



# kinit

## 2022

## Report



# JOIN US

## Why partner with KInIT?

- Help Slovakia to concentrate talents
- Discover solutions for your problems using AI
- Get a new perspective on your R&D&I
- Collaborate in excellent research
- Improve knowledge of your employees on selected topics of AI

## We also offer several opportunities

- for collaboration with innovative companies and academic institutions;
- to match basic and applied research with the needs of the intelligent technology industry;
- particular focus in artificial intelligence and several domains of computer science with outreach into other disciplines.

## Get in touch!

Help us to concentrate talents in Slovakia, achieve excellent basic and applied research based on responsibility, ethics and economic sustainability.

**[partnerships@kinit.sk](mailto:partnerships@kinit.sk)**



Dear Partners and Friends,

It is my great pleasure to present the results of our efforts, activities and successes during the 2022 year. Establishing a recognized research institute in the Central European Region is a fascinating adventure. Each year brings us different challenges, as we grow and become more recognized not only in Slovakia but also in the wider European region.

In 2022 we have expanded all our activities. There are two core drivers for the growth - success in the European grants, and the industry research collaborations. I am glad that the effort dedicated to European grant projects preparation resulted in the 50% success rate (compared to the 13% EU average). We have also attracted five new industry-driven research collaborations.



The major pillar for the vision of an excellent research institute is international research cooperation. Thanks to the European projects, we have extended our international research network to 23 countries. Additionally, we became an international institute and welcomed four colleagues across Europe (Malta, Spain, Poland, and Ukraine).

The institute recognizes its social responsibility and has allocated resources towards enhancing its media visibility and communication of the AI-related societal topics. Our researchers were mentioned 92 times, including interviews, podcasts, or TV shows. We have co-organized Better\_AI\_meetups. I was particularly honoured by the Madam President's visit, appreciating our work and vision.

In the name of the KInIT, I would like to personally thank our partners, donors, and supporters. We were pleased by 15 supporters (private companies) contributing to our basic research activities in 2022. Thanks to the donations, we are able to deliver excellent research and increase our impact on society (nurturing young talents or taking part in AI discourse in society).

Maria Bielikova  
*Director General*





## People and Culture

The People and Culture area is an essential component of our organisation, as it encompasses the management of human resources, employee engagement, and organisational culture.

In the past year, our institute has made significant strides in this area, focused on promoting a positive work environment and fostering a sense of belonging among our employees.

Our Human Resources (HR) team has been strengthened by an HR generalist and an intern. The whole team has been actively working to streamline our recruitment process, ensuring that we are attracting the most qualified candidates and fostering a diverse and inclusive workplace. We have also implemented a leadership program aimed at developing our managers' skills and improving employee job satisfaction.

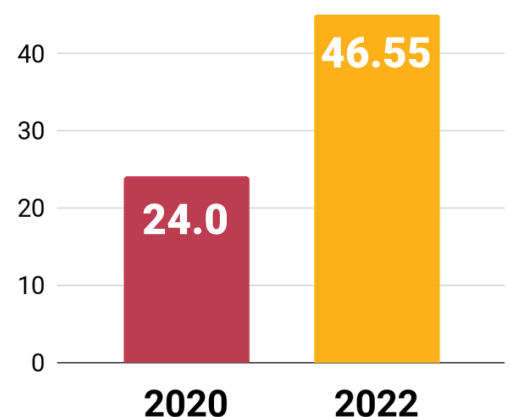
**In terms of culture, we have placed a strong emphasis on promoting transparency and open communication, encouraging feedback from all levels of the organisation.**

In terms of culture, we have placed a strong emphasis on promoting transparency and open communication, encouraging feedback from all levels of the organisation. We have also celebrated our 2nd birthday by organising an event that brought together employees, donors and our supporters to recognize outstanding employee performance, the institute's success, and creating a culture of recognition and appreciation.

Overall, our People and Culture area has made significant progress in the past year, contributing to the growth and success of our institute. We started the cooperation with 3 international colleagues. Their presence creates a more global mindset among employees. We remain committed to fostering a positive workplace culture and supporting the professional development of our employees.

