

# FALLING WALLS SCIENCE SUMMIT



## KEY RESULTS OF THE ROUND TABLE

### “INDUSTRIAL AI: UNLOCKING EUROPE’S GROWTH ENGINE TOGETHER”

— *Europe must turn its factories into learning systems before others do*

Industrial AI is gaining momentum just as manufacturers face talent shortages, rising costs and stringent regulatory demands. The session highlighted that only by turning industrial data into reliable, scalable AI capabilities can Europe accelerate development, cut emissions and remain globally competitive.

Unlike consumer AI, industrial AI must understand engineering and chemical processes, bridge information technology (IT) with operational technology (OT) and meet high standards for safety and explainability. This requires Industry-trained foundation models, digital twins, modular interfaces and human-in-command co-pilots that reduce troubleshooting and allow experts to focus on innovation.

### THE PANEL CALL TO ACTION:

#### 1 — Build European infrastructure to secure industrial AI leadership.

Europe needs sovereign compute capacity and data centres to train and operate industrial foundation models. Companies such as Merck are already investing in their own systems, and global policy debates underline the need for joint European investment in both data and energy infrastructure.

#### 2 — Invest in the foundations: people, skills and industrial-grade AI.

Upskill and reskill the workforce and teach AI the language of engineering. Deploy co-pilots and digital twins to reduce manual workload, accelerate problem-solving and free experts to focus on higher-value tasks.

#### 3 — Use SMARTfacturing to drive sustainability by design.

Scale digital twins and plug-and-produce architectures to cut waste, reduce energy consumption and shorten development cycles, proving that efficiency and sustainability can advance together.

#### 4 — Break down industrial data silos by unifying IT and OT through shared standards.

Develop common data models, ontologies and modular interfaces so equipment and systems can interoperate securely. This enables data to flow from machines into enterprise platforms and allows AI solutions to scale across sites rather than remain isolated pilots.

*This event is supported by Siemens and assembled in the framework of the Falling Walls Science Summit 2025 in Berlin. The Falling Walls Science Summit is a leading international, interdisciplinary, and intersectoral forum for scientific breakthroughs. It commemorates the fall of the Berlin Wall and aims to promote dialogue between science and society.*

## SIEMENS

### PANELLISTS

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