



## Dr. Nuria Oliver, Director of ELLIS Alicante, Receives the 2025 Extraordinary Award from the IB Academic Excellence Prizes

- This award recognizes exemplary professional careers, where academic effort, commitment, and excellence have been key to achieving a meaningful impact on society.

**Alicante, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025** –ELLIS Alicante is pleased to announce that our Scientific Director, **Dr. Nuria Oliver**, has been honored with the **2025 Extraordinary Award** as part of the **4th Edition of the IB Academic Excellence Prizes**, organized by the **Iñaki Berenguer Foundation**.

Dr. Oliver was selected for her pioneering work in **human-centric Artificial Intelligence**, her contributions to science, and her strong advocacy for the **responsible use of technology**.

The award ceremony took place on June 26<sup>th</sup> at the new **RODES venue in Alcoy**, in a heart-warming event that brought together the mayors of **Alcoy, Cocentaina, and Muro**, the 21 students awarded for their academic excellence, their families, and representatives from the educational and scientific community.

As part of the recognition, the **Extraordinary Award includes a €4,000 prize**, of which **€2,000 will be donated to the ELLIS Alicante Foundation**, a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing ethical, inclusive, and socially beneficial artificial intelligence research.

For ELLIS Alicante, this award is an honor and a validation of the vision we share under Dr. Oliver's leadership: **to promote AI that enhances people's lives, fosters knowledge, and upholds fundamental rights**.

**Dr. Nuria Oliver** (Alicante, 1970) is a telecommunications engineer, holds a Ph.D. from MIT, is a member of several international scientific academies, and is one of Europe's most influential computer science researchers. Over the course of her career, she has held leadership roles at **Microsoft, Telefónica, and Vodafone**, and has been recognized with numerous prestigious awards, including the **Spanish National Computer Science Award**, the **Rey Jaime I Award for New Technologies**, and the **European Hypatia Award for Scientific Excellence**.

This award adds to a career marked by **scientific excellence, social commitment, and a strong defense of more human-centered technology**.

About ELLIS Alicante | [www.ellisalicante.org/ia](http://www.ellisalicante.org/ia)

ELLIS Alicante is a non-for-profit private research foundation focused on **ethical and responsible Artificial Intelligence (IA)** for social good. Hence, it is also known as the



**Institute of Humanity-centric AI.** ELLIS Alicante aims to be an international reference in **AI research by and for people**, by focusing on three areas of fundamental research in the intersection between humans and AI: 1) **AI that understands us**; 2) **AI that interacts with us**; 3) **AI that we trust**.

ELLIS Alicante is part of the European network of excellence in Artificial Intelligence ELLIS (European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems - [www.ellis.eu](http://www.ellis.eu)), being the only ELLIS unit dedicated exclusively to this area. ELLIS Alicante is the only ELLIS unit created from scratch, with the spirit of a scientific startup.

ELLIS Alicante was launched thanks to the vision, commitment, and generous financial support of the Generalitat Valenciana. It is also funded by other public and private institutions, including the Banc Sabadell Foundation, Balearia Foundation, Intel Corporation and Nippon Gases. The Foundation's work has won major awards including the 500k XPRIZE Pandemic Response Challenge by Cognizant (2021) and the Social Innovation Award (2022).

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