KInIT's personnel capacity increased in 2022. Compared to 2020, when KInIT was established, the Full time equivalent (FTE) has almost doubled. At the end of 2022, the personnel capacity was 24,65 FTE researchers and engineers, 10 doctoral students, 9,1 FTE operations, 2,8 FTE management (plus 13 interns and 5 volunteers).

### Full Time Equivalent







## 2022 Results

In 2022 we successfully increased our impact in all core components of our activities. In line with our strategy based on responsibility, moral integrity, and economic sustainability, supported by the team and individual growth leading to a culture of trust, openness, and respect, we have nurtured the research excellence by:

- starting the EU-funded Twinning project DisAI as the coordinator;
- the industry collaborations and support of SMEs by setting up new partnerships and starting the EU funded European Digital Innovation Hub as the coordinator,
- the talent concentration and circulation by employing international colleagues, interns and also starting an MSCA funded Doctoral network project.



### I. Excellent and responsible research

The institute's research and scientific approach combines excellence with a high societal impact, not just nationally but also internationally. Our focus has been on researching AI methods and models in five domains, namely green energy, web and social media, information security, natural language processing, and human values in technology.

Our research has yielded cutting-edge results and aligns with the EU and national strategies such as the Green Deal, Smart Specialisation, and Program Slovakia, which has made us competitive in the international arena.





We are proud to have secured funding for six new international projects from the EU in 2022 in Horizon Europe and Digital Europe schemes, in addition to the ongoing projects. Currently, we are working on eight international and one national research projects.

Regarding the absolute value of funding gained from the Horizon Europe EU granting schemes, KInIT was ranked as the 3rd most successful organisation in Slovakia, which is an encouraging result (with the context of a number of employees and efficient operations).

Thanks to the EU funded projects, the impact and position of the institute in the international level was raised. Moreover, we have increased the number of active research collaborations with renowned international research institutions such as the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), University of Copenhagen, The Centre for Research & Technology, Hellas (CERTH), Trinity College Dublin, University of Sheffield and many others.

We have also strengthened our internal processes to create an excellent, creative, and safe research environment. We are highly committed to adopting and aligning our processes to international research standards with a strong emphasis on the EU approach. As a result of hard work, we are close to setting up an International scientific board, we have strengthened the position of the Ethical committee and we introduced the institute's Open science policy.

Our major achievements for 2022 are summarised below.

### **We have started six international projects funded by the EU.**

The acquired and started projects cover different actions and aim at different goals. We have concentrated our effort and excellence in the domain of fighting disinformation, web, and social networks (Research and innovation actions, Innovation actions, and MSCA Doctoral networks schemes). Similarly, we aimed at increasing our research capacity and international research support availability (Coordination and support actions scheme). Last but not least, we recognize the importance of knowledge transfer and concentrate our efforts on nurturing innovation in the industry (Digital Europe scheme).

**“Thanks to the EU funded projects, the impact and position of the institute in the international level was raised.”**

**“We are highly committed to adopting and aligning our processes to international research standards with a strong emphasis on the EU approach.”**





## New European projects at a glance:



### Improving Scientific Excellence and Creativity in Combating Disinformation with AI & Language Technologies

The main objectives of the project are to improve the scientific excellence of KInIT in the selected areas of AI and language technologies, and strengthen research management and administrative skills and support for excellent research at KInIT.



### Verification Assisted by Artificial Intelligence

Project aims to research, develop and build trustworthy AI methods to fight harmful content and false information. It focuses on textual, multilingual, and multimodal content, and puts a strong emphasis on context and inter-content relationships.



**AI4EUROPE**

### An AI On-Demand Platform to Support Research Excellence in Europe

Project connects 23 EU institutions to build a better AI platform supporting the daily needs of academic and industrial AI researchers. In this project, we primarily focus on tools supporting responsible AI, research replicability, and usability of the platform.



### Eyes for Information, Communication, and Understanding

A network of 7 universities and research institutions trains 12 doctoral students. The aim is the exploration of novel forms of gaze interaction that rely on current psychological findings, computational modeling & expertise in highly promising application domains. We study how to use technology to better understand human-computer interactions.



### Vital Intelligence to Investigate Illegal Disinformation

The project creates an integrated platform of advanced disinformation identification and analysis tools and technologies employing state-of-the-art AI methods which were developed as part of several highly successful European projects. They will be tailored to Police Authorities' needs, following an ethical-by-design and user-centric approach.



