

» Boosting the Synergies between
Robotics and AI for a Stronger Europe «

ERF2025
STUTT GART | GERMANY
25–27 MARCH



MEDIA KIT

Information on chairs and institutions

The 16th European Robotics Forum

The gathering place for the community of robotics and AI

www.erf2025.eu

Insights from ERF2024 in Rimini

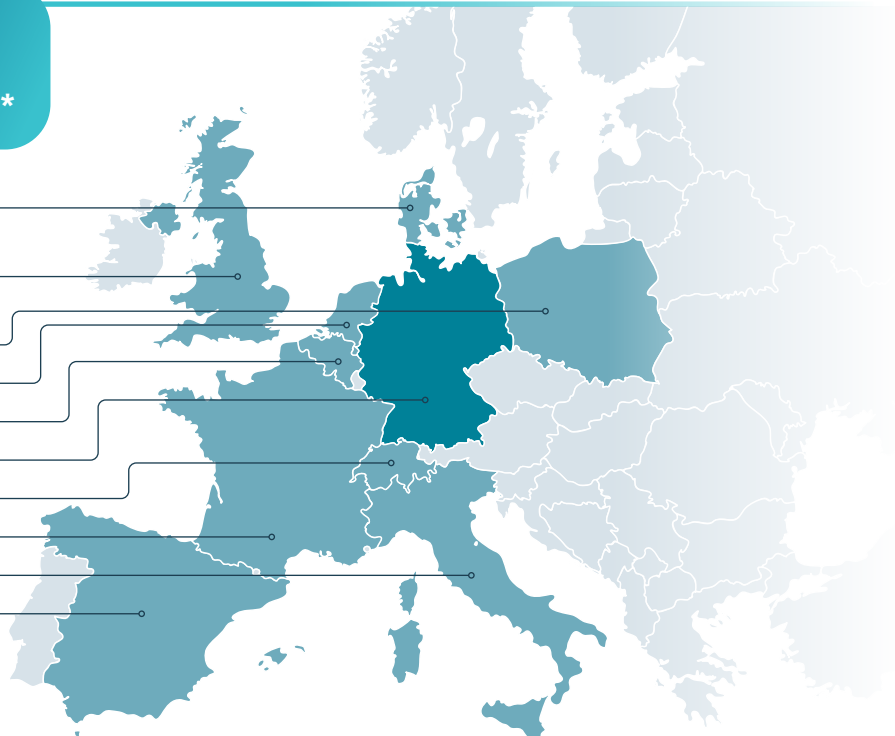


Highlight Topics

- AI in robotics
- Robotics in agriculture
- Robotics in healthcare
- Robotics in inspection and maintenance
- Safety
- Drones
- Space
- Sustainability
- Robotics in agile productions

40+ represented countries from Europe and beyond *

Denmark
United Kingdom
Poland
Netherlands
Belgium
Germany
Switzerland
France
Italy
Spain



... and many others, but also non-European countries such as the USA and Japan.

The 16th European Robotics Forum

The gathering place for the community of robotics and AI

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Attendees + Speakers **

Dr. Joerg Burzer

Member of the Board
of Management of
Mercedes-Benz Group AG

Dr. Nicole Hoffmeister- Kraut

Minister of Economics
Baden-Württemberg

Dieter Fox

Senior Director of Robotics
Research at NVIDIA and
Professor at University of
Washington

David Reger

CEO and founder of
NEURA Robotics

* Data originates from ERF2024

** Disclaimer: May change due to political election

The ERF2025 in Stuttgart

Most influential meeting of the robotics and AI community

 First time in Germany, main venue Liederhalle **Stuttgart**

 **March 25-27**, 2025

 **Over 1,300** expected participants from all over Europe

Cooperation partners:

Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA, Cyber Valley GmbH, Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering IAO, University of Stuttgart

European Robotics Association: **euRobotics aisbl**



Networking & Collaboration



Facilitating **partnerships** between **industry**, **academia**, **Research and Technology Organizations (RTOs)** and **policy-makers**.

