Proposal Evaluation Form

EUROPEAN COMMISSION Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)	**Evaluation Summary Report - Doctoral Networks**

Call:	HORIZON-MSCA-2021-DN-01
Type of action:	HORIZON-TMA-MSCA-DN
Proposal number:	101072410
Proposal acronym:	Eyes4ICU
Duration (months):	48
Proposal title:	Eyes for Information, Communication, and Understanding
Activity:	ENG

N.	Proposer name	Country	Total Cost	%	Grant Requested	%
1	UNIVERSITAET ULM	DE	0	-		
2	SWPS UNIWERSYTET HUMANISTYCZNOSPOLECZNY	PL	0	-		
3	UNIVERSITY OF STUTTGART	DE	0	-		
4	KEMPELENOV INSTITUT INTELIGENTNYCH TECHNOLOGII	SK	0	-		
5	IT-UNIVERSITETET I KOBENHAVN	DK	0	-		
6	ITA-SUOMEN YLIOPISTO	FI	0	-		
7	EIDGENOESSISCHE TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE ZUERICH	CH	0	-		
8	VYSOKE UCENI TECHNICKE V BRNE	CZ	0	-		
9	Eye square GmbH	DE	0	-		
10	Blickshift GmbH	DE	0	-		
11	ui 42 spol. s r o.	SK	0	-		
12	Tobii Pro AB	SE	0	-		
13	Centrum Nauki Kopernik	PL	0	-		
14	ERGONEERS GMBH	DE	0	-		
15	ESRI Deutschland GmbH	DE	0	-		
16	Universitaeteklinikum Tuebingen	DE	0	-		
17	Recombee, s.r.o.	CZ	0	-		
18	POHJOIS-SAVON SAIRAANHOITOPIIRIN KUNTAYHTYMA	FI	0	-		
19	KOBENHAVNS UNIVERSITET	DK	0	-		
20	GN Store Nord	DK	0	-		
	Total:		0		2,605,759.2	

Abstract:

Gaze is an important communication channel to be captured remotely which works even without language. It thus holds great potential for universal inclusive technologies. Eyes for information, communication, and understanding (Eyes4ICU) explores novel forms of gaze interaction that rely on current psychological theories and findings, computational modeling, as well as expertise in highly promising application domains. Its approach of developing inclusive technology by tracing gaze interaction back to its cognitive and affective foundations (a psychological challenge) results in better models to predict user behavior (a computational challenge). By integrating insights in application fields, gaze-based interaction can be employed in the wild. Accordingly, the proposed research is divided into three work packages, namely Understanding Users (WP1), Gaze Communication (WP2), and In The Wild (WP3). All three work packages are pursued from three different perspectives: a psychological empirical perspective, a computational modeling perspective, and an application perspective, ensuring a unified and aligned progress and concept. Along these lines, training is also divided into three packages of Empirical Research Methods (WP4), Computational Modeling (WP5), and Transferable Skills (WP6). Consequently, the consortium is composed of groups working in psychological, computing, and application fields. All Beneficiaries are experts in using eye tracking in their respective areas ensuring best practices and optimal facilities for research and training. A variety of Associated Partners from the whole chain of eye tracking services ensures for applicability, practical relevance, and career opportunities by contributing to supervision, training, and research. This will advance communication by eye tracking as a field and result in European standards for gaze-based communication in a variety of domains disseminated through research and application.

Evaluation Summary Report

Evaluation Result

Total score: ▮▮▮ (Threshold: 70/100.00)

Criterion 1 - Excellence

Score: ▮▮▮ (Threshold: 3/5.00 , Weight: 50.00%)

• Quality and pertinence of the project's research and innovation objectives (and the extent to which they are ambitious, and go beyond the state of the art).
• Soundness of the proposed methodology (including interdisciplinary approaches, consideration of the gender dimension and other diversity aspects if relevant for the research project, and the quality and appropriateness of open science practices).
• Quality and credibility of the training programme (including transferable skills, inter/multidisciplinary, inter-sectoral and gender as well as other diversity aspects).
• Quality of the supervision (including mandatory joint supervision for industrial and joint doctorate projects).

STRENGTHS:

- The specific research objectives and an overview of the planned project actions are sufficiently described and relevant.
- The state of the art is well presented and the innovative character of the proposal beyond it is well demonstrated.
- The research is original and innovative with ambitious objectives, well suited for the problem area covered in the proposal.
- The proposed individual research projects are well tailored into the overall research programme and will make a meaningful contribution.
- The individual research projects are convincingly described in the context of a doctoral training programme and the objectives are reflected on the various work packages.
- The overall methodology is clearly presented and soundly considers the interdisciplinary aspects that are intrinsically related to the proposed research.
- The proposed approaches are satisfactorily relevant to address the identified scientific challenges
- The robustness of the proposed artificial intelligence systems have been sufficiently demonstrated in the proposal.
- The proposal convincingly describes the relevance of gender dimension and other diversity aspects for the research project, and explains how these are effectively considered in the proposed methodology.
- Open science practices are very well addressed in the proposal.
- The network-wide training is very clearly presented and covers both scientific/technical topics and transferable skills, that are compatible with the proposed research programme.
- The non-academic partners meaningfully contribute to the training through provision of secondments and substantial participation in the network-wide training events.
- The quality of the supervision is convincing in terms of the experience of supervising teams.
- The supervision arrangements are convincingly demonstrated, including supervising teams' commitment to providing all the required advice and support to the doctoral candidates.

