## KESEARCH TOKEALITY

DIGITAL SOLUTIONS TO EUROPEAN CHALLENGES

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# The Future of Digital Europe: From Research to Reality?

A perspective from a Thales' researcher



# Thales: a major player in R&D with a responsibility engagement



More than 40% of Thales employees working in R&D



Connectivity and 6G

**Neuroscience** 

Cloud & edge computing

R&D

Quantum

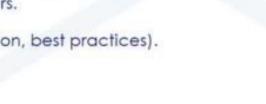
Artificial intelligence

Open-source hardware

#### Corporate Responsibility: A strategic Choice, Key to Business Performance

#### Embedded in every business process and day to day work

- Code of Ethics and dedicated organisation.
- Nobust policies and internal control.
- Focus on employee training, awareness and ownership.
- Group-wide environmental, social and governance programms.
- Promoting responsible dialogue with all stakeholders.
- Driving industry-wide initiatives (corruption prevention, best practices).

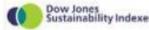




Member of Global Compact since 2003. Thales has achieved Global Compact Advanced level.



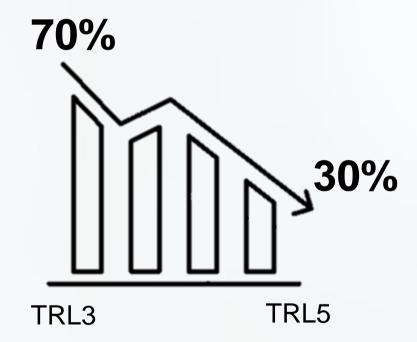
Carbon Disclosure Project. Thales ranked CDP « Leadership A/A-»

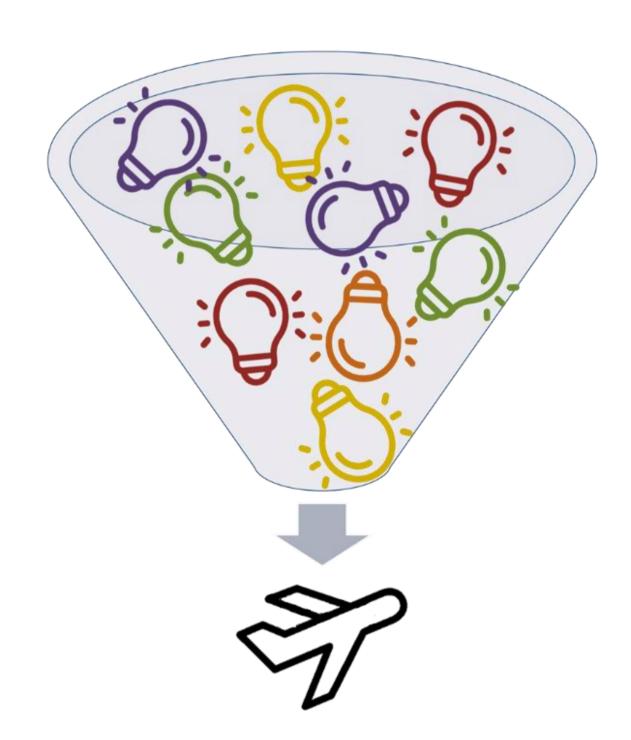


Thales has been ranked in the top 3, in the Defense/Aerospace sector by the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) Europe and World, for the last 3 years.



