

## prosus techleap.nl

# State of AI in The Netherlands

Igniting Europe's Hidden
Al Powerhouse

#### Introduction

Al poses a generational opportunity for wealth creation

Al is advancing at an **exponential pace**. Some experts predict we will soon see the arrival of **AGI** / **superintelligent systems** 

Al is **rewiring the economy**: value will shifts from labor to models

The disruptive effects are already felt in software companies. Others will follow shortly

Future wealth creation depends on being an 'Al shaper' or 'Al taker'

Al-driven productivity gains will be distributed **highly unequally** 

The **US and China** are investing billions to secure AI dominance

Future health of the **Dutch economy** depends on its ability to harness Al's potential

Key questions to resolve

How does the **Dutch AI ecosystem** compare to other leading European clusters?

What unique **strengths** and **challenges** define its position?

How can the Netherlands chart its **own course to thrive** in this new era of A!?

Page/2 Source: Dealroom.co techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

### **Executive Summary**

## One of the deepest AI talent pools in Europe

The Netherlands accounts for 8% of the total AI talent pool in Europe, compared to just 2.8% of the population (~3x more).

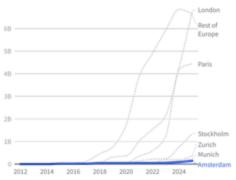
#### Number of AI Talents in NL versus peers

| Country           | Al Talents | Al Talents<br>share | Number of Al Talents per<br>10k Capita - | pop  |
|-------------------|------------|---------------------|--|------|
| Luxembourg        | 768        | 0%                  | 12.5                                     | 1    |
| Netherlands       | 18.7K      | 8%                  | 10.9                                     | 17   |
| Ireland           | 4.5K       | 2%                  | 9.4                                      | 5    |
| Switzerland       | 7.6K       | 3%                  | 9.0                                      | 8    |
| Denmark           | 4.5K       | 2%                  | 12                                       | 6    |
| Cyprus            | 609        | 0%                  | 7.0                                      | 1    |
| United<br>Kingdom | 40.5K      | 18%                 | 6.2                                      | 66   |
| Sweden            | 5.8K       | 3%                  | 5.7                                      | 10   |
| France            | 36.4K      | 16%                 | 5.4                                      | ET . |
| Finland           | 3K         | 1%                  | 5.6                                      | 6    |
| Malta             | 242        | 0%                  | 1.0                                      | 0    |
| Norway            | 2.6K       | 1%                  | 4.8                                      | 5    |
| Portugal          | 4.8K       | 2%                  | 4.7                                      | 10   |
| Germany           | 35.6K      | 16%                 | 4.3                                      | 0    |
| Spain             | 20.3K      | 9%                  | 4.3                                      | 47   |

## A talent magnet without propulsion

While AI startup activity in other major European cities (Paris, London, Zurich) accelerates, Amsterdam lacks the same escape velocity.

Amsterdam enterprise value compared to other major European hubs



## Need for capital and a scientific impulse

The main AI hub, Amsterdam, trails other European cities in (Growth) Capital, and lacks a brand name academic institution or major global Tech R&D center.

Ranking of Amsterdam on key performance indicators



## prosus

## Investing in the AI-enabled Future of Commerce.

Prosus is a global technology company, unlocking an AI first world for its 2 billion customers. With investments in more than 100 companies across the world, Prosus builds local ecommerce champions in growth markets.

With leading positions in Food Delivery, Classifieds and Fintech, Prosus has created its own unique technology ecosystem, driving innovation, knowledge sharing and growth across its portfolio.

Through the Prosus Ventures team, the Group invests in new technology growth opportunities within AI, social and ecommerce platforms, fintech, B2B software, logistics, health, blockchain, agriculture and more.

The team actively backs exceptional entrepreneurs who are using technology to improve people's everyday lives.

## techleap.nl

## Positioning the Netherlands as a leading global Tech hub

Techleap is a Dutch organization dedicated to empowering founders to accelerate their ventures, fostering economic growth and societal progress. Our mission is to position the Netherlands as a leading global hub for tech entrepreneurship across all critical sectors and technologies.

Founded with support from the Dutch government, Techleap recognizes the crucial role of technology in driving innovation. Over time, a vibrant grassroots community has emerged, where founders take ownership and actively support one another.

From initial government support to a thriving independent community, Techleap helps create a self-sustaining Dutch entrepreneurial flywheel that continues to propel innovation and development.



## Global startup & venture capital intelligence platform

Dealroom.co is a global intelligence platform for discovering and tracking the most promising companies, technologies and ecosystems. Clients include many of the world's foremost organizations such as Sequoia, Accel, Index Ventures, McKinsey, BCG, Deloitte, Google, AWS, Microsoft, Stripe.

