



Collaborative online Brokerage event:

**“Artificial intelligence in Horizon Europe calls:
an interdisciplinary challenge”**

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Project Idea: Refiguring Memories – How AI Reshapes our Past

- ▶ **Background:** The rapid development of artificial intelligence and of synthetic image generation technologies is profoundly transforming how societies relate to visual documentation. For the first time in history, images can be produced without any physical referent and without the constraints of camera-based recording. This shift raises fundamental philosophical, ethical, and aesthetic questions.
- ▶ **Rationale:** The project *Refiguring Memories* addresses a key societal challenge: the erosion of the image as evidence of the past. Synthetic images, no longer certifying the past, cease to function as evidence of historical events. From an individual standpoint, they are no longer reliable tools for transmitting memories from one generation to the next. Instead, they propose themselves as “memory surrogates” or even as creators of fabricated pasts.

Topics of interest

Project Objectives

- **Conceptual Framework:** Develop an interdisciplinary theoretical framework combining SSH and STEM perspectives to explain how synthetic images modify the epistemic status of visual memory.
- **Empirical and Artistic Exploration:** Engage visual artists, writers, and technologists in producing and analysing examples of AI-generated “memory images
- **Societal and Ethical Analysis:** Assess the cultural, ethical, and educational implications of synthetic images
- **Community Building & Knowledge Transfer:** Create a trans-European network of experts to promote responsible AI literacy

Role in the STEM-SSH collaboration

My SSH expertise I am a scholar – owning a Scientific National Habilitation as Associate Professor (ASN) - of German literature and linguistics at Roma Tre University (Italy) with over twenty years of experience on literature and photography. My next research step focuses on an investigation of the relationship between images and memories in the age of AI, through an interdisciplinary network

Existing Partnerships: A collaboration exists with Dr. Paul Melenthin at the University of Tübingen (Germany). I served as keynote speaker at a conference he organised in 2025, and joint research initiatives are underway.

Needs for Proposal Development

- - Updated insights into emerging AI-related research topics
- - Identification of partners in both SSH and STEM
- - Support in matching the project idea with relevant Horizon Europe calls

Role in the STEM-SSH collaboration

Methodology and Approach

Refiguring Memories integrates methods from literary and visual studies, art history, AI and computer vision, and digital humanities. Activities include interdisciplinary workshops, co-creation sessions with artists, publications, and guidelines for institutions

Expected Project Impact

Scientific, societal, cultural, and policy impacts will arise from new frameworks, increased AI literacy, innovative artistic productions, and guidelines for institutions.

Contact us!

Please insert your contact details here
(Refer to slide 6 for instructions)

INSTRUCTIONS 1/3

The second and third slides may show:

- ▶ The expertise possessed by your company/organisation
- ▶ The objectives of your project proposal
- ▶ An indication of the existing partnership/consortium
- ▶ The requirements for additional partner(s)
- ▶ The topics you are interested in
- ▶ Involvement in previous/ongoing projects in the area

INSTRUCTIONS 2/3

- ▶ The 'Contact' slide should include:
 - ▶ Your name
 - ▶ The name of your organisation
 - ▶ Your organisation's logo in the upper right corner (of slides 1-4);
 - ▶ The nature of your organisation; e.g., academic institution, SME, large company, governmental organisation, NGO, etc.
 - ▶ The country from which your organisation operates

INSTRUCTIONS 3/3

Please note:

- ▶ Presentations must be held in English
- ▶ Do not overload your slides – provide links to additional material
- ▶ Do not use videos, etc. as these may not be compatible with the IT system in the online platform
- ▶ Please do not submit a flash presentation until your participation to the event has been confirmed
- ▶ Presentations should be submitted to Dominik.Klinkenberg@dlr.de
- ▶ Submission deadline: **31 January 2026**

Tips for Filling in Slide No. 4 “Role in STEM-SSH Collaboration”

If you are an SSH expert

- Describe which SSH (Social Sciences and Humanities) competencies you bring (e.g., socio-economic analysis, cultural studies, ethics, governance, communication).
- Describe which tools you can provide (e.g., qualitative analyses, participatory methods, policy analysis, longitudinal studies).
- Explain how these skills/tools can strengthen the impact, methodology, and implementation of the project. Which results could you help achieve?

If you are a STEM expert

- Highlight issues related to social impact, governance, inclusiveness, and sustainability as well. Clearly show complementarity by emphasizing that technology itself must necessarily be considered in relation to social, economic, and regulatory aspects.
- Present concrete scenarios (e.g., real applications with both technological and social implications; WPs, tasks, or deliverables). Describe which SSH (Social Sciences and Humanities) competencies you bring (e.g., socio-economic analysis, cultural studies, ethics, governance, communication).

**Thank you
for listening!**

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