#### Funnel effect





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Research

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Business

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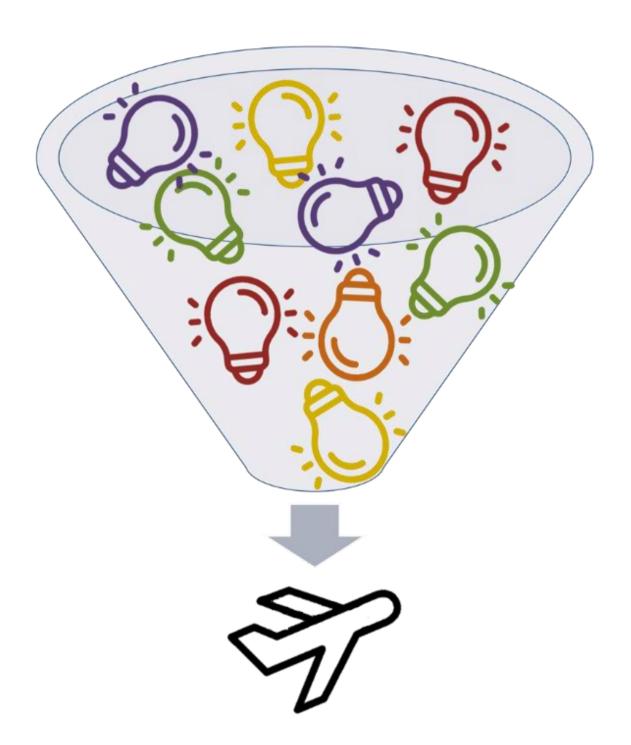
# European programs as enablers



- Financial support : support for riskier projects
- Pooling knowledge and resources between partners
- Industrial players involved in roadmaps and plannings
- Identify and experience the players
- Within a secure contractual framework



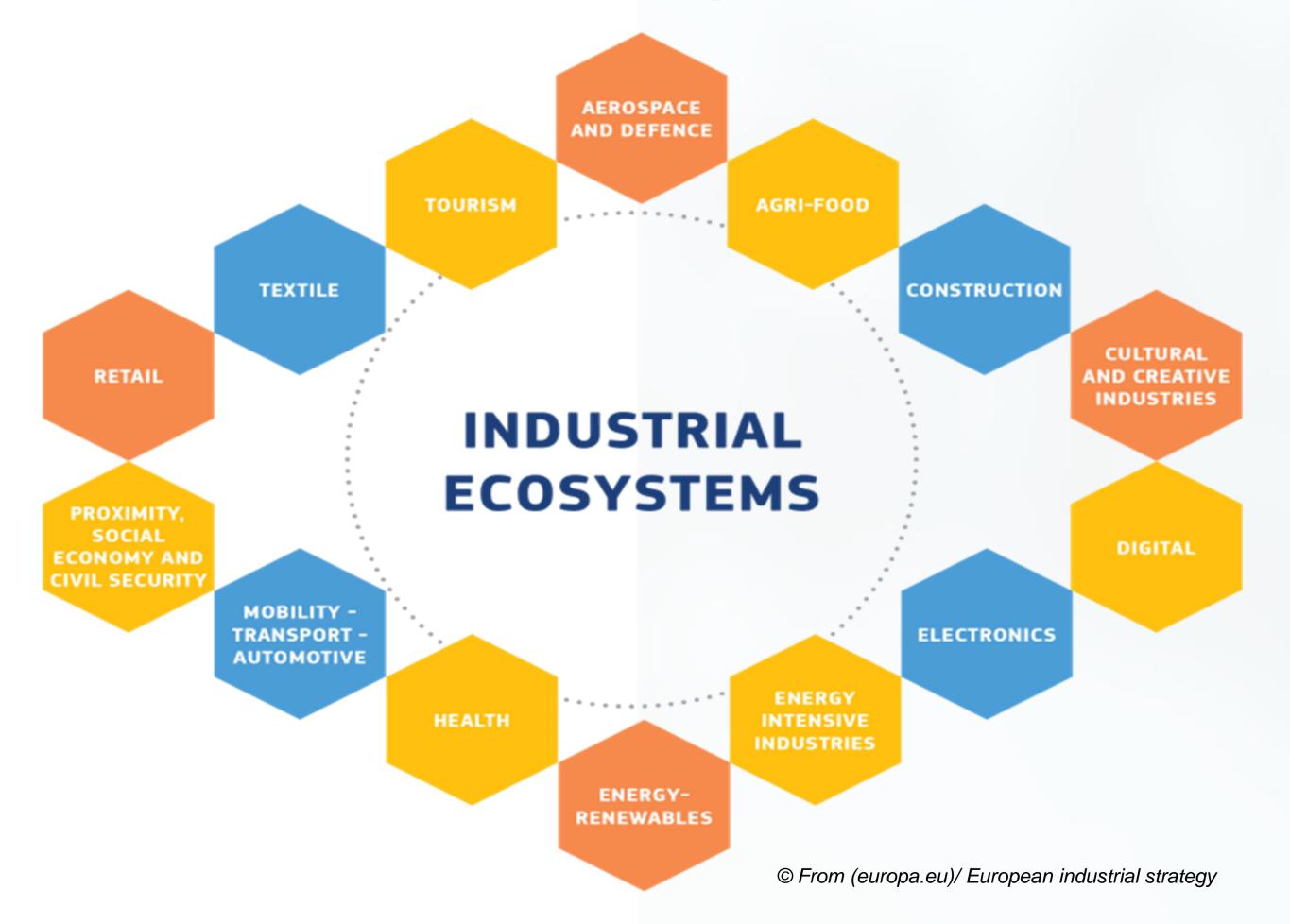
- Administrative overhead
- Lead time of the global processus extended
- Many different calls, with different constraints and financial support levels : complexity
- Consortium size and heterogeneity can be an obstable