Dealroom partners closely with local tech ecosystem development agencies and enablers, to create a comprehensive multi-dimensional blueprint of the tech ecosystem, including capital, talent, innovation, entrepreneurship and overall economic dynamism.

Page/4 techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co



## "The Netherlands has the foundations to become an 'AI maker, not an AI taker.'

With high-income consumers, brilliant founders, and an abundance of talent, the country is uniquely positioned to lead in the next wave of innovation.

The Dutch ecosystem is marked by a spirit of collaboration, creativity, and resilience offering the Netherlands a genuine opportunity to shape the future of AI—not just for Europe, but for the world.

At Prosus, we are ready to do our part and help build the next generation of European Al companies. Together, we can turn today's promise into tomorrow's breakthroughs."

Fabricio Bloisi, CEO

prosus



## "The Dutch AI ecosystem is brimming with potential, but that's not enough to win.

Though we have world-class talent, a tradition of scientific excellence, a growing community of founders tackling some of society's biggest challenges, it is not coming together yet. We must raise the collective ambition, by investing boldly in startups and a more connected national AI infrastructure, like the national AI Giga Factory. The government should provide access to large public datasets and actively use its procurement muscle to stimulate innovation at scale.

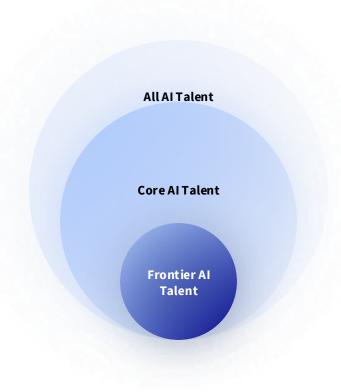
Still, startups struggle to find knowledgeable buyers or sophisticated corporate partners who understand how to adopt and scale AI solutions. They note that investors miss the deep expertise to place large bets in this space. We are also leaking AI talent to big tech. Techleap will lay its part in facilitating AI founders to bring all these relevant stakeholders together in a solid AI ecosystem, which we will announce soon."

Constantijn van Oranje, Special Envoy

techleap.nl

- 1. Dutch surprise: One of the deepest talent pools in Europe
- 2. A society that lags in AI trust and adoption
- 3. Al startup scene without escape velocity
- 4. A call for action

## The Netherlands has a deep AI Talent pool



|                       | # in Europe<br>('000) | # in NL<br>('000) | Definition   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--|
| All<br>Al Talent      | 229                   | 19                | Includes all AI professionals whether they are utilizing existing AI tools/platforms / models developed by others, or building the core AI tech. (e.g., from Data Scientists applying prebuilt models for analysis to ML Engineers building core models).  |
| Core AI<br>Talent     | 65                    | 4                 | Primary role involves <b>developing</b> , <b>researching</b> , <b>or engineering novel AI models</b> , <b>algorit hms</b> , <b>or systems</b> (e.g., ML Engineers building core models, AI Researchers, Robotics Engineers focused on AI components, Model Validators, Feature Engineering specialists). |
| Frontier<br>AI Talent | 10                    | 1                 | Core AI Talents that have an AI related Ph D and are current AI researchers  |

techleap.nl

| Country        | AI Talents | Al Talents share | Number of AI Talents per 10k<br>Capita |
|----------------|------------|------------------|--|
| Netherlands    | 18.7K      | 8%               | 10.9                                   |
| Ireland        | 4.5K       | 2%               | 9.4                                    |
| Switzerland    | 7.6K       | 3%               | 9.0                                    |
| Denmark        | 4.5K       | 2%               | 7.7                                    |
| United Kingdom | 40.9K      | 18%              | 6.2                                    |
| Sweden         | 5.8K       | 3%               | 5.7                                    |
| France         | 36.4K      | 16%              | 5.4                                    |
| Finland        | 3K         | 1%               | 5.4                                    |
| Portugal       | 4.8K       | 2%               | 4.7                                    |
| Germany        | 35.6K      | 16%              | 4.3                                    |
| Spain          | 20.3K      | 9%               | 4.3                                    |
| Europe         | 229.5K     | 100%             | 3.8                                    |
| Belgium        | 4.1K       | 2%               | 3.6                                    |
| Austria        | 2.7K       | 1%               | 3.1                                    |
| Poland         | 8.8K       | 4%               | 2.3                                    |
| Italy          | 12K        | 5%               | 2.0                                    |

Additional 17 rows not shown

## An unexpected surprise:

The Netherlands has the most dense AI talent pool in Europe.

This accounts for 8% of the total Al talent pool in Europe, compared to just 2.8% of the population (~3x more).