**Hopero**

### European Digital Innovation Hub

Hopero is a nationwide ecosystem with a clear focus on artificial intelligence, with the aim to support the digital transformation of Slovak companies in the European innovation space. Our goal is to strengthen and expand the community of innovators, share knowledge, improve access to funds and increase the adoption rate of artificial intelligence in businesses.



## Dissemination of scientific knowledge.

During 2022, we have published in total 14 scientific papers of which five papers are on the A level and four papers are on the B level. Aligned with our long-term strategy to increase researchers' excellence and strengthened the impact we aim at top international venues. Seven papers were published in international journals and seven were presented at international conferences.

On top of these activities, we were communicating the scientific results to a wider audience - domain experts and the general public through four publications in professional journals.

## Community support.

We have continued to strongly support the AI research community by serving as steering, program, or organising committees members at top-class conferences such as IJCAI, TheWebConf, SIGIR, Hypertext, RecSys, UMAP, ADBIS, ECMLPKDD, WSDM.

Similarly, institute researchers served as reviewers for many international journals for instance: User Modeling and User-Adapted Interaction, New Review of Hypermedia and Multimedia, Journal of Intelligent Information Systems, Journal of Web Engineering, Transactions on Management Information Systems, Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction, Data Mining, and Knowledge Discovery.

## II. Research & Innovation in Collaboration with Business

Research partnerships play a critical role in advancing knowledge and innovation, and in addressing complex challenges that require interdisciplinary or cross-sector collaboration.

In 2022 we proved that effort put into quality pays off in continuous or long-term collaborations. Long-term industry collaborations are essential for achieving the mission of connecting excellent science to industry, building capacity and expertise, and fostering innovation and creativity.

We managed to continue with our long-term collaborations started in 2021 (ZSEE, Sféra) and two industry PhD projects (Softec, Eset). One new PhD project started with Luigi's box. In 2022 we

**“While maintaining stable collaborations is important, building new collaborations can provide valuable opportunities for growth, innovation, and diversity.”**





initiated five new pilot industry collaborations (Anasoft, Simplicity, Upheal, VNET, Luigi's box), the majority of the companies were start-ups.

As a research institute, we are committed to promoting talent circulation and supporting the development of a diverse and dynamic research community. Internal processes concerning industry collaborations documents flow (contracts, invoices, offers, and others) that were set up in 2021 were justified during 2022 and slight fine-tuning was done based on gain experience and KInIT growth.

KInIT's mission is to improve Slovakia's competitiveness, connect the private and public sectors, and encourage responsible innovations. Significant step towards fulfillment of our mission and key achievement was our successful proposal in the Digital Europe scheme for the European Digital Innovation Hub (EDIH) together with Civitta, SAPIE, and the Slovak Academy of Sciences. SK-AI EDIH [Hopero](#) is part of the European Innovation Hubs ecosystem that aims to upgrade companies and their people for the digital era by strengthening and expanding the community of innovators, sharing knowledge, improving access to funds, and adopting artificial intelligence.

### III. Talent Concentration and Circulation

As a research institute, we recognize the importance of fostering an environment that encourages and facilitates talent circulation, as this ultimately leads to increased innovation and growth in our field.

We keep on focusing on activities that highlight the importance of creating an environment that fosters talent mobility and encourages the exchange of ideas and knowledge. As a research institute, we are committed to promoting talent circulation and supporting the development of a diverse and dynamic research community. We believe that by doing so, we can help drive innovation and advance our understanding of the world around us.

As a result of our effort, we succeeded in attracting four researchers from abroad who joined our team. One of them is a PhD student who relocated to Slovakia as well as started a collaboration with a couple of young research talents from abroad.

We also intensified our internship program in the past year. It has been a successful initiative. Through this program, we have been able to provide valuable learning opportunities for students and young professionals while also



**As a research institute, we are committed to promoting talent circulation and supporting the development of a diverse and dynamic research community.**





benefiting from their contribution to our research projects. Our internship program is designed to provide hands-on experience for students and young professionals in various fields of AI-related research. Interns work closely with our researchers and are involved in ongoing research projects as well as other topics such as HR or marketing. They also receive mentorship and guidance from our team, helping them develop their skills and knowledge in their respective areas of interest.

