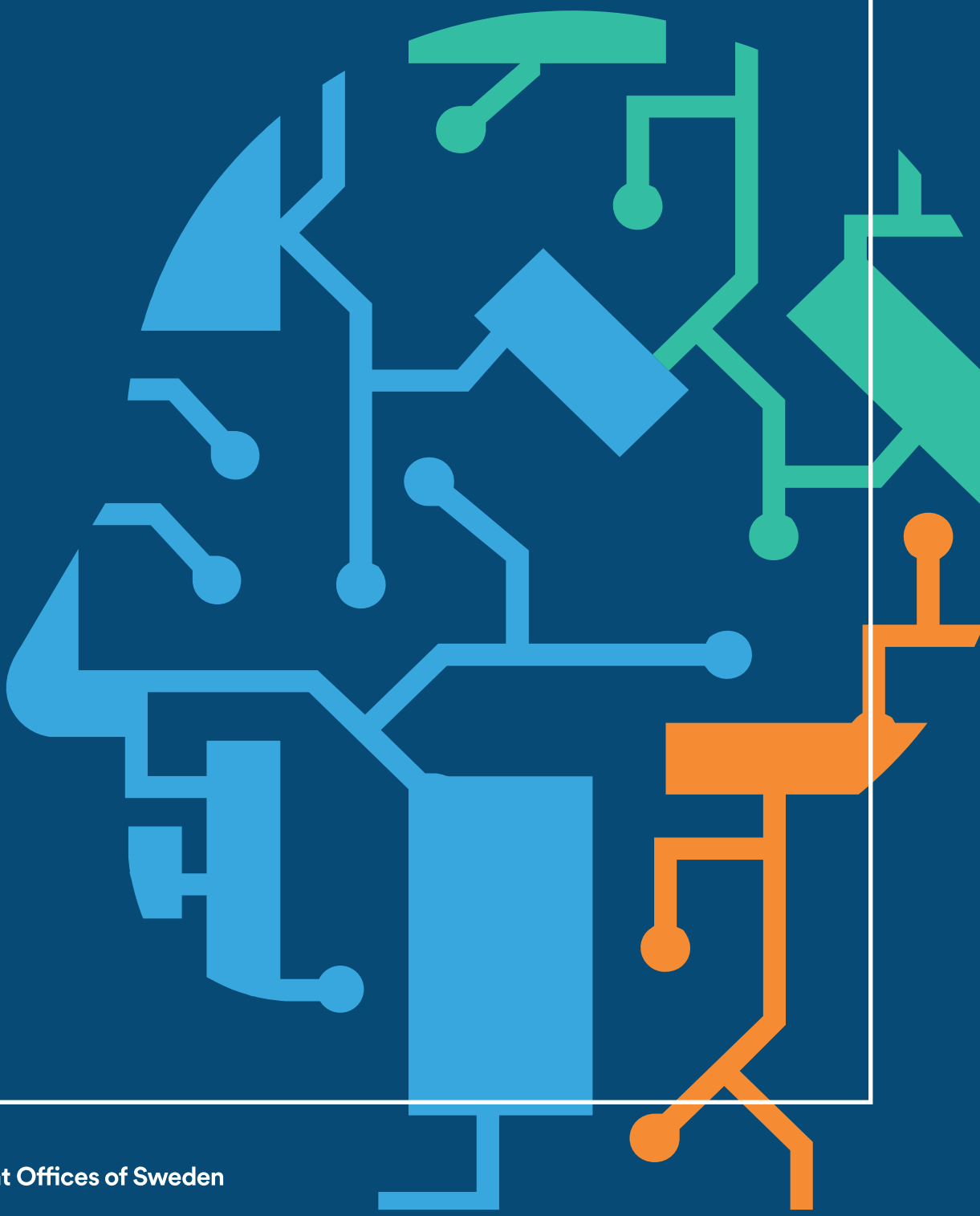
Sweden's AI Strategy



Government Offices of Sweden

Production: Government Offices of Sweden 2026

Foreword

Sweden is in many ways a leader in the digital economy. We are open and curious when it comes to new technologies. Not only do we talk about embracing innovation – we actually do so. Sweden is ranked as the world's second most innovative country. We have a forward-looking and international business sector that, together with ambitious government agencies, is pursuing important initiatives. The Government will work hard to ensure that Sweden and Swedish businesses remain at the forefront and take a leading role in artificial intelligence.

Sweden has a long and proud history of adopting technological advancements and ensuring that they benefit our entire country – from telephone exchanges at the end of the 19th century to the successful IT companies that emerged in the 2000s. This does not only apply to Swedish inventions. The key to our success has been the way in which we have quickly learned to apply new technologies to our advantage. Add to that Sweden's strong entrepreneurial spirit and high-quality education system from which everyone can benefit.

That being said, good historical results do not guarantee success in the future. During this electoral period, the Government has made Sweden's largest-ever investment in research, with a focus on excellence and initiatives specifically targeting mathematics and engineering.

Within the EU, we actively work to ensure that legislation does not hinder, but rather facilitates and enables technological development. We push for simpler regulatory frameworks without overlapping requirements, to test new ideas and make sure that new AI legislation is not introduced until the right standards are in place. We are now seeing our hard work come to fruition, with our proposals having an influence in the EU – particularly in the package on rules simplification presented in late 2025.