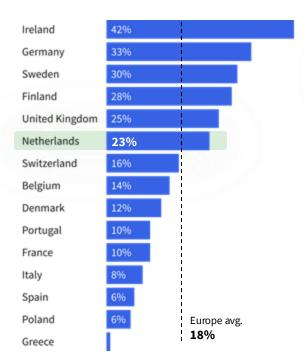
## Netherlands is one of Europe's main magnets for global AI talent

Overall Europe hosts 42k extra-European AI talents, which make up 18% of the talent pool.

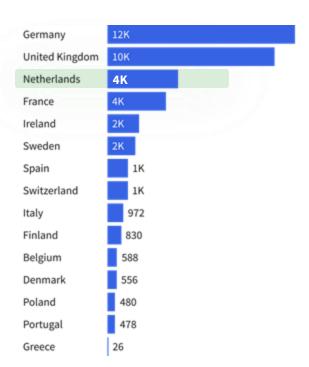


Showing top 15 European countries where most Al Talents are currently located, excluding Russia and Turkey. Country of origin are estimated using education history, early work experience, names, and languages spoken.

## Share of extra-European Al Talents per country



## Number of extra-European Al Talents per country

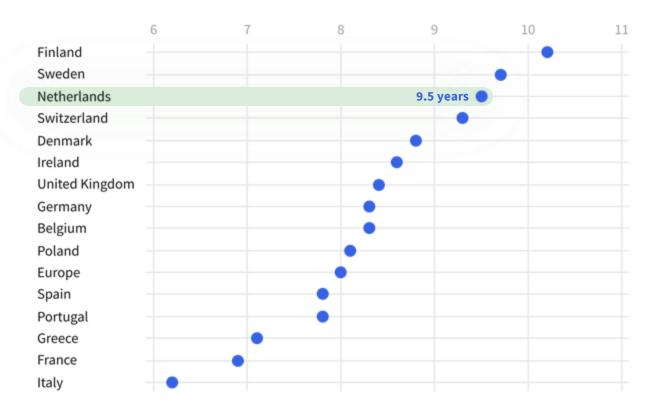


## **Netherlands** is also one of the most **experienced AI** talent hubs

#### Source: Dealroom.co;

Includes all work experience of current AI talents in the 15 biggest AIT alents country hubs in Europe, excluding Russia and Turkey.

#### Median years of work experience of Al Talents in Europe's 15 top Al Talents countries



## Amsterdam is the national AI hub representing 37% of the country's talents

| City                      | AI Talents | AI Talents share in country |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 <sub>st</sub> Amsterdam | 6951       | 37.2%                       |
| Utrecht                   | 1988       | 10.7%                       |
| Eindhoven                 | 1180       | 6.396                       |
| Rotterdam                 | 1017       | 5.496                       |
| The Hague                 | 825        | 4.496                       |
| Delft                     | 570        | 3.1%                        |
| Groningen                 | 404        | 2.2%                        |
| Nijmegen                  | 313        | 1.796                       |
| Leiden                    | 277        | 1.5%                        |
| Arnhem                    | 230        | 1.296                       |
| Tilburg                   | 219        | 1.296                       |
| The Randstad              | 211        | 1.196                       |
| Enschede                  | 206        | 1.196                       |
| Maastricht                | 202        | 1.196                       |
| Den Haag                  | 182        | 1.096                       |



## Amsterdam is the 5th largest hub in Europe with ~7000 AI professionals

| City          | AI Talents | AI Talents share global |
|---------------|------------|-------------------------|
| London        | 20K        | 8.7%                    |
| Paris         | 15K        | 6.6%                    |
| Berlin        | 8K         | 3.496                   |
| Madrid        | 8K         | 3.3%                    |
| 5th Amsterdam | 7K         | 3.0%                    |
| Munich        | 5K         | 2.3%                    |
| Barcelona     | 5K         | 2.196                   |
| Warsaw        | 4K         | 1.796                   |
| Dublin        | 3K         | 1.496                   |
| Stockholm     | 3K         | 1.3%                    |
| Zurich        | 3K         | 1.3%                    |
| Copenhagen    | 3K         | 1.396                   |
| Milan         | 3K         | 1.296                   |
| Lisbon        | 2K         | 1.096                   |
| Utrecht       | 2K         | 0.9%                    |



### TNO, Eindhoven university, and TU Delft are home to the largest pools of AI research talent

| Name                                  | Frontier AI Talents |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1st TNO                               | 49                  |
| Eindhoven University of<br>Technology | 41                  |
| TU Delft                              | 38                  |
| University of Twente                  | 18                  |
| Philips                               | 18                  |
| Utrecht University                    | 17                  |
| University of Groningen               | 16                  |
| ASML                                  | 16                  |
| University of Amsterdam               | 16                  |
| Maastricht University                 | 14                  |
| VU Amsterdam                          | 14                  |
| WUR                                   | 13                  |
| VUmc                                  | 12                  |
| Leiden University                     | 11                  |
| Radboud University                    | 11                  |