Over the past year, we have had a total of 16 interns participate in our program. These interns came from diverse academic backgrounds, including law, social and human sciences, and IT. We provided them with a range of projects, including literature reviews, data analysis, and experimental design. Through these projects, our interns gained practical skills and knowledge that will be valuable for their future careers. In addition to the learning opportunities provided to our interns, our research institute has also benefited from their contributions, which has enabled us to accelerate the progress of our research projects.

We believe that our PhD and internship programs as well as other talent attraction and acceleration activities will continue to be an important part of our efforts to promote education and research excellence.

## Brand, Media and Visibility

KInIT brand awareness grew thanks to numerous appearances in major media (e.g., DennikN, TV Markiza, Aktuality.sk, Trend), starting six new international projects and our engagement in the research and innovation ecosystem of Slovakia and Central Europe, in particular. KInIT researchers were mentioned in the media 92 times, including interviews, podcasts, and TV shows. We established a partnership with Quark magazine where they publish a two-page KInIT article every month.

We held more than 40 research and educational seminars and workshops on various topics. KInIT team members presented our research topics at numerous events and conferences in Slovakia and the Czech Republic, we took part in many panel discussions.

We continued to organise [Better\\_AI\\_meetups](#) in partnership with Innovatrics and HubHub, where professionals from the field of AI can share experiences and network.

**“Madam President visited our institute which was a huge dose of motivation and energy for us to keep on working hard.”**





Our participation in [three presidential delegations](#) to Italy, Switzerland, Greece, and North Macedonia was a source of appreciation and knowledge. Sharing our vision as part of the expert delegations was an incredible experience and a great opportunity to build new partnerships. Madam President visited our institute which was a huge dose of motivation and energy for us to keep on working hard. [Madam President](#) visited our institute which was a huge dose of motivation and energy for us to keep on working hard.

The future of Slovakia is a topic that is very important to us. We are engaged in the Slovak innovation ecosystem, we became part of the [For Innovative Slovakia](#) initiative. We contributed to the public discussions on Artificial Intelligence regulation (AI Act) and other burning societal issues, including the [analysis of selected regulations concerning disinformation](#) for Miriam Lexmann, Member of the European Parliament.

We regularly present our scientific activities to the general public. In 2022, we published more than one hundred News articles on the KInIt website. We posted daily on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter, with an average engagement rate of 8.26% across platforms. We started to send out regular newsletters, with an average open rate of 48.47%.

We are aware of the fact that people often have no idea what a research institute is. So we decided to explain who we are and what we do in a playful video. We also presented our new collaborations on our web to clarify our daily activities and our project contributions.

## Finances

KInIT's funding is built up along three main sources: (i) donations, which mainly support application driven basic research, people development and partially also operations, (ii) grants, which support KInIT's core activities including interdisciplinary and cross-sectorial research and international networking, and (iii) industrial collaborations, which focus mainly on applied research and transfer.

The most substantial part of KInIT costs in 2022 was personnel expenses (80%). Part of the operational costs were financed by services provided at a significant discount or pro bono, i.e., non-financial contributions (e.g., office spaces, legal services, leadership training, public communication support, AI computing infrastructure). KInIT 2022 costs (i.e., real cash flow and non-financial contributions) were 1.8 mil eur.

**In the future, it is crucial to keep the current donations as well as to gradually increase the income from other sources, thus balancing the proportion between the three main sources of funding – donations, grants and industry collaborations.**



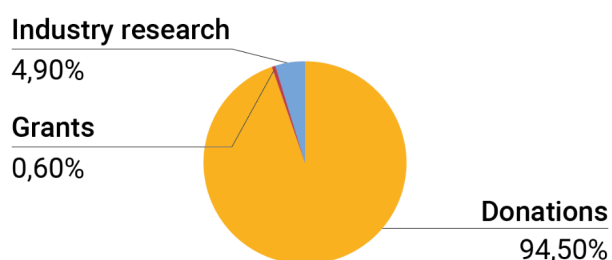


On the income side, the share of donations decreased compared to 2021, as planned, while the income from industrial collaborations as well as the income from grants increased. As the institute grew on the year-on-year comparison, the share of donations dropped from 94,5% to 72,2%. The donations also include non-financial contributions that dropped from 9,2% share to 6,3% due to the cost base growth in 2022.

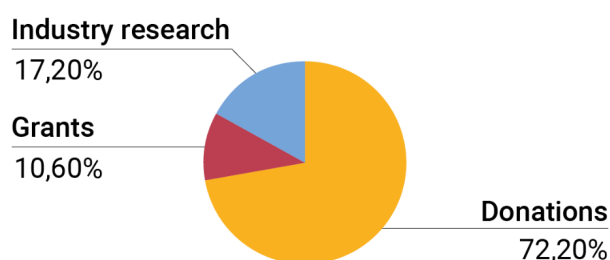
In 2022 KInIT further developed industry collaborations starting in 2021. The industry partners contributed to 2022 cash flow income by 17,2%. We also started five Horizon Europe and one Digital Europe grants, which resulted in 10,6% of income in 2022. In 2023, we expect the share of grants to increase further to approx. 34%.

In the future, it is crucial to keep the current donations as well as to gradually increase the income from other sources, thus balancing the proportion between the three main sources of funding – donations (financial and non-financial), grants and industry collaborations

### Income 2021



### Income 2022



## Concluding remarks

The recent advances in artificial intelligence, more specifically the large language models and generative AI in general, uncovered the great potential of AI and in fact, articulated the upcoming disruptive changes in our life and society. KInIT aligns with the “A European approach to artificial intelligence” - ensuring that AI is human-centric and trustworthy. We aim at bringing up the pressing issues of Slovakia and explaining how recent developments in AI can help Slovakia to address those.

The problem of brain drain and growing isolationism is exacerbating the divide between EU countries. At KInIT, we joined our efforts to offer an attractive, inclusive, and creative environment to attract talent from abroad, including Slovak expats. In 2022, we supervised 10 PhD students and 16 interns, supported the preparation of two Marie Skłodowska Curie ERC Starting grants, and started the preparation of a Horizon Europe grant for postdoctoral positions. Since the beginning of its activities, the Institute has doubled its staff from 24 to 46,55 FTE with an average age of 34 years.





We are especially proud of our success in acquiring European grants last year. As the European schemes are highly competitive, it illustrates our expertise, hard work, and also increasing research network across Europe. Naturally, seven European projects acquired by KInIT ([CEDMO](#), [AI4Europe](#), [Eyes4ICU](#), [vera.ai](#), [VIGILANT](#), coordinator: [DisAI](#), [SKAI-eDIH](#)) is not the goal, it is only the beginning. We are improving ourselves with the help and guidance of our partners from 23 countries, most prominently our role models - German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) and The Centre for Research & Technology, Hellas (CERTH). Together we bring excellent interdisciplinary research on topics relevant to the Slovak and European regions.

Last but not least, we strengthened our industry collaborations and impact by coordinating European Digital Innovation Hub on AI – Hopero. In the upcoming years, we (and our partners Civitta Slovakia, SAPIE, and the Centre of Operations of the Slovak Academy of Sciences) will promote digital technologies related to AI, support SMEs in access to private and EU funding, focusing specifically on SMEs in the regions, and develop the digital innovation ecosystem.

Following our core value – curiosity – we are curious and open to new challenges. At KInIT we will always strive for excellence in our activities. We will further seek to engage all actors in the quadruple helix (academia, industry, society, and government) to multiply the positive impact on society.

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People often have no idea what a research institute is... In this [playful video](#), we explain who we are and what we do.