WEAKNESSES:

Criterion 2 - Impact

Score: ▇▇▇▇ Threshold: 3/5.00 , Weight: 30.00%)

• Contribution to structuring doctoral training at the European level and to strengthening European innovation capacity, including the potential for:
a) meaningful contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral training, as appropriate to the implementation mode and research field
b) developing sustainable elements of doctoral programmes.
• Credibility of the measures to enhance the career perspectives and employability of researchers and contribution to their skills
• Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.development.
• The magnitude and importance of the project's contribution to the expected scientific, societal and economic impacts.

STRENGTHS:
- The contribution to strengthening European innovation capacity is presented in a sufficiently credible way in the proposal.
- The contribution of the non-academic sector to the doctoral training is meaningful and will help to bridge the gap between academia and industry.
- The proposal does convincingly address the impact of the research and training on the career perspectives and employability of the researchers.
- It is sufficiently described and credible how new competences and skills will enhance the potential of researchers for achieving long-term careers.
- A credible and well elaborated plan for dissemination and exploitation is presented.
- The plan for dissemination of the research results to the scientific community is credible and concrete and effective measures are set to communicate the action results to the society at large and potential stakeholders.
- Clear targets have been provided against which the success of the dissemination activities can be measured and evaluated
- The doctoral candidates are well involved in the scheduled communication and dissemination activities.
- IPR protection is well considered in the proposal.
- Contribution to the economic, social and scientific impacts are convincingly demonstrated in the proposal.

WEAKNESSES:

Criterion 3 - implementation

Score ▇▇▇▇ Threshold: 3/5.00 , Weight. 20.00%)

• Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks and appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages.
• Quality, capacity and role of each participant, including hosting arrangements and extent to which the consortium as a whole brings together the necessary expertise.

STRENGTHS:
- The logical structure of the work plan is coherent with the proposed research. Work packages are described clearly and are well aligned with the research objectives. Deliverables and milestones are relevant.
- Appropriate effort is assigned to the work packages.
- The individual research projects are described clearly and in sufficient detail, including content of the secondments.
- Potential risks are well identified and the proposed mitigation measures are effective and appropriate.
- Management structure, network organisation and procedures for recruitment, management of finance, strategy for misconduct are adequate.
- Gender and environmental aspects are satisfactorily considered.

- The consortium as a whole has very good interdisciplinary expertise and the DN member complementarities are adequately covering the project needs.
- The roles of participants are satisfactorily identified and are coherent with the assigned tasks.
- The proposal clearly demonstrates the commitment of participants to the project and relevant commitment letters are provided as requested.
- All the necessary hosting arrangements and infrastructures will be available by the network members for carrying out a successful project implementation.
- The consortium has the operational capacity to achieve the project.

WEAKNESSES:

Scope of the proposal

Status: **Yes**

Comments (in case the proposal is out of scope)

Not provided

Exceptional funding

A third country participant/international organisation not listed in the General Annex to the Main Work Programme may exceptionally receive funding if their participation is essential for carrying out the project (for instance due to outstanding expertise, access to unique know-how, access to research infrastructure, access to particular geographical environments, possibility to involve key partners in emerging markets, access to data, etc.). (For more information, see the HE programme guide)

Please list the concerned applicants and requested grant amount and explain the reasons why.

Based on the information provided, the following participants should receive exceptional funding:

Not provided

Based on the information provided, the following participants should NOT receive exceptional funding:

Not provided

Use of human embryonic stem cells (hESC)

Status: **No**

If YES, please state whether the use of hESC is, or is not, in your opinion, necessary to achieve the scientific objectives of the proposal and the reasons why. Alternatively, please state if it cannot be assessed whether the use of hESC is necessary or not because of a lack of information.

Not provided

Use of human embryos

Status: **No**

If YES, please state how the human embryos will be used in the project.

Not provided

Activities excluded from funding

Status: **No**

If YES, please explain.

Not provided

Exclusive focus on civil applications

Status: **Yes**

If NO, please explain.

Not provided

Artificial Intelligence

Status: **Yes**

If YES, the technical robustness of the proposed system must be evaluated under the appropriate (excellence?) criterion.

Overall comments

Not provided

Digitally sealed by the European Commission
Date: 2022.03.22 10:44:12 CET

This electronic receipt is a digitally signed version of the document submitted by your organisation. Both the content of the document and a set of metadata have been digitally sealed.

This digital signature mechanism, using a public-private key pair mechanism, uniquely binds this eReceipt to the modules of the Funding & Tenders Portal of the European Commission, to the transaction for which it was generated and ensures its full integrity. Therefore a complete digitally signed trail of the transaction is available both for your organisation and for the issuer of the eReceipt.

Any attempt to modify the content will lead to a break of the integrity of the electronic signature, which can be verified at any time by clicking on the eReceipt validation symbol.

More info about eReceipts can be found in the FAQ page of the Funding & Tenders Portal.

(https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq)