

SCROLL #2

2nd Project Newsletter 08/2025



AUTONOMOUS DEFECTS DETECTION
AND REPAIR IN MANUFACTURING

Dear Readers,

**Welcome to the 2nd edition of
MAGICIAN Scroll!**

Summer is in full swing and so are our project activities – check our most recent project news, events, publications and project collaborations!

MAGICIAN is an EU co-funded project aspiring to shape human-robot collaboration in manufacturing towards a human-centred focus on trust and safety while making processes more efficient through automation.

At the center of the project is the development of AI-driven robotic modules for defect detection and repair in manufacturing with an emphasis on understanding and incorporating human experience, motivation and behaviour.

🧙 Without further ado, let the magic begin!



MAGICIAN UPDATES IN NUMBERS

3 *Partner Meetings*

2 *Technical Integration Weeks*

1 *st Open Call completed*

73 *eligible applications for the 1st Open Call received*

8 *scientific publications published*

23 *rd project month mark reached*



MAGICIAN Partner Meetings - Consortium Synergy in Action



2ND PARTNER MEETING

The second Partner Meeting took MAGICIAN partners to the beautiful island of Crete. From 14th-15th October, FORTH invited partners to its premises in Heraklion where partners discussed the status quo of project activities from visual perception for defect sensing, and human-robot interfaces to the preparation of the 1st Open Call.

[Read more](#)

 **Heraklion, Crete** 



 **Genoa, Italy** 

3RD PARTNER MEETING

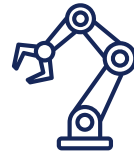


From 31st March to 4th April, MAGICIAN Partners met for the third time in Genoa to discuss latest progress and upcoming steps for the project. Hosted by Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (iit), technical partners first had an intense week dedicated to discussing the technical integration of the robotic solutions, which concluded with a successful testing of the multi-modal perception system integrating vision and tactile sensing.

[Read more](#)



MAGICIAN at Events - Innovation in Motion



EIT MANUFACTURING SUMMER AND WINTER SCHOOLS



Genoa, Italy



Porto, Portugal



MAGICIAN has also set foot into the educational world with University of Trento and Harms+Wende bringing our project to EIT Manufacturing Summer and Winter Schools. For the EIT Summer School in Trento which took place in July 2024, the guiding theme was **Artificial Intelligence-enabled Innovation & Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Manufacturing**. The Winter School in Porto in November 2025 was themed **Enhancing Efficiency and Sustainability with Digital Technologies**.

[Read more](#)



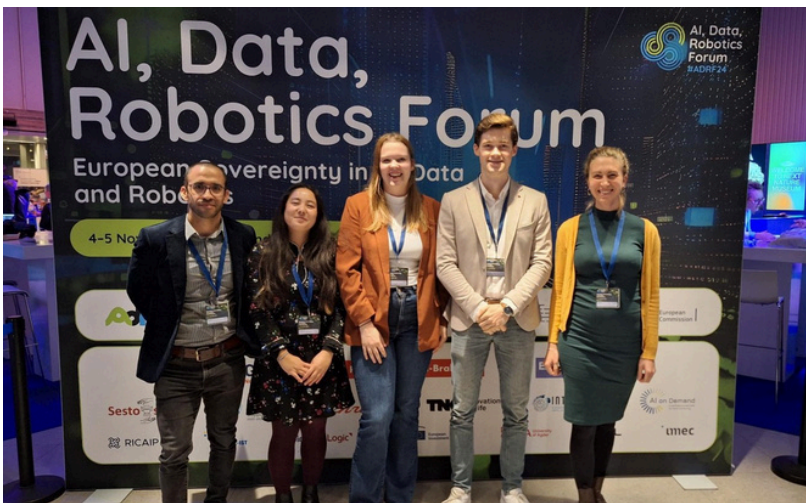
*Eindhoven, The
Netherlands*



Brussels, Belgium



ADRF 2024 IN EINDHOVEN & FUTURE-READY



As a European project, MAGICIAN is part of a vibrant EU community dedicated to jointly advancing AI, Data & Robotics in line with European values of trust and safety. MAGICIAN partners therefore took the opportunity to re-connect and exchange with other like-minded professionals from research, industry, and policy, and attended two major events organized by the AI, Data, and Robotics Association ([ADRA](#)).

[Read more on these events here](#)

ONLINE EVENT 'INDUSTRY MEETS SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES'

 **Online**

In an online event on 22nd May 2025 titled **"Industry Meets SSH: Transforming Challenges into Opportunities"** and organized by the NCP4Industry project, the IDEAL-IST project, Net4Society, and COSMOS4HE project, our project partner Günter Alce from Lund University presented MAGICIAN's human-centred approach to highlight the way Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) are integrated into industrial research alongside other Horizon Europe projects.

[Read more on the event here](#)



 **Atlanta, USA** 

MAGICIAN GOES ICRA 2025



ICRA 2025 (IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation) is the flagship annual event of the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society and took place in Atlanta (USA) from 19th-23rd May this year. From MAGICIAN's side, the event was attended by a delegation of University of Trento's IDRA research group who participated in several workshops accompanied by paper and oral presentations.

