

Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of two workshops co-located with the 28th European Conference on Artificial Intelligence (ECAI 2025). The event takes place in Bologna, Italy, on 25–30 October 2025, with the workshops being on 25 October.

Identity-aware AI 2025

Language (and thus the automatic processing of it) is about people and what they mean. However, current practice relies on the assumptions that the involved humans are all the same, and that if enough data (and compute power) is present, the resulting generalizations will be robust enough and represent the majority. This approach often harms marginalized communities and ignores the notion of identity in models and systems. Our interdisciplinary workshop aims to raise the question of “what makes each of us unique?” to the AI community.

The goals of the workshop are i) the development of a shared and interdisciplinary understanding of identities and how identity is treated in AI, and ii) the development of new methods that push the effective, fair, and inclusive treatment of individuals in AI to the next level.

Identity-aware AI 2025 received 16 submissions, of which 13 were accepted for presentation and publication in the proceedings after a process of double-blind peer-review. 9 contributions are presented as poster presentations, and 3 as remote talks.

Awareness in Learning Agents (ALA) 2025

The ALA workshop examines how awareness can be used as a conceptual and practical tool to design learning-based agents that understand their environment, context, and objectives, and can act more effectively, efficiently, reliably, and in a trustworthy manner. It brings together AI, robotics, philosophy, and the social sciences to explore technical advances and broader implications, including architectures for computational awareness, measures of awareness, self-awareness in learning systems, trust and transparency, collaboration in multi-agent settings, and real-world applications in safety-critical and human-AI contexts. The workshop is hosted at ECAI 2025 in Bologna. The workshop is framed within the context of the “Awareness Inside” portfolio, a recent initiative launched by the European Innovation Council funding eight Pathfinder collaborative projects investigating awareness and consciousness as actionable design concepts for artificial agents.

The accepted contributions illustrate how awareness can be integrated as a guiding principle in intelligent systems across multiple domains. They explore how awareness supports ethical decision-making and social interaction in human-robot collaboration, enables personalised and context-sensitive user experiences, and improves learning and coordination in both individual and collective agents. Contributions also address formal and algorithmic foundations, such as methods for verifying safety and reliability, reasoning under uncertainty, and embedding self-assessment or calibration mechanisms in perception and control systems. Collectively, these works demonstrate that awareness can serve as a unifying framework to connect cognitive, algorithmic, and physical layers of autonomous behaviour, advancing the scientific foundations of safe, trustworthy, and adaptive AI.

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Awareness in Learning Agents organizers

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