## A top hub of Frontier AI researchers ranking #8 in Europe

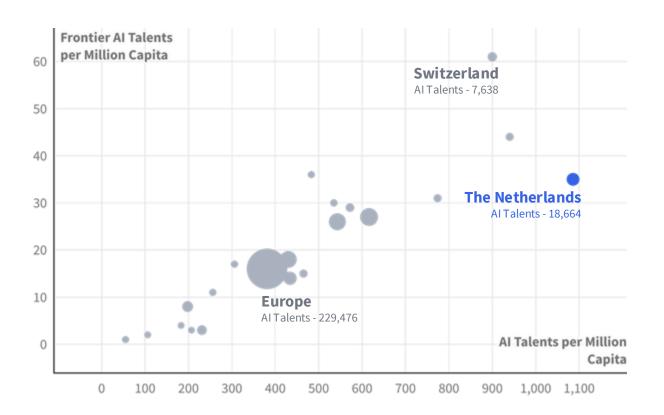
| City          | Frontier AI Talents share |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| London        | 7.1%                      |
| Paris         | 6.0%                      |
| Berlin        | 3.0%                      |
| Munich        | 2.496                     |
| Zurich        | 2.2%                      |
| Barcelona     | 2.0%                      |
| Cambridge     | 1.896                     |
| 8th Amsterdam | 1.6%                      |
| Madrid        | 1.5%                      |
| Dublin        | 1.4%                      |
| Stockholm     | 1.3%                      |
| Oxford        | 1.396                     |
| Toulouse      | 1.3%                      |
| Copenhagen    | 1.296                     |
| Vienna        | 0.996                     |



techleap.nl

## Why does this matter? Top Al talent attracts other talent

The Netherlands has double the AI Researcher density as the major European countries, yet Switzerland demonstrates it can aim even higher.



# Europe's feeder club for Silicon Valley

The Netherlands breeds frontier talent, butmany of NL best PhD-level researchers are working for US firms.

Often drawn by the exciting, cutting edge problems they can work on and the resources available to crack them.



## Strong universities, no global flagship

Eindhoven University, TU Delft and others are home to frontier researchers.

Yet the main national AI hub, Amsterdam lacks a world-class academic institution and/or major global AI R&D center.

None of the European Tech giants (such as Booking and Adyen) appear as major frontier talent hubs.

Source: Dealroom.co;

A Frontier AI Talent is a working professional currently doing AI related research, and holding a completed PhD where AI/ML was a core component.

Top Frontier Al universities & public research centers in Europe

| Name  |    | Frontier AI Talents |
|---|----|---------------------|
| University College London                         | 31 | 94                  |
| Imperial College London                           | XX | 88                  |
| French National Centre for<br>Scientific Research |    | 76                  |
| University of Oxford                              | XX | 65                  |
| University of Cambridge                           | XX | 60                  |
| ETH Zurich  | +  | 56                  |
| TNO   |    | 49                  |
| INRIA   |    |                     |
| King's College London                             | XX | 44                  |
| Eindhoven University of<br>Technology             | =  |                     |
| TU Delft  |    | 40                  |
| The University of Manchester                      | XX | 40                  |
| European Comission                                |    | 40                  |
| CEA   |    | 34                  |
| German Aerospace Center                           |    | 34                  |

Top frontier AI private companies and labs in Europe

| Name             |    | Frontier AI Talents |
|------------------|----|---------------------|
| Google           |    | 66                  |
| Meta             |    | 50                  |
| Amazon           |    | 42                  |
| Huawei           | *) | 38                  |
| Apple            |    | 36                  |
| Microsoft        |    | 36                  |
| AstraZeneca      | 22 | 36                  |
| Philips          |    | 32                  |
| Ericsson         | +  | 32                  |
| IBM              |    | 24                  |
| Orange           |    | 24                  |
| Thales Group     |    | 23                  |
| Helmholtz Munich |    | 20                  |
| Siemens          |    | 20                  |
| Nokia Bell Labs  |    | 20                  |

