



**AIT**  
**AI Ethics Lab**

The Co-Change Lab at AIT, the Austrian Institute of Technology, focuses on addressing the promises and challenges associated with research work on and the application of machine learning and artificial intelligence. An interdisciplinary team of social and data scientists is working on AI ethics.

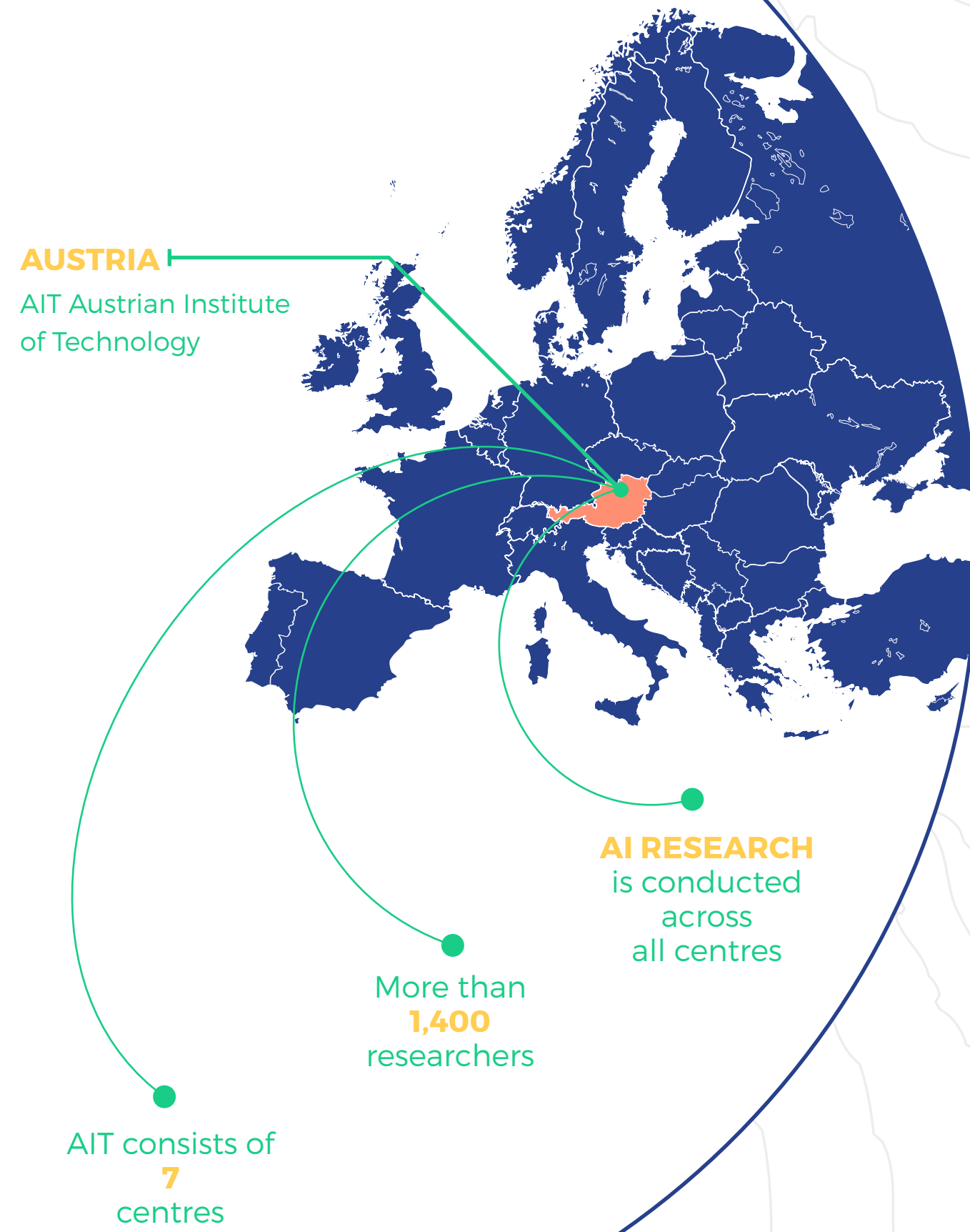
# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) ETHICS



**THE INTERDISCIPLINARY AIT AI ETHICS LAB IS FORMED**  
by 7 researchers

**AUSTRIA**

AIT Austrian Institute of Technology



**STARTING POINT**

- Mandatory GDPR training at AIT
- AIT data protection officer
- AIT guidelines on GDPR, not on AI ethics
- Limited transdisciplinary discussion

**ITEMS OF CHANGE: AIT**

- Establish core Lab team with experts from social and data sciences
- Workshops within various units of AIT to raise awareness about AI ethics
- Collaboration with legal and data protection officers about AI ethics-related issues - e.g., regarding training and guidelines
- Create joint interdisciplinary research projects on AI ethics

**ITEMS OF CHANGE: ECOSYSTEM**

- Cooperate with national experts (e.g. BRZ Federal Computing Centre, Women in AI Network, TU Vienna)
- Engage with international AI community (e.g., European Commission meetings, TechEthos and ROSiE communities)
- Design public engagement workshops on social media and create a public discourse on AI ethics

**DIFFICULTIES**

- Data protection is covered through the GDPR, but uncertainties regarding its interpretation persist
- Researchers are not always sure on how to deal with bias and discrimination associated with AI
- AI ethics is sometimes seen as potentially hindering research by complicating matters and consuming resources
- Time and money: addressing AI ethics already at the project start is not an issue of industry-wide concern



**ACHIEVEMENTS**

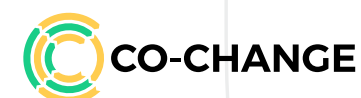
**Co-production of AI ethics practice guide**  
for the Austrian federal civil service

**Seminars on AI ethics**  
at the VAB Austrian Federal Academy  
for the Public Administration

**Workshop for TAFTIE**  
**European Network**  
of Innovation Agencies  
on AI ethics

**Broader awareness**  
through **AIT workshops**  
regarding ethics-related topics such as data protection, privacy, and bias

**Workshops with Austrian RRI Platform**  
on AI ethics and institutional change



[www.cochangeproject.eu](http://www.cochangeproject.eu)

#COCHANGE2020

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