Over 60 exhibitors showcasing **the latest technologies in robotics and AI**.

Innovation & Knowledge Exchange



Showcasing **cutting-edge research**, **industrial applications** and **technological advancements**.

Offering **over 60** **workshops**, **scientific tracks**, **poster sessions**, **challenges**, **panels**, **award sessions** and **exclusive site visits**.

Registration

For press conference on Tuesday, March 25 please register online:

<https://erf2025.eu/register/>

Attendees & Speakers

Politics & Science

Dr. Frank Nopper
Lord Mayor of Stuttgart

Prof. Dr. Peter Middendorf
Rector of University of Stuttgart

Udo Philipp
Secretary of State BMWK

Dr. Nicole Hoffmeister-Kraut
Minister of Economics Baden-
Württemberg

**Prof. Dr.-Ing. Holger
Hanselka**
President of Fraunhofer
Gesellschaft

Lucilla Sioli
Director for »Artificial Intelligence and
Digital Industry« within Directorate-
General CONNECT at the European
Commission

**Prof. Dr.-Ing. Thomas
Bauernhansl**
Director of Fraunhofer IPA

**Person from the Ministry of
Education and Research** (requested)

Industry

Dr. Jörg Burzer
Member of the Board of
Management of Mercedes-Benz
Group AG

David Reger
CEO and founder of NEURA
Robotics

Dieter Fox
Senior Director of Robotics Research
at NVIDIA and professor at
University of Washington

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About euRobotics

euRobotics aisbl (Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif) is a Brussels based international non-profit association for all stakeholders in European robotics. It was founded in September 2012 with the aim to strengthen Europe's competitiveness and to ensure industrial leadership of manufacturers, providers and end-users of robotics technology-based systems and services. The objectives of euRobotics are to boost European robotics research, development and innovation and to foster a positive perception of robotics.

The European Robotics Forum, the most influential meeting of the robotics community in Europe, started in San Sebastian in 2010 and has grown into a major annual event with many hundreds of attendees every year. The European Robotics Forum is an initiative of euRobotics in cooperation with a local co-host that is selected by the euRobotics Board of Directors for the respective year.

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Dr. Bernd Liepert, euRobotics

President of euRobotics

Dr. Liepert earned his diploma in mathematics in 1990 from the University of Augsburg and his honorary doctor degree from University of Magdeburg in 2011. From February 1990 until June 2019 Dr. Liepert has worked in changing positions for KUKA. From 1990 to 1996 he worked as mathematician and developer at KUKA Schweissanlagen + Roboter GmbH before he took charge as head of development of the newly founded company KUKA Roboter GmbH until 1997. From 1998-1999 he was a member of KUKA Roboter GmbH Board of Management, responsible for development and design. From 2000-2009 Dr. Liepert was the CEO of KUKA Roboter GmbH. From 2010 to January 2015 he was the CTO of KUKA AG, responsible for technology and development of the whole KUKA Group and from February 2015 until June 2019 Chief Innovation Officer of KUKA AG, being responsible for expanding innovations at KUKA where he was able to apply his vast robotics experience at the interface between technology and the market. From 2008-2012 Dr. Liepert was President of EUROP, the European Robotics Technology Platform, and subsequently President of euRobotics AISBL – the European Robotics Association. euRobotics was founded in September 2012 and has become the private side of SPARC, the European Public-Private Partnership in Robotics in 2013. As president of these associations Dr. Liepert has been leading the European robotics community and representing it at high political levels. In July 2019 Dr. Liepert founded his own company Bernd Liepert more_about_robots GmbH.



Source: euRobotics

“ERF has been part of our story since euRobotics was founded in 2010, even two years before the euRobotics association was formally founded. Since then, it has become part of the glue that binds research and industry together so well. As the robotics association for the whole European continent, we always take an international perspective. At the same time, after 15 years in which ERF has taken place in countries right across Europe, as a Bavarian, I’m personally delighted that this year we will be in Germany! I wish the organizers every success during the lead-up and the delivery of ERF in Stuttgart.”