These are, of course, all positive developments, but we cannot rest on our laurels in the midst of extremely tough international competition. With this Strategy, we aim to give businesses, research and public administration favourable conditions to even better capitalise on the possibilities that AI offers. The Strategy will not do the entire job, but it shapes the work and provides structure, direction and a long-term perspective.

Fundamental values such as national security and individual rights and obligations apply online and offline alike. Many people feel uncertainty about how and when to use AI. Ignorance about how AI works can cause people to worry about handing over too much responsibility to AI, or that its use will result in undesired consequences. AI must therefore be a part of the curriculum in our schools and higher education, and we must strive for lifelong learning.

Sweden has uniquely good conditions to embrace this transition in the labour market. The social parties have long cooperated well as society undergoes change. Our country can draw on good experiences from modernisation and retraining combined with a good safety net, and the insight that new technologies should be viewed as an opportunity rather than a threat. Applying the brake when facing the future has never been a recipe for success.

On the contrary, success is built by cooperating and comparing ourselves with the best. The Government's ambition is for Sweden to be a leader in Europe as regards computing capacity in both the private and public sectors.

It also has the ambition of making Sweden's world-leading in the use of AI in public administration. This can contribute, for example, to an even better welfare system by freeing up time for patient meetings in health and medical care. Permit processes can also be streamlined, which will shorten processing times.

With a broad and strategic approach to this work, Sweden will become a competitive AI nation that ranks amount the top ten globally. This necessitates effective and simple regulatory frameworks, both in Sweden and at EU level.

We are working to equip Sweden for the future, and we are doing so by embracing and promoting the use of new technology so that the whole country can benefit. Fundamentally, this is about jobs, welfare and the promise of a better tomorrow.

Ulf Kristersson
Prime Minister

Erik Slottner
Minister for Public Administration

Contents

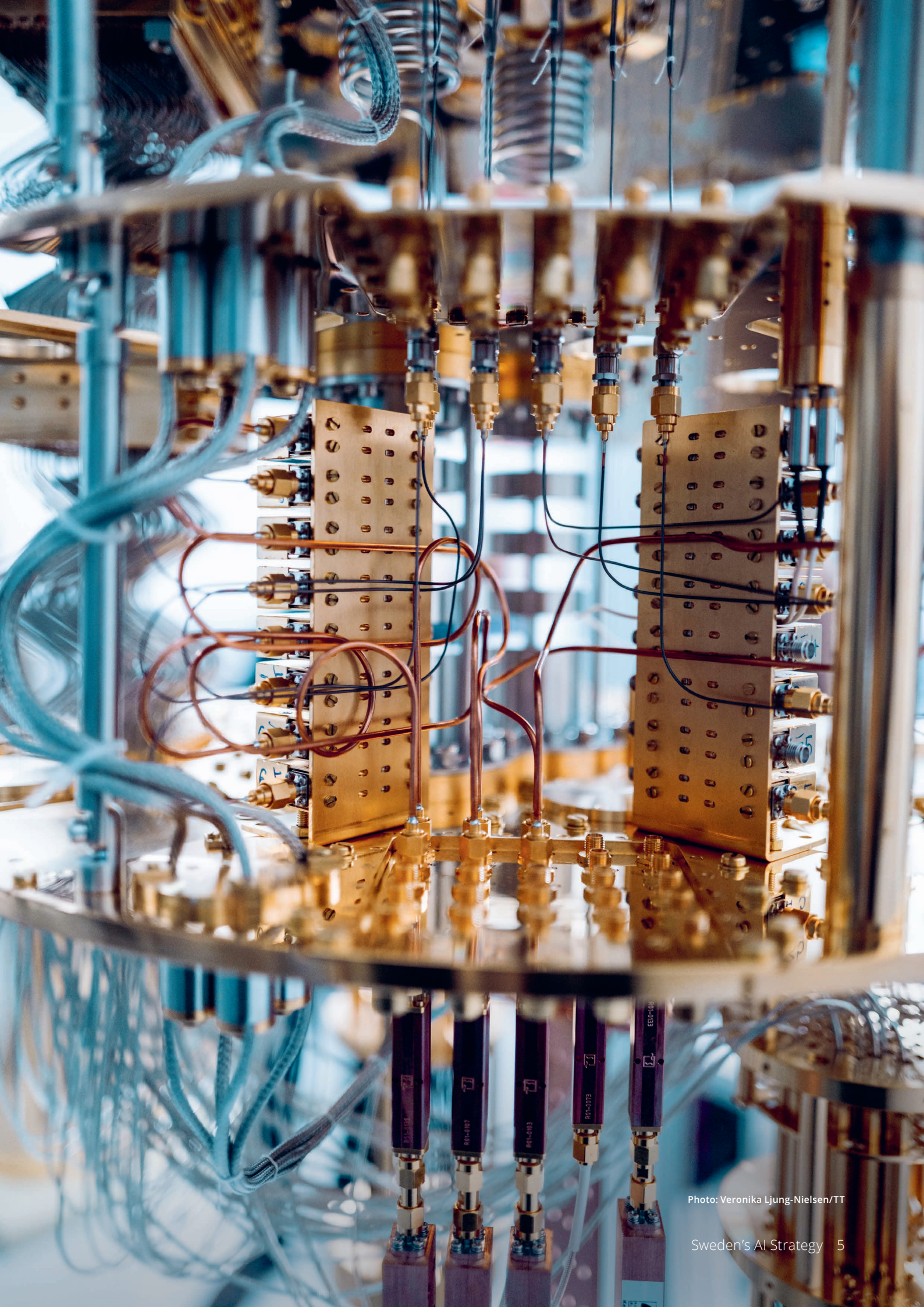
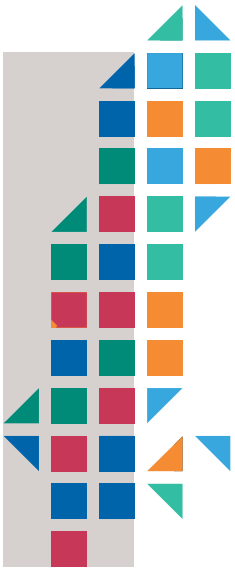