## 70% of Dutch practitioners sit in old-economy or government roles



70% Old Economy and government

32% Tech native companies

7% Universities

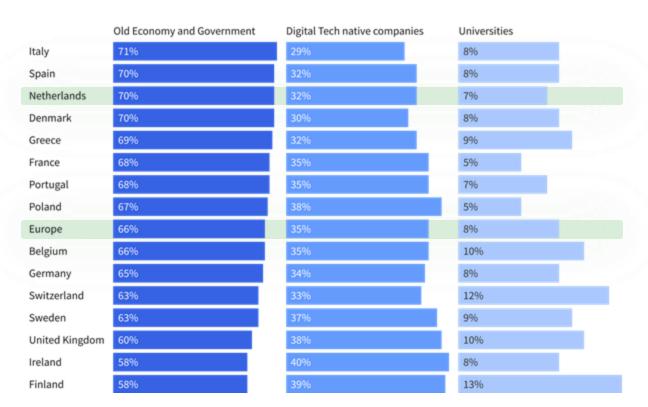
techleap.nl

# The packed, but parked workforce

About 70% of Dutch practitioners sit in oldeconomy or government roles.

Great for retrofitting legacy industries, but not necessarily for finding the next Google.

#### Where do AI talents work?



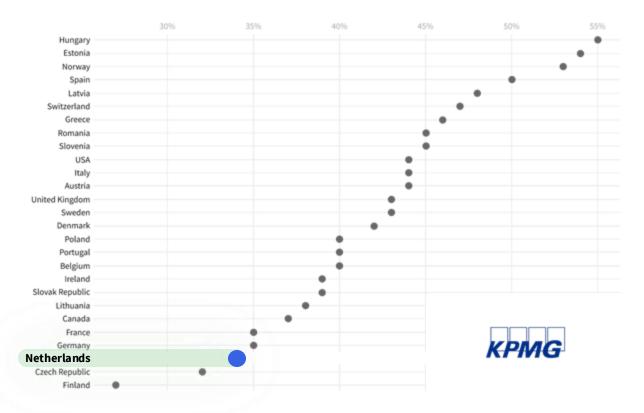
- 1. Dutch surprise: One of the deepest talent pools in Europe
- 2. A society that lags in AI trust and adoption
- 3. Al startup scene without escape velocity
- 4. A call for action

## **Despite the large** amount of Al talent, the Dutch experience an extraordinary high level of distrust in Al solutions

#### Source:

"Trust, attitudes and use of AI: A glob al study" by KPMG; Glob al survey with 1001-1098 respondents per country; \*% Willing to trust based on 'So mewhat willing', 'Mostly willing' and 'Completely willing'.

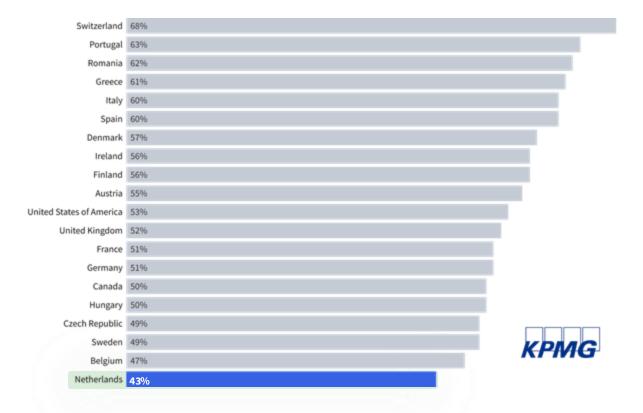
#### Share of respondents with Trust in AI Applications\*



## Distrust and lack of awareness results in long sales cycles and limited adoption

#### Source:

#### Share of respondents using AI on a semi-regular basis\*



<sup>&</sup>quot;Trust, attitudes and use of AI: A global study" by KPMG; \*U sing AI on a semi-regular basis: every few months, monthly, weekly or daily. Glob al survey with 1001-1098 respondents per country.

#### Co-Authors of the Al-Plan



**Jelle Prins** Co-Founder



cradle



**Michiel Bakker Assistant Professor** Mit



Five years ago, the Netherlands was still at the forefront. But today we are mostly using American Al models while our talent is leaving.

The Netherlands is at risk of being unable to finance our welfare state - our pensions - if our industries become dependent on US built AI.

This is the time to invest heavily to be able to control this fundamental technology."