About Fraunhofer IPA

With around 1200 employees, the Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA is one of the largest institutes in the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft. The Automation and Robotics research department has been developing automation solutions for production and intralogistics for more than 50 years, has conducted numerous groundbreaking national and international research projects, and is particularly focused on the transfer of research results in the field of AI-based robotics into applications.

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Dr. Werner Kraus, Fraunhofer IPA

General Chair Robotics

*Head of Research Division Automation and Robotics
Leader AI Innovation Center*

Dr. Werner Kraus completed his degree in mechanical engineering at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in 2011 and has been working at Fraunhofer IPA ever since. He received his doctorate from the University of Stuttgart in 2015 and was team leader in the Robot and Assistive Systems research department from 2016 to 2019. He has been head of the department since June 2019 and conducts research into the latest robot technologies for industry and the service sector, in particular cognitive functions for robots and the use of machine learning in robotics. Kraus has been involved in numerous national and international research projects and has published around 20 papers. He is active in the national and international robotics community and holds various positions and memberships.

“In the context of demographic change, robotics is considered the technology for securing prosperity. With its strong robotics ecosystem of users and suppliers of AI robotics solutions, Baden-Württemberg is helping to shape this future. Now more than ever, new ideas are needed. I am very pleased to bring ERF to Stuttgart in the “Year of Robotics”, as it has already been proclaimed in the media, and to be using it as a platform and catalyst for new innovations. I am very grateful for the wide-ranging support, because it is only with this that such a major event is possible.”



Source: Fraunhofer IPA; Photo: Rainer Bez

About Cyber Valley

Cyber Valley is Europe's largest and leading center for excellence in artificial intelligence and modern robotics. Its mission and public mandate are to advocate for research, development, application, and acceptance of technologies and methods in the field of intelligent systems. Cyber Valley encourages entrepreneurship by uniting scientific excellence with innovation and technology transfer. In addition, Cyber Valley facilitates critical reflection on the ethical and social implications of AI through public engagement. Cyber Valley envisions a future in which the full potential of intelligent systems is leveraged for the greater good of the world.

The Cyber Valley Community is a network of AI researchers, entrepreneurs, investors, and start-ups, alongside partners from academia, industry, and society. Cyber Valley GmbH is owned by the State of Baden-Württemberg and the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft. It acts as the service provider, central organizer, and host for the Cyber Valley Community. While Cyber Valley GmbH is located in Stuttgart and Tübingen, it operates across Baden-Württemberg with a global reach, attracting the best talent from across the world to create the future with AI.

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Rebecca Reisch, Cyber Valley

General Co-Chair Public Engagement Artificial Intelligence

Managing Director Cyber Valley GmbH

Rebecca C. Reisch has been Managing Director of Cyber Valley GmbH since June 2022 and is responsible for the strategic development of the rapidly growing Cyber Valley community. After completing her master's degree in business administration in the USA, she graduated from the European Business School in Oestrich-Winkel in 2003 with a degree in business administration. Her professional career began in the media and increasingly led her into the areas of digitalization and data management. Before joining Cyber Valley, she was COO and Deputy Managing Director at nextMart, an international provider of eBusiness solutions. With over 20 years of professional experience, she brings in-depth business know-how and profound insights into the challenges and opportunities of founding and managing a company to her work at Cyber Valley GmbH and its community.



Source: Cyber Valley

“The European Robotics Forum is an important platform that strengthens Europe's innovative power in robotics and AI. As Co-Chair of the event and Managing Director of Cyber Valley, I am delighted that this event is taking place in Stuttgart, a center of technological excellence with an impressive network in this field.”