Photo: Veronika Ljung-Nielsen/TT

Introduction

The Government has high ambitions for its work with artificial intelligence (AI). Sweden aims to be among the world's top ten nations in the area of AI. The prospects are good. There is a high degree of digital maturity and adaptability in the business sector, the public sector has access to high-quality data and the digital infrastructure is secure and competitive. Sweden has world-leading research in machine-learning, language models, computer vision and AI security. Moreover, it has good access to fossil-free electricity and a favourable climate for computing power infrastructure. Sweden's business sector is at the leading edge, and parts of the public sector have come a long way regarding the use of AI.

To take the next step, Swedish actors are working strategically and in collaboration to prioritise initiatives in the right areas, at the right level and with the right tools. Sweden must drive development of responsible AI and push for a level playing field that promotes research, development, innovation and investment. International developments have a considerable bearing on Sweden's conditions for developing and utilising AI. Sweden must therefore pursue an active foreign policy with likeminded countries when it comes to emerging technologies. It is especially important that Sweden continues to work proactively in EU cooperation in order to gain traction for Swedish priorities.



AI affects the whole of society. AI is also developing very rapidly and creating both new opportunities and risks. For example, AI can contribute to research and innovation that strengthens Sweden's competitiveness. It can also streamline processes, ensure public welfare services that maintain a high level of quality and contribute to increased security. At the same time, however, increased use of AI entails new threats for individuals and society alike, and impacts the geopolitical balance of power. For this reason, Sweden needs to act in a coordinated and strategic manner to facilitate the necessary transition and adaptation to variable societal developments. At the same time, Sweden's actions should maximise the benefits of, reduce risks associated with, and increase trust in, AI.

The purpose of this Strategy is to establish a long-term approach for the Government's work with AI and to inform all other AI-related work in Sweden. The AI Commission's Roadmap for Sweden (SOU 2025:12) and Sweden's Digitalisation Strategy 2025–2030 (Fi2025/01181) have served as a basis for the work on this Strategy. The AI Strategy is accompanied by an action plan (annex) that contains adopted and planned measures that implement the strategy.

Objectives of the Government's AI policy

Sweden aims to be among the top ten AI nations in the world.

AI should be used and developed in pursuit of societal benefit, sustainable development, competitiveness and innovation.