- 1. Dutch surprise: One of the deepest talent pools in Europe
- 2. A society that lags in AI trust and adoption
- 3. Al startup scene without escape velocity
- 4. A call for action

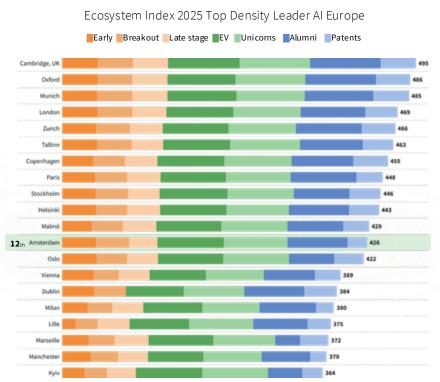
## The Netherlands has many AI startups

|                            | GB UK                                       | FR France | CHSwitzerland | DE Germany       | NL Netherlands              | EU Europe |
|----------------------------|---|-----------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| N° of AI Startups          | 2,040                                       | 842       | 360           | 1,296            | 618                         | 8,599     |
| Total n° of Startups       | 23,688                                      | 11,462    | 3,719         | 13,657           | 6,653                       | 94,850    |
| AI as % of total startups  | 8.6%  | 7.3%      | 9.7%          | 9.5%             | 9.3%                        | 9.1%      |
| AI Startups/million people | 29  | 13        | 39            | 15               | 36                          | 12        |
| Examples of AI companies   | IL Isomorphic Laboratories    Eleven   Labs |           | Cradle        | HHelsing Taktile | Cradle  MONUMENTAL  MarvelX |           |

Page / 26 Source: Dealroom.co techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

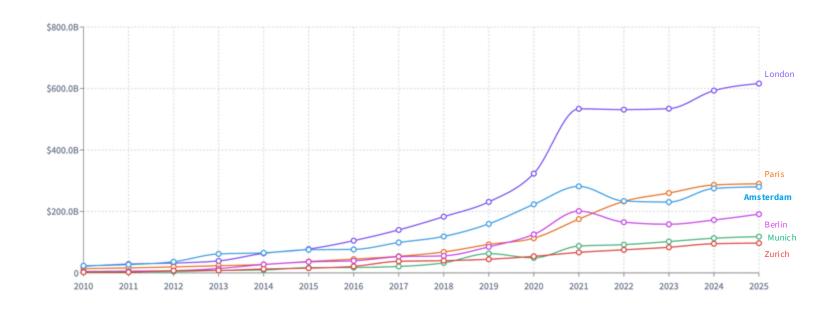
### Amsterdam AI startup ecosystem is the #8 in Europe





## Within Europe, broader Amsterdam tech ecosystem is losing momentum

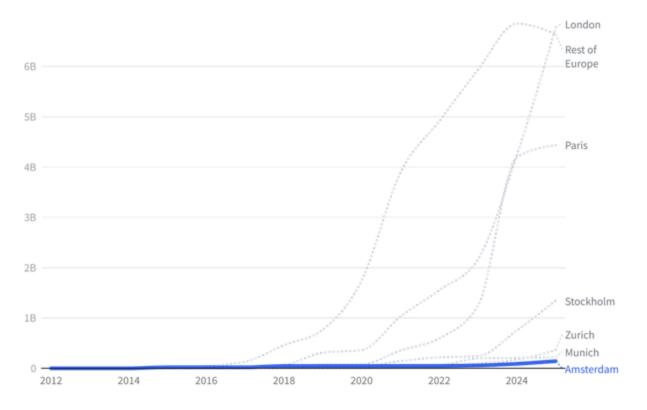
Total Enterprise value of Tech Sector in key European cities, 2010-2025



# A talent magnet without startup momentum

While Agentic AI startup activity in other major European cities (Paris, London, Zurich) accelerates, Amsterdam lacks the same escape velocity.

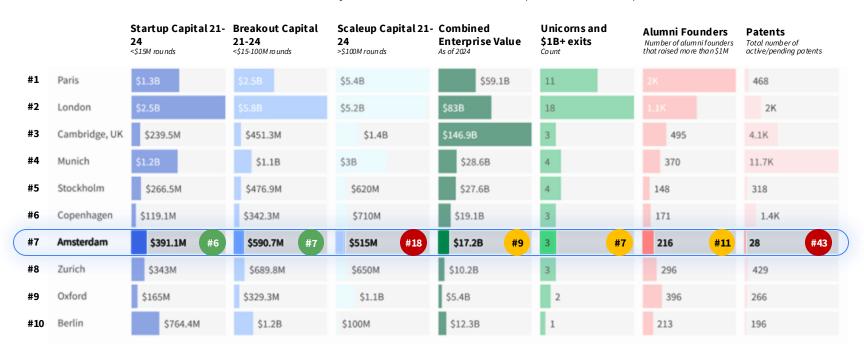
#### Evolution of Agentic AI total Enterprise Value by major European cities



Source: Dealroom.co techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

## The Netherlands is trailing on growth capital and scientific impuls

Global Tech Ecosystem Index 2025: Global Champions in AI in Europe



techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

# Vertical bets over horizontal hype?

The Dutch ecosystem outperforms in Finance, Food and Climate/Energy.
Leaning into spikes like these could help position NL as the place where boring regulated domains meet cutting edge models.