# KInIT key achievements 2022

<b>14</b> <b>scientific outputs made publicly available</b> <p>Our scientific outputs were presented in 14 papers published in scientific journals and international conferences proceedings. Among these, 30% of publications were co-authored with researchers outside KInIT.</p>	<b>10</b> <b>research industry collaborations</b> <p>We were engaged in 10 industry collaborations (5 pilot projects, 5 long term) and 2 more collaborations were in the preparation phase. In total, we have collaborated with 17 industry partners since the beginning.</p>	<b>10</b> <b>international research project proposals</b> <p>We worked on 10 international project proposals, 7 of which were in Horizon Europe (HE). Our success rate in European schemes is 50%. KInIT is among the top 3 Slovak grantees in HE, with the best funding ratio per researcher.</p>	<b>8</b> <b>international projects in progress</b> <p>We were involved in 8 international projects together with 69 partners from 23 countries: 2 from 2021 (CEDMO and TAILOR) and 6 new projects (AI4Europe, Eyes4ICU, vera.ai, Hopero, VIGILANT and DisAI).</p>	<b>70%</b> <b>of our research projects are interdisciplinary</b> <p>We collaborate in our projects with researchers from multiple disciplines, like psychology, history, social sciences, philosophy, or journalism. KInIT team is also composed of researchers from several disciplines.</p>
<b>1 400</b> <b>sum of citations of individual researchers</b> <p>We gained a total of 1400 citations to our works (as listed in our Google Scholar profiles); the citations were present in papers published worldwide throughout 2022.</p>	<b>15</b> <b>basic research supporters and donors</b> <p>Basic research was supported by 15 subjects in 2022; all of them were private companies, including 7 large enterprises and 8 SMEs. We collaborate with Leaf and Nexteria.</p>	<b>12%</b> <b>international colleagues</b> <p>International dimension is high priority for KInIT. KInIT has partners from 23 countries and operates fully in English. 3 new researchers and 1 engineer from abroad joined KInIT team.</p>	<b>26</b> <b>students supervised</b> <p>We continued in PhD studies with growing the team to 10 students. Moreover, we welcomed and supervised 16 interns ( bachelor and master students).</p>	<b>3 300+</b> <b>followers on LinkedIn</b> <p>KInIT visibility grows. The number of followers on our social media is growing and we reached 3300+ followers on LinkedIn and 1300+ followers on Facebook.</p>

- **KInIT mission:** Connecting industry to excellent science
- **KInIT personnel capacity (December 2022):** 24,65 FTE researchers and engineers, 10 doctoral students, 9,1 FTE operations, 2,8 FTE management (plus 13 interns, 5 volunteers)
- **KInIT strategic research areas:** machine learning, deep neural networks, intelligent data analysis, and trustworthy AI with applications in following domains: natural language processing, green and secure environment, web and user data processing, ethics and values in technology



## 1. Success in Horizon Europe and Digital Europe grants

In a fierce competition, we succeeded in 6 European grant proposals. As the result of an intensive proposal preparation effort, our success rate in achieving funding in European schemes is 50%, which is way above the European average (13%). Throughout 2022, we also put a lot of effort in kicking-off all these projects and establishing new organization processes and structures to solve them. These projects now constitute an essential portion of KInIT's budget. We also attained important roles within the project consortia: we coordinate two of the projects and play major roles in the rest.

Basic Research

Applied Research

Transfer

## 3. New industry partners, long term collaborations continued and doubling the financial resources

We managed to successfully continue with long term collaborations (ZSEE, sféra) and two industry PhD projects (Softec, Eset). One new long term PhD industry project started with Luigi's box. While maintaining stable collaborations is important, building new collaborations can provide valuable opportunities for growth, innovation, and diversity. In 2022 we started five new pilot industry collaborations (Anasoft, Simplicity, Upheal, VNET, Luigi's box), the majority of the companies were start-ups.

Applied Research

Transfer

## 5. Doctoral study successfully continues and first Horizon Europe MSCA doctoral network student

Our institute has implemented a PhD study program in 2021 in collaboration with Brno University of Technology. It has been a remarkable achievement that led to continuation in 2022. This year 30 candidates applied. The key factor in the success of the PhD study program has been the careful selection of candidates. After the thorough review, testing and interviews, four applicants have been selected and started the 2nd year of the PhD study program at KInIT. One of them is a PhD student from Spain who is our first Horizon Europe MSCA doctoral network student.

Basic Research

Applied Research

## 2. Attracting talent and first international colleagues

As a research institute, we recognize the importance of fostering an environment that encourages and facilitates talent circulation, as this ultimately leads to increased innovation and growth in our field. We keep focusing on activities that highlight the importance of creating an environment that fosters talent mobility and encourages the exchange of ideas and knowledge. As a result of our efforts, we hired the first four foreign colleagues to join the KInIT team, two of whom also relocated to Slovakia.