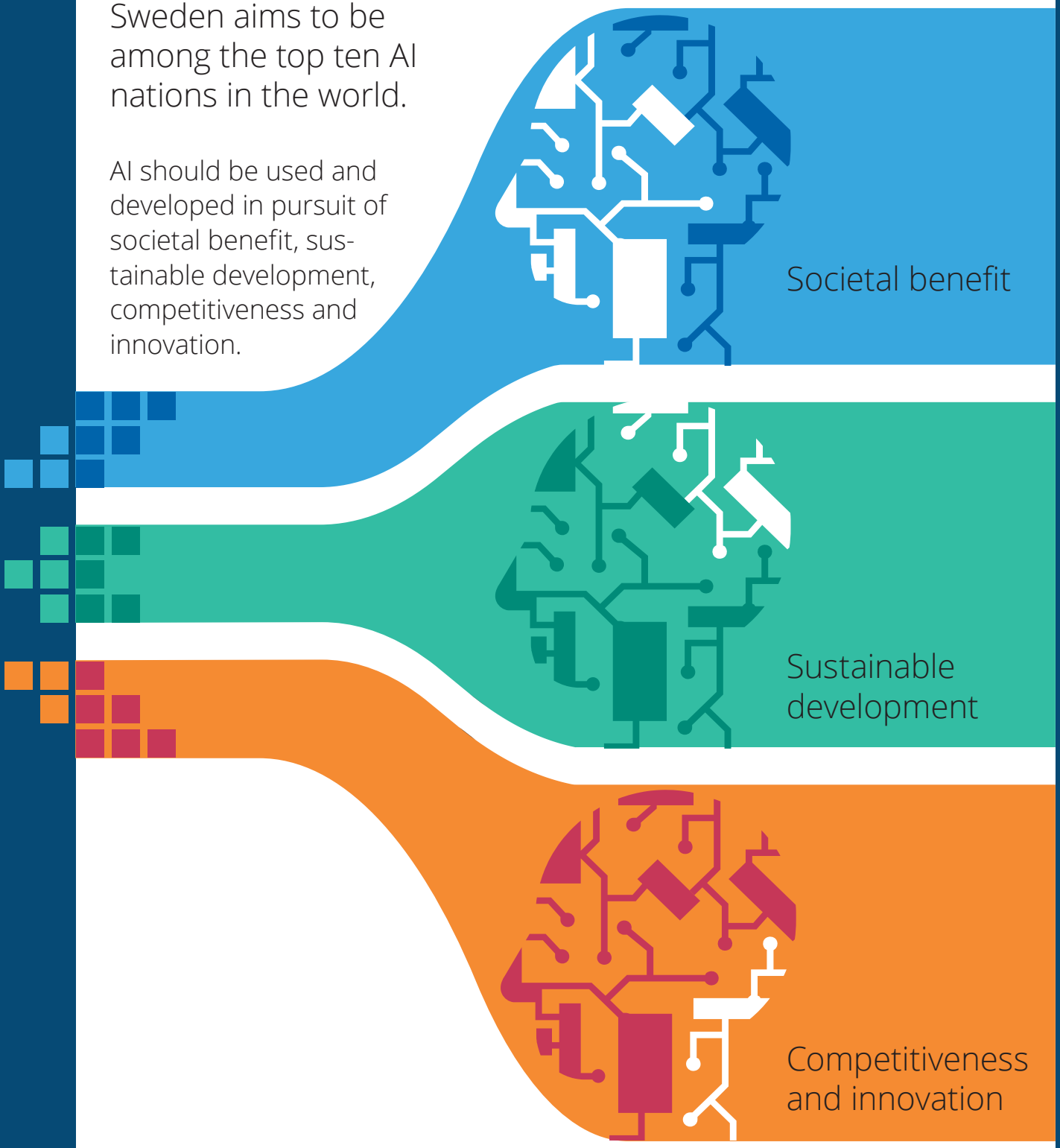


Photo: Mauro Fermariello/TT

AI for societal benefit

AI should contribute to a society characterised by long-term sustainability and security for all citizens, and be used in both the private and public sectors. The regulatory framework in this area must therefore facilitate Sweden's AI development. Through increased use of AI, the public sector should provide value to the whole of society. To aid in this development, data, information and AI must be managed efficiently, responsibly and securely.

Legal requirements and regulatory simplification

Rules on the use of AI should further Sweden's AI development and be simple, predictable, technology-neutral and effective. At the same time, protection of privacy, trade secrets, copyrights and the security interests of the general public must also be ensured. It is important that the legal conditions for the use of AI are continuously reviewed and shaped to meet the needs of both private and public actors. The Government wants to see increased data sharing within and between government agencies, and is working to clear obstacles to doing so. The Government also continuously reviews provisions on records that govern the processing of personal data by government agencies. This work will continue.

Sweden will also continue to be a leading innovation nation. This requires good conditions to establish and operate companies that use and develop AI. Measures that lead to tangible simplification and improve legal predictability and efficiency must therefore be prioritised. Laws and other regulations must be made accessible in machine-readable format so that AI can be used to increase regulatory comprehension and compliance. Increased machine-readability can also contribute to better services for companies, government agencies and private individuals. Sweden must also continue to actively push for an enhanced focus on simplification within the EU, and for realistic timeframes for implementation. Supporting guidelines at EU level should not be unnecessarily detailed or burdensome. The Government welcomes the European Commission's initiative on simplification efforts in the area of AI.

Uncertainty surrounding the interpretation of existing legislation inhibits the development and use of AI in both the private and public sectors. Increased harmonisation and guidance should be

prioritised to reduce legal uncertainty and costs of regulatory compliance. For this reason, the Government supports development of regulatory sandboxes as a controlled test environment. Regulatory sandboxes enable actors to develop, train, test and validate new products, services or business models during derogations or temporary exemptions from certain rules. Participating actors can also be given practical guidance on complex regulatory frameworks, such as on data protection, security protection and the EU Artificial Intelligence Act (EU 2024/1689).

Sweden will work to ensure that regulation of AI at EU level does not inhibit innovation and push for the reform of existing regulatory frameworks to contribute to growth. In doing so, Sweden must collaborate with likeminded countries, such as our Nordic neighbours, in order to safeguard the innovative and secure use of AI. Sweden will also continue to push for enhanced data mobility.

Data access and utilisation

Access to relevant, correct and usable high-quality data is essential for the effective and secure development and application of AI. There is a need for simple and secure means of accessing data and better capability for data sharing among both public and private actors. This can be achieved by making data more searchable, accessible and interoperable.

Businesses, researchers and the public sector need to have an enhanced ability in terms of data administration, accessibility and sharing. To this end, these actors must actively identify and classify their intellectual property and other information that must be protected, and determine which data needs to be protected and which can be shared. There are risks in sharing data and collecting large amounts of essential and sensitive data in various environments. For this reason, various interests that must be protected, such as cybersecurity, data protection and intellectual rights, must always be taken into consideration when sharing data.