#### Position of Amsterdam in ranking of Global cities, 2025



Source: Dealroom.co techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

- 1. Dutch surprise: One of the deepest talent pools in Europe
- 2. A society that lags in AI trust and adoption
- 3. Al startup scene without escape velocity
- 4. A call for action

## The Netherlands has a great foundation to build on

#### Home of the European Tech Giants

 Home to three of the Top-6 European Tech Champions (Booking, Prosus, and ASML)

#### Education powerhouse

 Universities and institutions breeding Europe's Frontier AI talent

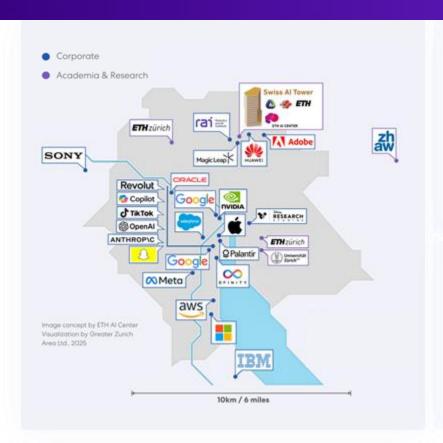
#### Global Talent destination

- Highest concentration of AI talent in Europe.
- One of Europe's main magnets for global AI Talent



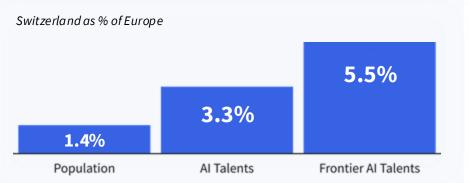
Page/33 Source: Dealroom.co techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

## Learning from the best: How Zurich became a major Al powerhub



### Key Success Factors

- World-class academic institution (ETH)
- Presence of big Tech (major Google office)
- 'Al sandbox'
- High quality of life
- High wages / low taxes
- International, English speaking tech scene
- Political stability, tech neutral



Page/34 Source: Dealroom.co techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

## How does Amsterdam compare with other major European Al hubs?

| Key Success Factors |                                   | London             | Paris              | Zurich         | Berlin / Munich | Amsterdam |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------|
|                     | World-class academic institution  | Oxford / Cambridge | Polytechnic        | ETH            | TUM             |           |
| Talent              | Campus style "AI Tech Hub"        | London Al Hub      | StationF           | Swiss Al Tower | Merantix        |           |
|                     | Big Tech R&D center               | DeepMind           | Meta, Hugging Face | Google AI      |                 |           |
|                     | Government push                   | ++                 | Oxford / Cambridge |                |                 |           |
| Government          | 'Al sandbox'                      |                    |                    | +++            |                 |           |
|                     | High wages / low taxes            | ++                 |                    | +++            |                 |           |
|                     | High quality of life              | ++                 | ++                 | +++            | ++              | +++       |
| Culture             | International / English speaking  | +++                |                    | +++            |                 | +++       |
|                     | Political stability, tech neutral | ++                 | ++                 | +++            | ++              | ++        |

Page/35 Source: Dealroom.co techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

### **Proposed action plan**

1

Al sovereignty: Have infrastructure to build critical systems and models independently (e.g., Al Gigafactory and clean data).

2

AI Hub: Launch a campus-style AI Hub in Amsterdam to concentrate talent and capital.

3

**Talent:** Attract more top AI talent to NL (fast visa, VC and R&D budgets) and negotiate strategic 're-imports' (joint labs, spin-outs, shared IP).

4

**Growth Capital:** Local Pension funds to fill the growth capital gap.

5

**Big Tech:** Get (European) Big Tech companies to concentrate their R&D efforts in NL.

6

Al Awareness: Start a national campaign to accelerate the adoption of Al in Dutch society. 7

Moonshots: Launch Al XPrice for 2-4 moonshot ideas that the community can rally behind. 8

**Government as innovation catalyst:** Government as major procurer, Defense as a flywheel, open up public datasets.

Page/36 Source: Dealroom.co techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co



## **Authors of this report**



Sebastiaan Vaessen
Board at Dealroom.co
Strategy Advisor at Prosus



Yoram Wijngaarde
Founder and CEO
at Dealroom.co



Jelle Prins
Co-Founder
at Cradle



Lorenzo Chiavarini

Head of Research
at Dealroom.co



Julien Puls

Data Scientist
at Dealroom.co



Tamara Franssen
Project Manager AI & Deeptech
Capital at Techleap

## **Appendix**



#### **Other Major European AI Hubs:**

#### Merantix Berlin

- In Germany, Merantix is a leading European AI venture studio founded in 2016 by Adrian Locher and Rasmus Rothe in Berlin.
- It builds and scales AI-native startups by combining technical research with entrepreneurial execution.
- The organization operates through Merantix Capital (investment), Merantix Momentum (Al consulting), and the Merantix Al Campus, a major Berlin hub hosting 1,300+ community members.



