

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The programme then marked an important transition from learning and discussion to hands-on innovation. Participants were introduced to the MANOLO Innovation Lab and formed teams to transform the knowledge and ideas explored during the previous sessions into practical solutions.

The knowledge exchange continued beyond the formal programme through a dedicated networking and cocktails event. The gathering offered participants and speakers an informal setting to continue conversations, exchange perspectives and build connections within the international community brought together by the Summer School.

The 3rd and final day put collaboration into practice through the MANOLO Innovation Lab. After being introduced to the challenge, participants worked together in teams across two dedicated working sessions before presenting their results to the wider group. The presentations were followed by feedback and scoring, bringing the three-day programme to a close with participants actively applying and sharing what they had explored throughout the Summer School.

Feedback collected through a post-event questionnaire highlighted the learning impact of the Summer School. Participants reported strengthening their knowledge of Trustworthy and Efficient AI, their ability to apply these concepts in practice, and their understanding of the MANOLO approach.

Overall, the MANOLO Summer School created a collaborative environment for knowledge exchange, practical experimentation and networking, bringing together researchers, professionals and innovators working towards the development of responsible and efficient AI technologies.

The MANOLO consortium, under the leadership of **Ireland's National Centre for Applied AI, CeADAR,** is composed of 17 partners across 7 European countries: Ireland, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, and Spain. The consortium members include: NUIDUCD-CeADAR, UPC, BULL, TUBS, NCSR "D", FDI, INRIA, Fraunhofer IIS, UPSaclay, ARCADA, KU Leuven, LAUREA, PAL ROBOTICS, BIT&BRAIN, ARX.NET, Q-PLAN, and 28DIGITAL.

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