Data management in public administration needs to be improved. This means public administration needs to take a more data-driven approach, and improve its ability to share data, both in public administration and at sectoral level. Public administration's ability to share data securely is a requirement not only for improving efficiency within its various activities, but also for ensuring that public data can be used by private individuals, researchers and businesses. Data needs to be made accessible to a greater extent, both openly and controlled by means such as secure environments.

Sweden must actively influence, and capitalise on EU initiatives concerning matters such as data sharing and management, interoperability and standardisation. These initiatives aim to create a secure, reliable and legally predictable market for data accessibility within the EU. An example of this is the area of health data. Sweden is currently overhauling its data systems to enable full utilisation of the European Health Data Space and improve health care learning, individually adapted diagnostics and research.

Standardisation

As technologies advance rapidly, standards can serve an important function as an alternative or complement to legislation. The Government is promoting AI standards for regulatory simplification and increased compliance, better conditions for international trade and increased digital inclusion. This is achieved through cooperation between central government, the business sector and civil society. Sweden also needs to take account of the growing importance of standards, not least in light of geopolitical developments. By participating in work on international standards, Sweden increases its technological and political influence in strategic areas.

Security and defence

The digital transformation is changing the conditions for societal development and security. While AI creates conditions for innovation and efficiency, new types of threats and vulnerabilities are emerging. Although its full impact cannot yet be assessed, it is clear that AI will be of fundamental importance to the economy, geopolitics and security policy. Sweden must fully capitalise on the potential of this technology to enhance the protection of vital societal functions and prevent threats. AI should be used to protect Sweden's internal and external security and freedom of action in an increasingly complex global environment. Cooperation between the EU and NATO is essential to increase interoperability in security and defence.

AI is a strategic resource for Sweden's total defence. Autonomous systems, AI-driven intelligence processing and advanced sensor analysis play an increasingly important role in the battlefield of the future. AI can help protect Sweden's territorial integrity by monitoring its vast and sparsely populated territory, as well as improve the ability to identify patterns in the analysis of large data sets to maintain accurate situational awareness.

The Government promotes increased collaboration between civilian and military AI research, and the participation of total defence government agencies in strategic innovation programmes in the field of AI. The Government will work to ensure good prospects for private investment in AI research, primarily in the area of security and defence.

From a national security perspective, it is crucial to decrease digital vulnerability while at the same time ensuring continued access to tools and platforms from international providers. This requires mutual recognition of rules and regulatory frameworks for technological security and control of exports. Swedish government agencies must cooperate closely and extensively to safeguard Sweden's collective security interests.

The Government takes a serious view of the challenges posed by AI-generated disinformation, at both an individual level and societal level. This may concern disinformation aimed at weaking the country's resilience and the population's defence willingness, or otherwise im-

properly influence people's perceptions, behaviours and decision-making. Good media and information literacy prevents the unconscious spread of disinformation and increases resilience to attempts at polarisation and malign influence. Internal safety and security are fundamental to prosperity and growth.

Law enforcement authorities are encountering increasingly complex challenges that are compounded when AI is used as an instrument of crime. This can involve AI being used for organised crime, cyberattacks and advanced financial crime or AI being used to carry out intimate partner violence, produce illegal material depicting for example sexual assault or for the recruitment of children to criminal gangs. To take action effectively and lawfully, law enforcement authorities need to be able to understand and use AI.

A public sector in the vanguard

The Government's ambition is for Sweden to be world-leading in the use of AI to improve cost-effectiveness, quality and service in public administration.

Previous estimates have shown that the public sector has the potential to save several billion kronor annually through increased use of AI. Today's time-consuming tasks could be facilitated by AI, which could free up time for care staff, social workers and teachers to focus on face-to-face meetings. Increased use of AI in health and medical care can make more time available for patient visits, increase the quality and accuracy of decisions, and improve production and capacity planning. AI can thus contribute to improving care and even saving lives.

The long-term demographic trend of an ageing population with a decreasing share of people of working age is one of the greatest challenges to social welfare. Public administration is also expected to deliver swift results, good service and a high degree of accessibility. To meet these challenges without increased costs, the efficiency and effectiveness of public administration must improve. By using AI, public administration can improve efficiency and shorten processing times. This can also boost accessibility and good quality in services and decision-making.

Management of various cases can be accelerated with AI support, e.g. through increased automation of permit processes. Shorter processing times benefit private individuals and business alike, and can increase Sweden's competitiveness and attractiveness. Moreover, the use of AI can help eliminate erroneous disbursements and criminal exploitation of the benefit system.

At the same time, increased use of AI brings new challenges as regards equitable treatment, transparency and data protection. A high degree of trust in public administration should be maintained by managing data securely and correctly, and by taking account of ethical princi-

ples and the fundamental values of central government in the exercise of public authority with the support of AI. Decision-making support should be designed so as to ensure transparency, equitable treatment and traceability, and in a way that private individuals can understand, examine and appeal decisions.

A number of core conditions must be fulfilled for the public sector – comprising government agencies, regions and municipalities with different conditions – to be able to use AI to improve its efficiency and effectiveness and ensure the provision of social welfare. This means creating good possibilities to share data responsibly and securely between various actors, but also that the regulatory framework has to be clear. It is important that a clear and predictable framework is in place for the use and development of AI, not least to reduce legal uncertainty. Guidance and other support are needed. AI competence is needed both at leadership level and more broadly within public administration.