Basic Research

Applied Research

Transfer

Culture

## 4. Increasing KInIT visibility and presidential visit

In 2022, KInIT brand awareness grew thanks to numerous media appearances in major Slovak media and the presentation of our research at a number of events. We established a partnership with Quark magazine; they publish a two-page KInIT article every month. Our daily posts on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter had an average engagement rate of 8.26% across platforms. KInIT Newsletter is sent out regularly, with an average open rate of 48.47%. We continued to organize Better\_AI meetups in partnership with Innovatrics and HubHub. Our researchers were invited to participate in three presidential delegations. Madam President also visited our institute which was a huge dose of motivation and energy for us to keep on working hard.

Policies

Science popularisation

## 6. Developing an internship program

In 2022, the talent circulation mission of KInIT was boosted significantly with the addition of the internship program. We have opened more than 10 positions for young talents and welcomed both researchers and research engineers, some of them studying abroad. Our interns work on interesting challenges, selected to serve both training and research/engineering purposes. Multiple of these works have already resulted in accepted research papers, competitions won, practical tools and successful grant applications. Internship experiences gained in KInIT are also providing an important boon to interns' CVs, especially in study applications for the prestigious universities abroad.

Basic Research

Applied Research

Science popularisation

- 7. Significant expansion of the network of scientific collaborators**
- Our network of collaborations now spans over most European countries and beyond. Through a variety of activities (international grant preparation and solving, industry collaborations, joint experiments, paper writing or resource exchange), we have increased the number of partners (both academic institutions and companies) and also deepened the collaboration with many of them. Only within our European projects, we collaborate with 69 partners in 23 countries.

Basic Research

Applied Research

Policies

- 9. Interdisciplinarity as important aspects of our projects**
- Interdisciplinarity plays an important role in our research activities and forms our institutional DNA. We are attracting researchers from humanities and social sciences that help us better understand how to approach trustworthy and human-centered AI. Among the most important international and national research projects most of them consist of cooperation with experts outside the AI domain, i.e. we are fortunate that we have the opportunity to share our views with other distinctive researchers and experts with diverse backgrounds ranging from history (QVIRE), psychology (Eyes4ICU), social sciences (MIMEDIS), philosophy (Vigilant), information sciences (AI4Europe) to journalism (CEDMO, vera.ai) and gender studies (USEG).

Basic Research

Applied Research

Transfer

Science popularisation

- II. After covid team activities**
- After the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, our team at KInIT eagerly came together to foster a sense of togetherness through various team activities. In summer, we organized a refreshing summer outing, allowing our team to bond in a relaxed environment. To commemorate our company's birthday, we hosted a special celebration where not only our employees, but also our valued partners and supporters joined in the festivities, strengthening our relationships. To close the year in good spirit, we organized a Christmas gathering highlighted by a fun-filled quiz. These team activities helped us to reconnect, create lasting memories, and foster a positive team spirit.

Culture

- 8. Significant increase of the engineering part**
- We recognize the importance of engineering's role in science. In 2022, we upgraded our KInIT research team by establishing a separate orthogonal section: research engineering team. The aim is to professionalize various steps of the research pipeline in KInIT (especially, systemizing research work, delivery of AI-based functional prototypes, developing our own on-premise infrastructure and enabling the use of high-performance computing and cloud services within KInIT). The research engineering team consists of seven members spread across all research teams. It also maps global tools, processes, and approaches, adapts them for KInIT projects, and improves research and technology transfer.

Basic Research

Applied Research

Transfer

- 10. Building a project based organization**
- Following the success of research grant acquisition and the start of several large international projects, we focused on strengthening the back office from both capacity and processes point of view. As the institute has been successful in various grant schemes (ranging from NGOs, national to European), we aim at decreasing the bureaucracy and establishing flexible and reliable processes and reporting. We have dedicated significant resources to creating supporting tools in collaboration with consultancy companies PwC and Civitta. Thanks to the DisAI project, the institute undergoes a research management assessment by project partner - DFKI. Our effort targets the institute principle to deliver excellence in each of the activities.