## Digital Technologies (Al)

Specific issues and adaptations?

### Facing the reality: deciding which battle to fight



### Facing the reality: building on its strength



# Al as an enabler (B2B)

# Specific features to tackle

IA as product (B2C)

AI as an enabler (B2B)



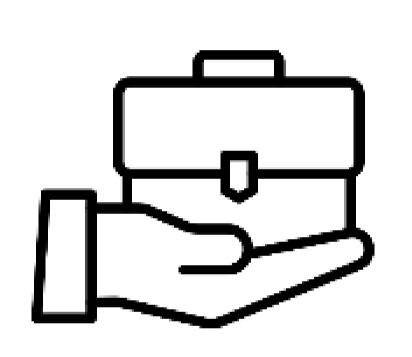
Must keep in lines with reality of needs

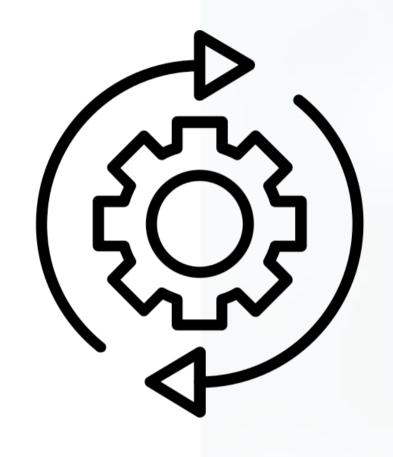
### **Trustworthiness** is essential

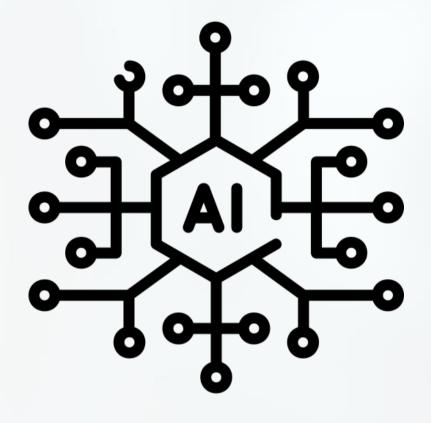


Especially for critical systems

#### (B2B) Al from research to reality: 3 levers



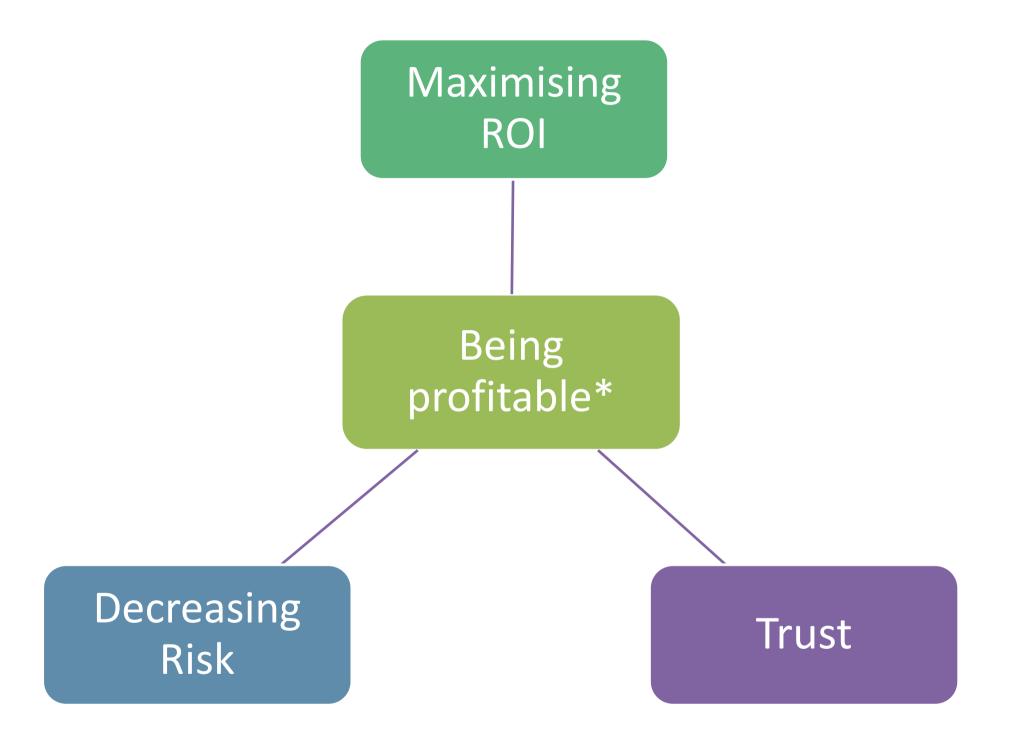