[Read more on the event here](#)

VISION, ROBOTICS AND MOTION & AUTOMATICA 2025

Munich, Germany 
's-Hertogenbosch, 
The Netherlands

For this year's **automatica trade fair**, the iit team travelled to Munich from 22nd-25th June 2025 to meet stakeholders from industry, research and politics and exchange on key technologies in smart automation and robotics. The iit-HHCM team was represented in the Service Robotics Area with a booth, speaking to multiple visitors on the MAGICIAN robotic solutions, the results of the 1st Open Call, the upcoming 2nd Open Call, as well as the project's overall concept.

Our project partner Pippel took the opportunity to meet suppliers and researchers active in Smart and scalable automation for manufacturing from the Benelux countries and Germany at **Vision, Robotics and Motion**, a combined trade fair and conference, which took place from 11th-12th June in 's-Hertogenbosch.

[Read more on the events here](#)



OPEN CALLS



The 1st MAGICIAN Open Call closed on 2nd May and was met with widespread interest from many SMEs in the EU and beyond. Overall, 73 eligible applications have reached us and have been carefully reviewed by MAGICIAN project partners over the past months to select the winners.

From Open Call launch until closing time, 13 helpdesk sessions were held by ZABALA to support applicants and answer individual questions. A special session was the Open Call webinar which likewise received worldwide attention from 34 participants coming from 7 countries.

More news on the Open Call winners will be waiting for you in our next newsletter edition!

UPCOMING EVENTS - MEET US THERE!

AI, Data, and Robotics Forum (ADRF) 2025

The event assembles the EU ADR ecosystem and offers key notes by industry leaders, researchers, and policymakers addressing most recent industrial and societal topics.

Participants can also look forward to networking opportunities, exhibitions and poster displays by businesses and projects. Meet our project partner Steinbeis there!

[Read more](#)



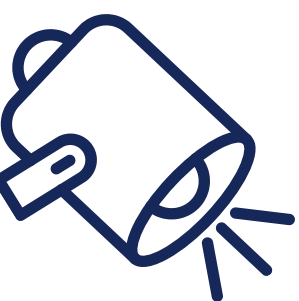
 **Stavanger, Norway** 
 **23rd-24th September 2025**

ETFA 2025 – 30th IEEE International Conference on Emerging Technologies and Factory Automation

 **Porto, Portugal** 

 **9th-12th September 2025**

[Read more](#)



zabala
INNOVATION

SPOTLIGHT ON: ZABALA

Before you turn to your mails and meetings, let us present you our partner Zabala, our expert for managing the Open Calls in MAGICIAN in a #magicalcountdown!

#13 offices in **#5 countries**

all around the world, among others in Brussels, Spain, France, and Portugal

#530 employees work at Zabala in Brussels

#10,000 clients using Zabala services

#700 European project proposals submitted, 370 of these won in Horizon Europe

#74 running projects, 68 managed as partners and 6 as lead partner

#9 main topic areas,

Mobility, Climate & Environment, Security & Defence, Social Challenges, Energy, Agri-Food, Health, Digital, Industry

#19 cascade funding activities

Zabala is involved in, coordinating 8 of these

#uncountable cups of coffee consumed every day

PARTNER PROJECTS

Take a deeper dive into the EU AI, data and robotic community with our project collaboration partners!

AUTOASSESS

AUTOASSESS – “Autonomous aerial inspection of GNSS-denied and confined critical infrastructures” is an EU-funded project that aims to remove human surveyors from dangerous enclosed areas such as ballast tanks or cargo holds. To achieve this objective, it will employ an autonomous robotic system that exceeds human capabilities and obtain an accurate, repeatable and quick vessel inspection.

[Find out more about this project](#)

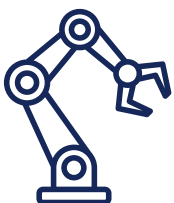


INVERSE

INVERSE

INVERSE – Interactive robots that intuitively lEarn to iNvErT tasks by ReaSonIng about their Execution — is an EU funded project running from January 2024 to December 2027. It aims to endow robots with the cognitive capabilities needed to synthesise, monitor and execute inverse plans from direct tasks defined in terms of human-understandable instructions and procedures. This involves a human-supervised refinement loop, ensuring practical deployment in real-world scenarios and showcasing adaptability through fault detection and recovery strategies.

[Find out more about this project](#)



**Last but not least:
Turn a page and check out the most
recent MAGICIAN publications!**

PUBLICATIONS

 **[Initial User Requirements Report](#)** by Lund University

 **[Learning Priors of Human Motion With Vision Transformers](#)** by Università di Trento

 **[Surface defect identification using Bayesian filtering on a 3D mesh](#)** by Università di Trento

 **[MeshDMP: Motion Planning on Discrete Manifolds using Dynamic Movement Primitives](#)** by Università di Trento

 **[Towards an experiential ethics of AI and robots: A review of empirical research on human encounters](#)** by Lund University

 **[Force-Based Viscosity and Elasticity Measurements for Material Biomechanical Characterisation with a Collaborative Robotic Arm](#)** by Università di Trento

Engage with us!



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