Increased use of AI requires greater computing capacity, secure storage and processing of data in secure infrastructure. Public actors have strict requirements concerning the secure management of personal data, information security and cybersecurity. Cloud services have become a major factor in the development and use of AI. It is therefore important that public administration has the necessary conditions to access and use modern, efficient and secure cloud services or other services that satisfy legal and security requirements. This also means it is necessary to determine the extent to which said services entail the transfer of personal data to countries outside the EU and ensure that such a transfer take place in accordance with the requirements under the EU General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679). Government agencies must have control over the country's most operationally critical functions and data that must be protected. There are currently a large number of technical infrastructures and systems that cannot communicate with each other, which hinders public actors from sharing AI solutions and expertise and establishing joint services at the scale and speed required. Technical infrastructure must enable greater AI maturity, innovation, increased expertise and better access to data. The regulatory framework must also enable joint development and use of AI.

To address common challenges and share resources, knowledge and expertise, the foundations of an AI workshop for public administration will be laid in 2026 (Fi2026/00018). The goal is for it to be fully operational in 2030. The workshop will offer common, secure and robust AI infrastructure that can serve as a national competence centre for support and guidance in matters such as procurement, legal conditions and ethical issues. Through its procurement expertise, public administration plays a key role in innovation cooperation, and private companies contribute to solving public actors' challenges. Through the AI workshop, public administration will be able to develop, test and share AI solutions in a secure and coordinated manner. The workshop should help increase the use of AI, improve efficiency, accessibility and quality of public service, and ensure uniform, high-level information security and cybersecurity.

Sustainable development

AI should contribute to a safe and sustainable society. It should be developed responsibly with respect for human rights, the need for transparency and inclusion, as well as ethical, gender-equal and environmental considerations. Development and use of AI require qualified labour and a cohesive education system that promotes lifelong learning for private individuals and organisations.

Photo: Shutterstock/TT

Human-centric approach

AI should be developed and used to strengthen and safeguard democratic values, legal certainty and personal privacy. The rights and freedoms of the individual are of paramount importance. The EU Artificial Intelligence Act, which entered into force on 1 August 2024, aims to establish a uniform legal framework for the development and use of AI systems within the EU. The Act also aims to promote the use of human-centric and reliable AI, and ensure a high degree of protection for health, security and fundamental rights.

Transparency and accountability are fundamental to the development and use of AI. This is especially the case in the exercise of public authority, in the social welfare system and other similar activities that are important for the rights, obligations, benefits and other interests of individuals. AI users should be held responsible for both the intended and unintended consequences of its use.

The public sector needs to be able to review and reevaluate AI use. Risks linked to bias, i.e. distortion, partiality, discrimination, misleading information and human rights violations, must be actively addressed. Government agencies' work on AI must be gender-equal. UNESCO guidelines on ethics and AI and the Council of Europe's Framework Convention on AI and Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law guide the development and use of AI, as does the Global Digital Compact, the UN's global framework for cooperation on digitalisation. Particular consideration must be given to gender equality, security and children's rights. Legislation and other rules governing the use of AI in the private and public sectors must be predictable, technology-neutral and appropriate, and enable AI development in Sweden.

Digital inclusion is necessary for the sustainable use of AI throughout Sweden. Services need to be accessible, useful and understandable for all, including older people and those with disabilities. AI solutions must be designed so that they do not create new obstacles, but rather strengthen participation and the independence of individuals. Information about AI technologies must be adapted to the circumstances of the recipient. Individuals need to be better equipped to judge the reliability of information. It is important to have clear guidance and dialogue in the rollout of AI and other technologies in the social welfare system. Concerns over AI being used inappropriately, having a negative impact on work or leading to future existential risks need to be taken seriously. Individuals need guidance on using AI, information about existing rules and a basic understanding of how they can use AI securely. Such support must be inclusive and accessible to all. Public education initiatives are important for groups that risk being excluded from ongoing digital and AI-driven societal transformation. Public libraries must also continue to take steps to increase knowledge about how to use information technology for knowledge acquisition, learning and participation in cultural life. This may include knowledge about AI.

Language models built on material from Sweden

The use of language models on which generative AI services are based is widespread throughout society and is expected to increase further. Access to language models developed internationally offers considerable benefits. However, language models that have been adapted using material in Swedish and the national minority languages more accurately reflect cultural, social and legal contexts that are unique to Sweden, and can thus preserve and enrich the country's culture and languages. This also means that values and language use in Sweden have greater influence on what language models produce, and contribute to improving the quality of services, facilitating regulatory compliance and reducing the risk of disinformation. Digital sovereignty can be strengthened through local control of data.

The Government wants to see greater access to training data through increased collection and digitisation – the conversion of analogue information to digital formats – of cultural heritage material and through expanded domestic coordination. However, applicable legislation for areas such as copyright, confidentiality and privacy must be respected. Solutions are needed for the management of data that cannot or should not be shared, as well as for appropriate infrastructure and secure IT environments. Swedish collective licences enable rights clearance of large amounts of copyright material, which may be needed when training language models.