About Fraunhofer IAO

Digital technologies are changing the way we work and are having a profound impact on the economy and society. Long-established methods and processes are being modernized and revolutionized by digitalization in the shortest possible time. The Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering IAO develops strategies, business models and solutions for the digital transformation together with companies, institutions and public bodies.

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Dr. Matthias Peissner, Fraunhofer IAO

General Co-Chair Future of Work

*Head of Human-Technology Interaction Research Unit
Team Leader Interaction Design and Technologies*

Dr. Matthias Peissner heads the Human-Technology Interaction Research Unit at the Fraunhofer IAO. His interdisciplinary teams work on solutions that enable efficient interaction between humans and intelligent technology. His work focuses on adaptable systems, future working environments and the design of positive user experiences. He coordinates the AI progress center Learning Systems and Cognitive Robotics, which is part of the internationally renowned Cyber Valley in Stuttgart/Tübingen. As an expert in the human-centered design of AI systems, he is involved in the Learning Systems Platform and the Global Partnership on AI, for which he heads the Future of Work working group.

“The work environment will change, jobs will disappear and others will be created. At the same time, the economy is already struggling with an enormous shortage of skilled workers. If AI can help to compensate for this shortage of skilled workers, then it can even help to stabilize companies. It is therefore not enough to see AI as merely a competitor to humans. Instead, we should ask ourselves how AI can support people in their day-to-day work and how it can help to create new jobs.”



Source: Fraunhofer IAO

About University of Stuttgart

The University of Stuttgart is a leading technology-oriented university with a global reputation. With its 22,000 students and around 5,500 employees, it pursues the vision of Intelligent Systems for a Sustainable Society. With its strong research profile, successful collaborative research and currently two clusters of excellence, it is one of the most successful universities in Germany. Its special profile, the Stuttgart Way, stands for the consistent interdisciplinary networking of complementary disciplines and the integration of engineering, natural sciences, humanities and social sciences.

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Prof. Dr. Alexander Verl, Universität Stuttgart

General Co-Chair Scientific Track Robotics

Head of Institute for Control Engineering of Machine Tools and Manufacturing Units

Chair of Control Engineering and Mechatronics for Production Systems

Prof. Alexander Verl heads the Institute for Control Engineering of Machine Tools and Manufacturing Units (ISW) at the University of Stuttgart and was dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering from 2018 to 2020. His research focuses on industrial control technology, mechatronics, robotics and production IT. At the Robotics Institute Germany (RIG), he is committed to the transfer of innovative robotics technologies into practice.



Source: University of Stuttgart

“Robotics is a key technology for Germany as an industrial location. Intelligent robots will not only revolutionize traditional industrial production, but also areas such as healthcare, construction and care. Germany has great potential to be a global leader in AI-based robotics.”

Prof. Dr. Marco Huber, Universität Stuttgart & Fraunhofer IPA

General Co-Chair Scientific Track

Head of Center for Cyber Cognitive Intelligence CCI
Head of Department Image and Signal Processing
Head of AI Innovation Center

Prof. Dr. Marco Huber received his doctorate in computer science from the University of Karlsruhe (TH) in 2009. From 2009 to 2011, he headed the Variable Image Acquisition and Processing research group at the Fraunhofer Institute of Optronics, System Technologies and Image Exploitation IOSB in Karlsruhe. He then worked as a senior researcher at AGT International in Darmstadt until 2015. From April 2015 until September 2018, Prof. Huber was responsible for product development and data science services in the Katana division at USU Software AG in Karlsruhe. He also taught as a private lecturer in computer science at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). Since October 2018, he has held the professorship for cognitive production systems at the University of Stuttgart, while also heading two departments at the Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA, where he has been Scientific Director for Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence since 2024. His research work focuses on machine learning, sensor data analysis and robotics in the production environment.

“For me, AI and robotics are two sides of the same coin. The use of AI makes technological leaps in robotics possible, while its embodiment in a robotic system creates new challenges for AI research. At the ERF, you can experience what is already technically possible in this context today and what research is working on.”



Source: Fraunhofer IPA