Business

Organisation

Technological



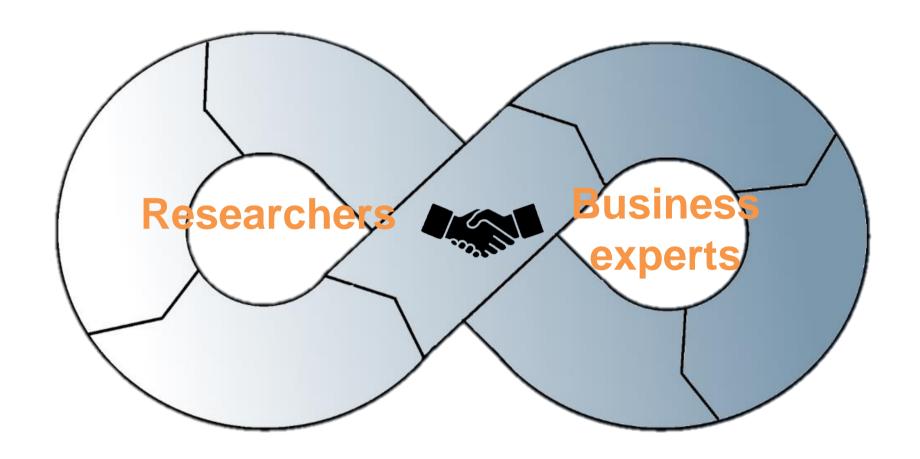
#### **Business lever**

- **Stability**: regulation as a pragmatic and balanced framework
- **Efficiency**: impactful consortia with complementary players over the value chain
- Business perspectives : identified business model beyond CapEx (eg: EuroQCI)



#### Organisation lever

- Acculturation research / business: earlier consideration of product realities and constraints
- The question of **data sharing**: Providing a win-win **contractual framework** among partners
- Recognizing the added-value of industrial research