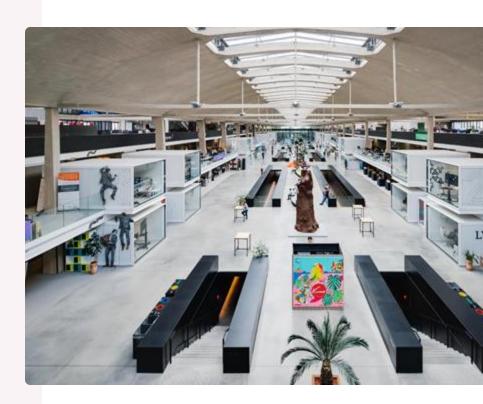
Page / 40 techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

## STATION F

#### **Other Major European Al Hubs:**

#### Station F in Paris

- Station F, launched in 2017 by entrepreneur Xavier Niel, is the world's largest startup campus, located in Paris.
- Spanning 34,000 m<sup>2</sup> and hosting over 1,000 startups at a time, it serves as a hub for innovation across tech sectors, with artificial intelligence playing a central role.
- The campus features more than 30 startup programs and deep integration with corporate partners like Microsoft, Amazon, Meta, Apple, and Google.
- Al has become increasingly prominent at Station F with 34 of the 40 companies in its 2024 "Future 40" cohort being Al-driven.
- Several key AI initiatives are anchored at Station F. Meta, Hugging Face, and Scaleway run a joint European AI Startup Program, offering selected scale-ups access to compute resources, mentorship, and technical infrastructure.



Page / 41 techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co



#### **Other Major European Al Hubs:**

#### London Al Hub in London

- The London Al Hub, opened in February 2025 in Farringdon, is a new initiative from Tech Nation in partnership with Merantix, Husayn Kassai (founder of Onfido and Quench.ai).
- Located at a flagship site on Goswell Road, the 6,000 ft<sup>2</sup> hub is modeled after global AI spaces like Station Fin Paris and the Merantix AI Campus in Berlin.
- The hub is designed to support the UK's growing AI ecosystem, which includes over 1,300 AI-focused companies and a workforce of around 360,000.
- It provides high-quality co-working space, a curated program of events, and serves as a focal point for collaboration across startups, corporates, academia, and government.
- The mission is to foster responsible AI development and bring together stakeholders from across sectors to drive innovation and growth.



Page / 42 techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co



#### **Other Major European Al Hubs:**

#### Al Sweden in Stockholm

- Al Sweden, launched in 2019, is Sweden's non-profit national centre for applied artificial intelligence, hosted by Lindholmen Science Park
- Its mission is to accelerate AI adoption across society, business, and public services.
- Funded primarily by Vinnova, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, the European Regional Development Fund, municipalities, regions, and over 160 private, public, and academic partners.
- Al Sweden operates through various programmes:
- Al Labs (in Gothenburg and elsewhere) facilitate prototyping and co-development in areas like edge learning, security, satellite applications, and healthcare
- Sector initiatives, such as "Information-driven healthcare," aim to integrate Al into Swedish healthcare in partnership with organizations like Unity Health Toronto
- A Startup Program supports SMEs and scale-ups in three acceleration stages



Page / 43 techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co



#### **Other Major European AI Hubs:**

#### ETH Zurich

- The ETH AI Center at ETH Zurich was launched in 2020.
- The center brings together more than 1,500 researchers and over 110 professors from 16 ETH departments, fostering collaboration across fields such as computer science, engineering, health, robotics, and ethics.
- Its mission is to advance trustworthy and inclusive AI that addresses real-world problems.
- The center runs a dedicated fellowship program, which by the end of 2023 supported nearly 60 PhD and postdoctoral researchers working on cross-disciplinary AI projects.
- ETH Zurich also supports startup creation—37 startups were spun off in 2024 alone, around 10 of which were Al-driven, including Terensis in precision agriculture.
- Entrepreneurship is further supported through the AI Launchpad, a program that
  provides mentorship and industry connections for AI startups. ETH collaborates with
  companies such as DFINITY Foundation, MAN Energy Solutions, and Creative Dock on
  AI projects, particularly in energy, blockchain, and automation.
- The center also plays a key role in Switzerland's AI strategy as co-founder of the Swiss National AI Institute (SNAI) and is home to the Zurich unit of ELLIS, the European Lab for Learning and Intelligent Systems.



Page / 44 techleap.nl prosus dealroom.co

dealroom.co Prosus techleap.пl