



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
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Embassy of Switzerland in Australia

Artificial Intelligence in Switzerland: Policy perspectives

International Dimensions of Artificial Intelligence

Australian National University / European Commission's EPIC project

22.02.2019



Overview

- «Digital Switzerland»
 - Action plan
 - Education, Research and Innovation
 - International commitment
 - Artificial Intelligence

- AI research and innovation ecosystem





More than a trend...

- AI is arguably (one of) the grand theme of our age
- AI is going to transform every aspects of our lives
- AI builds on digitization



...and (near) a generation of digital and AI policy

National policy

«Information Society» (1998-2012)

«Digital Switzerland» (2016-)

National research focus

National Research Programme (NRP) «Artificial Intelligence and Robotics» (1994-1998)

National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) «Interactive Multimodal Information Management» (2001-2013)

NRPs «Big Data» and «Digital Transformation» (ongoing)

NCCRs «Intelligent Robots» and «Quantum S&T» (ongoing)



Digitization: «Digital Switzerland»

- AI integrated into the digital strategy
- Digital Switzerland provides the context and overarching framework
- Principles and values centered on:
 - people
 - society & the economy
 - international collaboration



Digitization: «Digital Switzerland»

- Core objectives:

Enabling equal participation for all and strengthening solidarity

Guaranteeing security, trust and transparency

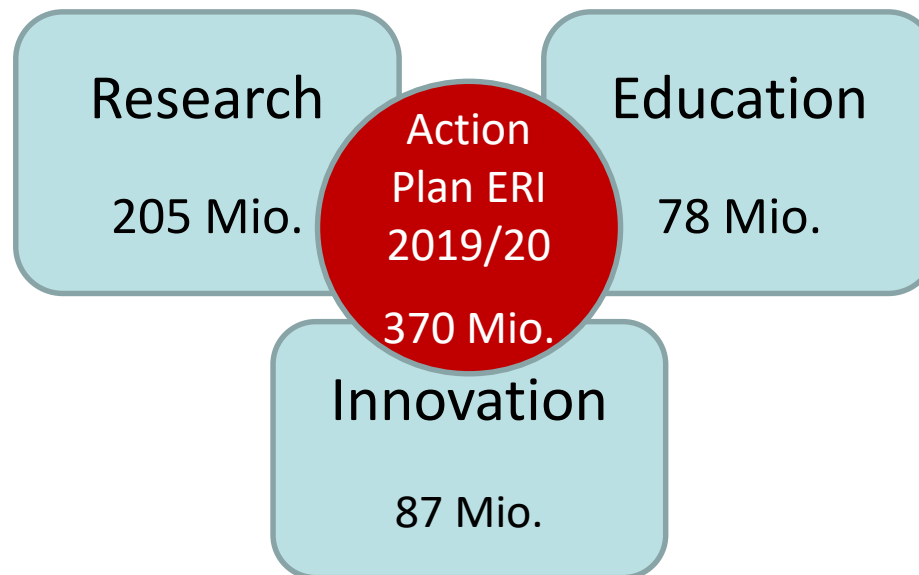
Further improving the digital empowerment of people

Ensuring value creation, growth and well-being



Education, Research and Innovation

- Action plan – budgets allocated to Education, Research and Innovation (ERI):





International committment

- Central to the strategy
- Three particular fields of action:

Global digital Governance
Cybersecurity
Development (UN-SDGs)

- International Geneva as a centre for global digital governance





International commitment: measures

- UN High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation
- Geneva Internet Platform, DiploFoundation
- OECD AI Expert Group
- Council of Europe
Committee of experts on Human Rights Dimensions of automated data processing and different forms of AI





«Digital Switzerland»: AI

- One specific objective:

Optimizing the general conditions for a transparent and responsible use of AI

- Interdepartmental working group on AI – report due by the end of September 2019



AI research & innovation ecosystem



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

- **National Research Programme (NRP)**
- **National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR)**
Under the current NCCR procedure (5th generation), priority is given to projects that strengthen basic research in the field of digitization and apply its potential in an interdisciplinary way.



AI research & innovation ecosystem





To Conclude...

- A generation of digital policies and mechanisms to foster basic and applied research in AI
- Special attention to horizontal issues (ethics, human rights, democracy, etc.)
- Focus on International collaboration and governance
- Cutting-edge research ecosystem



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Thank you for your attention

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