Climate and energy

AI can help optimise energy systems and resource use, and support efforts such as climate change adaptation. At the same time, the use of AI is increasing the demand for energy, cooling and infrastructure. Energy use and environmental and climate impact associated with AI should be monitored and minimised.

The expansion of computing capacity needs to reflect access to the electricity grid and electricity production. To enable more efficient expansion, improved coordination and cooperation between relevant actors are needed regarding the location of facilities, as well as a balance between the production and consumption of energy. The reuse of residual heat from data centres must be encouraged.

Labour market and skills supply

AI is reshaping work tasks, professions and skills needs. Developing skills, including knowledge and the ability to use AI through lifelong learning and skills development, is strategically important for the future. Sweden has a unique labour market model that enables rapid and joint transition solutions. The social partners are developing solutions close to organisations, while central government is providing supportive and complementary frameworks. It is important to conduct trend

analyses at an early stage and targeted transition and training initiatives that strengthen both broad skills and cutting-edge expertise. Effective skills supply in both the private and public sectors is necessary for growth and development throughout the country as an inclusive society. There is a considerable need for dialogue, openness and transparency around AI and other new technologies. Dialogue with the social partners, in both the private and public sectors, creates favourable conditions in which to capitalise on opportunities and identify challenges that AI entails in working life and in the labour market.

Digital inclusion should apply to all. This means that everyone should have the opportunity to acquire the basic digital skills needed to use digital services and tools, including AI, on a daily basis. Digital solutions must be accessible and designed according to the principle of universal design. Employers need to improve the AI skills of their employees.

Schools and higher education must equip individuals for a working and civic life that includes digitalisation and AI. The model for higher vocational education is a good example of education being shaped in collaboration with employers and industries to quickly meet the changing skills needs of the labour market. Universities and higher education are also offering shorter AI-related courses to meet the need for continuous education that exists in several industries.

The development of AI is vital to increasing Swedish competitiveness and making public administration more efficient. Strengthening Sweden's leading position in AI in higher education and research requires both in-depth knowledge about and increased integration of AI in higher education. The AI skills base needs to grow and more women need to be part of it.

It is the responsibility of secondary and upper secondary schools to ensure that students develop an understanding of how digitalisation and AI affect the individual and the development of society. Schools must contribute to pupils' ability to develop a critical and responsible approach to digital technology. The Government believes in the continued importance of pupils developing digital skills that include good media and information literacy and knowledge of how to securely navigate the digital environment. AI is part of digital technology and skills.

Schools must also provide pupils in higher school years with knowledge and understanding of both the risks and opportunities of AI. Pupils must be able to critically examine what AI generates and make ethical considerations when using AI. For younger pupils, however, learning must primarily take place through analogue activities in analogue environments. Digital learning tools must be used scientifically and based on children's and pupils' cognitive development and learning. Regardless of the type of education, teachers require skills development and support in digitalisation, including about the opportunities and challenges associated with AI.

Photo: Shutterstock/TT

AI for competitiveness and innovation

AI must help improve innovation capacity and competitiveness. Sweden must be an attractive destination for investment and international co-operation. Research and associated infrastructure contribute to innovation and to Sweden continuing to be one of the world's top research and innovation countries and a leading knowledge nation. High-tech companies are developing advanced AI applications and pushing the boundaries of AI knowledge. Businesses are increasingly adopting AI. This is strengthening the overall competitiveness of companies and Sweden. The Government will continue to support the Swedish AI ecosystem and contribute to its internationalisation, access to markets, technology, inputs and skills.

The AI ecosystem

The Government wants to see the Nordic region become a global leader in AI. Sweden must have a competitive ecosystem for AI development that strengthens the private and public sectors, and that capitalises on demand in different parts of the AI value chain. A high-tech business sector that develops and applies AI and related key technologies is vital to improving competitiveness.

AI development is creating both demand and dependencies at several points along the value chain. This applies to rare earth metals, semiconductors, connectivity, data centres, computing power, software, AI model verification and more. Sweden should strive to strengthen its role and increase the effectiveness of the AI value chain. The Strategy focuses on conditions for actors to develop, commercialise and scale operations, stimulate entrepreneurship and reduce Sweden's vulnerabilities and dependencies.

Business and entrepreneurship

The Government's ambition is that favourable conditions for AI solutions will contribute to Sweden having world-leading entrepreneurs and competitive companies. Sweden's innovation system is characterised by close collaboration between the business sector, academia and public entities, fast-growing and innovative start-ups, and globally competitive companies that invest in AI and related technologies such as 5G. Sweden is also characterised by a high level of digital maturity and ability to adapt, and a robust digital infrastructure. This creates favourable conditions for technological development, strengthens Swedish innovation and consistently makes Sweden a top innovation nation. With its digitalised and advanced industries, Sweden also has the possibility to become a leader in the development of applied AI. Existing and new research and innovation programmes should aid in this development. EU regional development initiatives can enable strategic participation in these programmes.

Businesses are leading the development of AI, and the Government is prioritising collaborative research on digital technology and advanced digitalisation among other things. Supporting companies, start-ups, business expansions and investment in infrastructure, as well as ensuring government agency efficiency and a well-functioning capital market are fundamental to Sweden's growth, productivity and competitiveness. The Government is also prioritising an improved business climate through faster permit processes, stronger innovation initiatives, research and development investment, increased legal predictability, regulatory simplification, etc.

