



## Factsheet – press pack

### Technologies and AI: Opportunities and threats

Thursday 21 March, 11:30-13:00

#### Two examples of practices by Efus member cities

>> Note to Editors: please let us know if you want to contact representatives of the cities and organisations mentioned here for an interview

- **The city of Montpellier** (France) set up in November 2023 a “[citizen convention](#)”, a group of 40 citizens representing the local population that will analyse how AI “*can be of service for residents and for the local territory*”. The group will draw up a series of recommendations that the municipal council will debate and vote on in the spring of 2024. The city also set up an AI committee that gathers about two dozen researchers, business executives and experts.
- **The city of Mannheim** (Germany) is taking part in a pilot project on [intelligence-led video surveillance](#) to enhance safety in the streets, along with the Fraunhofer research institute, the Mannheim police headquarters and the Ministry of the Interior and of Digitalisation and Migration of the State of Baden-Württemberg. The system uses algorithms to recognise certain behavioural patterns that may indicate crime, such as hitting or kicking, and alert police officers at the command and situation centre.

#### Speakers

- [Rachel Finn](#), Head of Irish Operations, [Trilateral Research](#) (Ireland), which provides ethical AI solutions to complex social problems and does research in data protection, ethics innovation and sociotech insights.
- [Daniel Gatica-Perez](#), Head of Social Computing Group, [IDIAP Research Institute](#), and École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne ([EPFL](#)) (Switzerland). IDIAP works in the areas of fundamental research, education and technology transfer in artificial intelligence, machine learning and signal processing. EPFL is a world-renowned polytechnics and engineering university.



- [Volker Proffen](#), Deputy Mayor, [city of Mannheim](#) (Germany)
- [Aleksi Kopponen](#), Director of Digital Transformation, [city of Tampere](#) (Finland)

### **Efus' work and position**

[Efus' approach](#) is based on the key principle that such policies, whether they concern the digital or the physical space, must include the respect of human rights, privacy and fundamental freedoms. Even though technologies transform the way police, public authorities and civil society act and react to crime, they do not change the fundamental principles that prevention is an effective approach to crime and that social cohesion is key to safeguarding security.