COST Action CA19136 - NET4Age-Friendly

International interdisciplinary network on health and well-being in an age-friendly digital world

CALL FOR TRAINEES

AI in Healthcare - Technical, Ethical and Societal implications

The Training School.

The **Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Institute of Informatics, Robotics and Cybernetics** under the **NET4Age-Friendly COST Action CA19136**, are pleased to launch the **CALL** for the Training School: **AI in Healthcare - Technical, Ethical and Societal implications**.

10-12 September 2024 Prague - Czech Republic

Venue: Czech Technical University in Prague, Prague, Czech Republic

Call for Trainees.

The NET4Age-Friendly Training School is a multidisciplinary event open to professionals, researchers, and PhD students with a professional interest in the topic.

Any interested applicant must complete the

APPLICATION FORM

Presentation.

World Health Organization defines Age-Friendly Cities and Communities as follows: **In an age-friendly community, policies, services, and structures related to the physical and social environment are designed to support and enable older people to "age actively" - that is, to live in security, enjoy good health and continue to participate fully in society.** [1]

The Training School wants to present the current development and impact of utilisation of artificial intelligence applications on everyday life. The technological, ethical and societal implications will be discussed.

How can we use the technologies in a safe and secure mode both in professional work, and by lay users?

The training will consider the existing applications in health and social care domains, showing their advantages and limitations in line with ethical implications and legal regulations, such as EU AI Act, Medical Device Regulation, GDPR and NIS2 (Directive on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the European Union).

[1] WHO, The Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities: looking back over the last decade, looking forward to the next. Geneva, Switzerland, 2018 (WHO/FWC/ALC/18.4). Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

Subject, aims & goals.

With the digitisation of human society, new opportunities arise to foster living and working environments that can provide all citizens and city users with living a healthy, independent, and community-integrated life. However, digital solutions are not the panacea to all demographic issues and challenges; due to the "digital divide" - mostly affecting the older generations - and because citizens across different age groups also need physical personal human contacts as well as spatial interactions.

While a digital divide exists and human connection remains crucial, artificial intelligence (AI) offers significant potential for an aging urban population. AI-powered systems can analyze data to predict health risks, enabling preventative care and early intervention. Additionally, AI can assist with daily living through smart home technology, medication reminders, and virtual companionship.

This Training School will explore how AI can ethically and effectively bridge the digital divide, fostering social inclusion and empowering older adults to live independently within age-friendly smart cities. Large Language Models (LLMs) hold particular promise for personalised health information access and communication. However, it's important to acknowledge that LLMs are still under development and may present limitations for lay users. Critical thinking and information verification will remain crucial as we explore the responsible use of LLMs in healthcare settings.

The Training School aims to tackle general issues of AI and its utilisation in health and social care areas, showing the advantages, limitations, ethical and societal implications. The legal regulations will be discussed as well.

This training is not merely a series of lectures or presentations; it is a collaborative endeavour to foster a deeper understanding of AI and its implications for your daily practice. Together, we will delve into the processes of introduction of AI-based systems in care, including questions of user acceptance, data safety and security, trustworthiness and explainability of the proposed results.

Criteria to apply.

Applicants shall be engaged in an official research program as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation, or legal entity which has within its remit scientific research.

Trainees eligible for reimbursement are from **COST Full Member Countries** (Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, The Netherlands, The Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, and United Kingdom), **COST Near Neighbour Countries** (NNC) or from **Approved European RTD Organisations**.

The selected international applicants (trainees) will benefit from a Trainee Grant to participate in the activities of the Training School in September 2024. This grant is expected to cover long-distance travel expenses (by train, bus, plane, or car). Furthermore, the international trainees will receive a fixed daily allowance amount of **110 EUR**, which is expected to cover the accommodation in Prague, meals, and local transportation. Each application will be individually evaluated along with the total grant to be awarded for the 3 days.

The selected applicants (trainees) from the Czech Republic will benefit from a Trainee Grant to participate in the activities of the Training School based on the distance to and from Prague and the accommodation needs. This grant will be individually discussed and agreed.

Selected trainees shall create an e-COST profile at https://e-services.cost.eu including bank details before accepting their e-COST invitation. They shall submit via e-COST a completed online travel reimbursement request within 30 calendar days after the end date of the approved activity.

Trainers

Lenka Lhotska and **Michal Huptych** are the Scientific Coordinators and Organizers of this NET4Age-Friendly COST Action Training School: **AI in Healthcare - Technical, Ethical and Societal implications – Czech Institute of Informatics, Robotics and Cybernetics of the Czech Technical University in Prague, (CZ).**

Carina Dantas, Chair of COST Action NET4Age-Friendly, CEO of SHINE 2Europe and expert in the field of ethics and AI.

The full list of speakers will be provided soon.

Key dates

- Applications opened: **15 July 2024**
- Applications submission deadline: **14 August 2024**
- Confirmation to the selected trainees: **15 August 2024**
- Deadline for e-COST registration and confirmation: **25 August 2024**
- **Training School: 10-12 September 2024**