Digital infrastructure and computing capacity

Sweden should be a leader in Europe in climate-smart and competitive computing capacity for the private and public sectors. Sweden has good access to energy and connectivity with which to provide competitive computing power. Digital infrastructure must be resilient, secure and trusted throughout the country. This applies to infrastructure for connectivity, as well as infrastructure for hardware and software, for example for the production of digital services, cloud services and data centres. Transparency, security and domestic controls must be guiding principles, and the public sector must be able to use common computing power adapted for AI in secure environments. The introduction of the AI workshop for the public sector is an important part of efforts to achieve this.

Sweden must capitalise on investment in AI infrastructure that enables the development and use of AI. Provision of reliable data and access to qualified computing resources for researchers and companies in Sweden creates conditions for model training and the accelerated development of AI applications, and strengthens Sweden's global competitiveness. The sharing and use of research data also needs to be optimised to strengthen domestic data management. To improve the effectiveness of initiatives, it is also important to coordinate digital research infrastructure at domestic level.

In the long term, commercialisation of quantum technologies may play a key role in the development of several AI fields. To capitalise on the possibilities of quantum technology, strong basic and applied research is needed, which together can pave the way for technological advances in various applications that AI is expected to unlock.

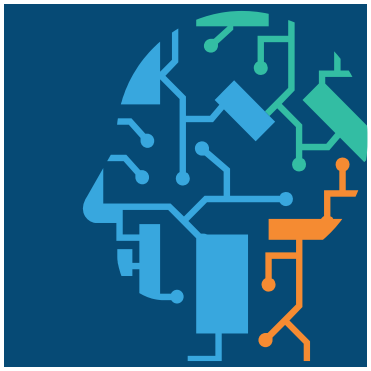
Active cooperation within the EU and NATO is crucial to complementing Sweden's domestic computing capacity and AI and data capabilities. EU initiatives such as the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking, the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, the Digital Europe Programme and the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF Digital) provide Swedish private and public actors with access to supercomputing, funding and development of infrastructures for secure data and AI services. Global connectivity – based on infrastructure that enables secure connection to the rest of the world, faster data transfer and low latency – is also an important condition for the development of new data centres, AI gigafactories, etc. Mimer in Linköping is being developed as one of the EU's AI factories to provide researchers and companies access to computing capacity and test environments. The Government also welcomes the plans for EU-wide AI gigafactories and would like to see one of these established in Sweden, provided that requirements linked to financing and energy use, etc. can be met. If a European competitiveness fund is established as proposed by the European Commission, the Government will seek to ensure that the joint investment opportunities the fund makes possible are utilised.

Research and expertise

Measures in the Government's research and innovation bill strengthen excellent research, domestic research infrastructure and the use of groundbreaking technologies such as AI. Excellence clusters for AI should be established, enabling Swedish higher education institutions engaged in top-class scientific research to cooperate as and continue to be international leaders in AI. Excellence clusters must be world-leading AI innovation environments in which companies and universities develop groundbreaking and competitive solutions. The use of AI in many different research areas, such as health, climate, digitalisation, law enforcement and energy, can create new knowledge and new innovations.

The competition for AI skills is global. The Government wants to strengthen the supply of skills and qualified labour and attract international talent so that Sweden can continue to be a leading knowledge and technology nation. Swedish research institutions for doctoral students in AI will be established as part of the establishment of excellence clusters. Coordination of efforts to promote and capitalise on AI will also be important for Sweden's ability to conduct world-leading research. AI competence and skills in higher and postgraduate education are a necessary part of this and must be developed.

Space technology that uses AI is a strategic Swedish area of strength. The EU's only mainland-based space centre, Esrange, is a strategic resource that must be safeguarded and developed. AI-driven data analysis that can be carried out directly by satellites instead of being sent to Earth provides faster decision-making support for surveillance, intelligence and crisis management. For example, AI can provide significant societal benefits in areas such as climate action, transport systems and sustainable use of natural resources through rapid analysis of space-generated images and large data sets.



Implementation and follow-up

This Strategy is implemented through government agency assignments, legislative amendments, collaboration forums and special budget initiatives. An action plan that complements this Strategy with measures, timeframes and responsible actors is attached as an annex to the Strategy. This Strategy replaces the domestic approach for AI that was adopted in 2018, (N2018/03008).

In work going forward, particular consideration must be given to the European Commission's Apply AI Strategy, which aims to increase the use of AI to improve the competitiveness of European industry. Strategic participation in international work on AI is vital for the implementation of the Government's Strategy, and priorities at local, regional and domestic level must be taken into account in these efforts.

The Agency for Digital Government and the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority have been tasked with supporting the implementation of this Strategy (Fi2026/0000). Review of the AI Strategy must take place annually in connection with the follow-up of the Digitalisation Strategy.

Sweden's AI Strategy will also be included in follow-up work conducted by the OECD within the framework of the Digitalisation Strategy.

Government Offices of Sweden
Switchboard: +46 8 405 10 00
www.government.se