MANOLO

CLOUD-EDGE EFFICIENT & TRUSTWORTHY AI

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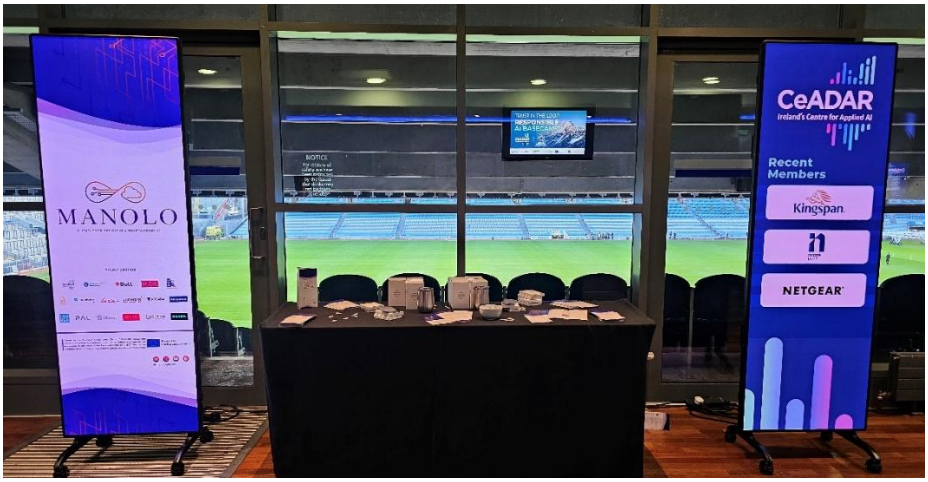
PRESS RELEASE

MANOLO marks its Final Conference at CeADAR's Responsible AI Basecamp in Dublin



MANOLO held its Final Conference on 20 October 2026 at Croke Park, Dublin. It took place as part of *Trust in the Loop: Responsible AI Basecamp*, organised by CeADAR, Ireland's Centre for Applied AI. The Basecamp was an Associated Event of the Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2026.

The event welcomed 272 participants from industry, academia, research and the public sector, with SMEs representing the largest group of attendees. Their strong presence highlighted the importance of making responsible AI solutions accessible and practical for businesses of different sizes.



Panel: Responsible AI – Equipping Yourself for Success

A key highlight of MANOLO's participation was the panel discussion *"Responsible AI: Equipping Yourself for Success"*, which explored how organisations can move from responsible AI principles to practical implementation.

Drawing on their work within the project, MANOLO partners discussed the tools and approaches developed to support trustworthy and efficient AI. At the heart of the discussion was MANOLO's framework, which brings together a complete stack of trustworthy algorithms and tools for optimising, training and running lightweight high-quality AI models across centralized and cloud-edge distributed environments. The speakers also shared how the framework was tested through the project's use cases, highlighting the benefits of its application across different scenarios and the practical insights gained along the way. The panel offered insights into how these technologies can support the practical adoption of responsible AI.

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The discussion was moderated by **Dr. Ricardo Simon Carbajo**, Director of Innovation and Development at CeADAR and Coordinator of the MANOLO project, and featured five project partners:

- **Magnus Westerlund**, Principal Lecturer, Arcada University of Applied Sciences
- **Pantelis I. Kaplanoglou**, Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer, arx.net
- **Luis Montesano**, CTO, Bitbrain Technologies
- **Sebastian Karl**, Project Manager & Business Development Manager, Fraunhofer IIS
- **Marco Rosa**, Senior Project Manager, PAL Robotics



Beyond the panel discussion, visitors had the opportunity to explore MANOLO's technologies through a live demonstration of the project's framework. A dedicated MANOLO stand also provided space for attendees to engage directly with project partners, ask questions and learn more about the tools developed throughout the project.





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What the panelists said:

"Quite proud to see the enthusiasm and interest of the large audience in the MANOLO project and its framework to support Responsible AI. Organisations are getting conscious of the change and need this type of tool."

– **Dr. Ricardo Simon Carbajo**, MANOLO Project Coordinator

"Our panel highlighted that the aim of a sound regulatory framework should be to elevate innovation, giving tech players the credibility to scale safely. The standout takeaway was that trustworthy AI truly succeeds only when cutting-edge, AI-powered robots are designed around the tangible environments and day-to-day needs of the people using them."

– **Marco Rosa**, Senior Project Manager, PAL Robotics

"At Trust in the Loop in Dublin, it was clear how closely the experiences and needs of companies using AI in their daily operations match the work MANOLO has done to deliver open-source tools for trustworthy AI. That match holds across sectors, and is especially strong where AI brings operational and data privacy risks."

– **Luis Montesano**, CTO, Bitbrain Technologies

"The MANOLO panel showed that reaching the next summits of AI innovation is not only about pushing performance, but also about making AI trustworthy and efficient. MANOLO provides valuable building blocks that can help the wider community make that journey."

– **Sebastian Karl**, Project Manager & Business Development Manager, Fraunhofer IIS

"The great interest shown by attendees and the discussion that took place, create these thoughts: Organizations need more than our current SoTA AI, which MANOLO brings into focus. Trustworthiness, explainability, compliance and responsible incorporation into daily activities, aspects that will shape AI 2.0."

– **Pantelis I. Kaplanoglou**, Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer, arx.net

"When code and information are abundant, value moves to quality: what we can verify, trust, and hold someone accountable for. Trustworthiness is not something an AI system possesses, but is earned through evidence across the system's lifecycle, and sustained by the mindful practice of those who rely on it."

– **Magnus Westerlund**, Principal Lecturer, Arcada University of Applied Sciences

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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