Basic Research

Applied Research

Transfer

**KInIT**

Kempelen Institute

of Intelligent Technologies

Sky Park Offices, Bottova 7939/2A,

811 09 Bratislava, Slovakia

Entity reg. no.: 53290046

Contact: info@kinit.sk

# Leadership



**Mária Bieliková**  
Director General KInIT,  
Board of Trustees Member



**Marián Šimko**  
Deputy Director General KInIT,  
Board of Trustees Member



**Peter Gál**  
Chief Operations Officer KInIT



**Michak Kompan**  
Chief Research Officer KInIT



**Diana Lokere**  
Chief People &  
Culture Officer KInIT



**Richard Marko**  
Chairman of the Board of  
Trustees, CEO ESET



**Martin Kubík**  
Deputy Chair of the Board of  
Trustees, CIO Tatra banka



**Ján Lunter**  
Board of Trustees Member,  
CEO Innovatrics



**Michaela Benedigová**  
Board of Trustees Member,  
Managing Director & Partner,  
Seesame



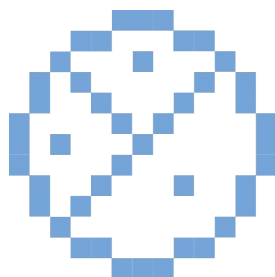
**Daniela Chudá**  
Board of Trustees Member,  
KInIT



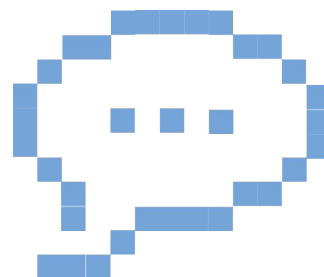
# Team Leads



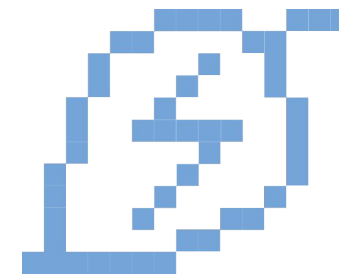
**Jakub Šimko**  
Web & User Data  
Processing Lead



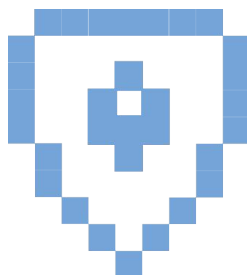
**Marián Šimko**  
Natural Language  
Processing Lead



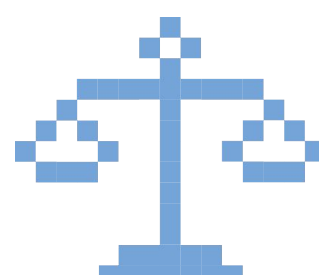
**Viera Rozinajová**  
Data analysis for  
Green Energy



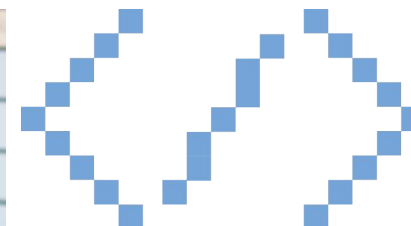
**Daniela Chudá**  
Information Security Lead



**Juraj Podroužek**  
Ethics & Human Values  
in Technology Lead



**Peter Gál**  
Operations Lead







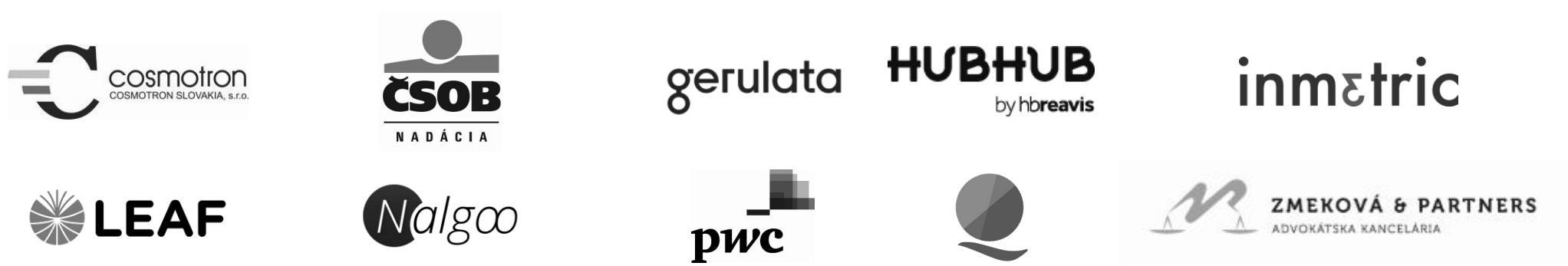




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