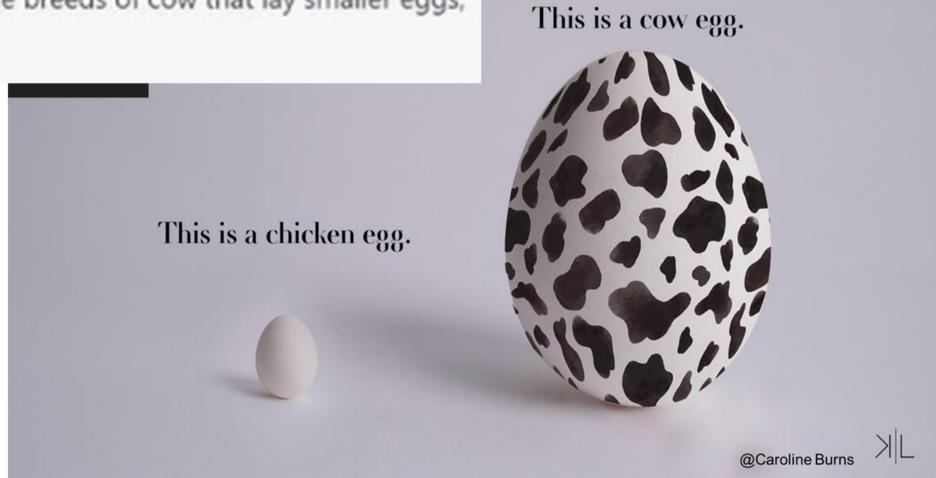
### Technological lever



#### Trustworthiness – example of hallucination

Are chicken eggs bigger than cow eggs?

No, chicken eggs are generally smaller than cow eggs. Chicken eggs typically range from about 40-70 grams, while cow eggs can weigh up to about 90 grams. However, there are some breeds of chicken that lay larger eggs and some breeds of cow that lay smaller eggs, which may lead to variation in size.



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EXPLAINABILITY



This is a cow egg.

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EXPLAINABILITY VALIDITY



This is a cow egg.

#### **Trustworthiness**

#### Validity

To guaranty that an AI-based system will do what it is meant to do, **all** what it is meant to do and **only** what is meant to do

#### Security

To ensure **robustness and resilience** to adversarial conditions, such as decoying and cyber-attacks

#### **Explainability**

To be able to provide human-level, understandable and context-relevant justifications and explanations

#### Responsibility

To be compliant with **ethical**, **legal** and **regulatory** frameworks

Thales TrUE AI Strategy

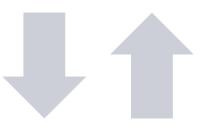
#### Trustworthiness

Al will not be widely used in the economy unless its impact is mastered



SYSTEM

Product processes



ALGORITHM

Research processes

#### Strategic Autonomy

- 1. Capacity of Analysis and Foresight
- to avoid unadequacy in strategic positioning
- 2. Strength of R&D
- self-funded R&D, collaborative projects
- 3. Relations with players
- build complementarities over the value chain with fair and balanced relationships among major digital players (interdependency)
- 4. Vigilance on value-chains
- multi-sources approach, And...a little bit of autarky (eg: semi-conductors shortage)
- 5. Talents
- in a context of growing competition

# "Ability to control your own digital destiny"

World Economic Forum

#### **Ecological Fooprint & People**

We have to be aware of **AI impact** on the environment





Investing in the recruitment and reinforcement of competencies

Ecological Footprint





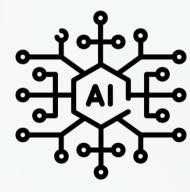
Educating people to digital technologies and their usage to master our future in a democratic society

# The Future of Digital Europe From Research to Reality?

Anchor dreams on our strengths  $\Leftrightarrow$  AI as an enabler to stay among the world leaders







**Trustworthiness** 

## Thank you

