

CONNECT

THE MAGAZINE FROM THE GÉANT COMMUNITY

ALSO IN THIS EDITION

GÉANT Association
Strategy 2026-2030

2026 GÉANT
Community Awards

CESNET creates a digital
twin of the world's oldest
astronomical clock





Advancing secure generative AI adoption in Europe's Research & Education

Generative artificial intelligence is rapidly becoming a strategic capability for Research & Education (R&E) institutions, offering new ways to enhance research workflows, improve student services, and streamline operations. In this context, Sparkle's reseller agreement with Anthropic represents a meaningful step toward making advanced, responsible AI more accessible across Europe.

Through the partnership, Sparkle will provide access to Claude models via Amazon Web Services' Bedrock platform, a fully managed service for building and scaling generative AI applications. For R&E institutions, the significance lies not only in the availability of cutting-edge models, but in the ability to adopt them within a secure, familiar, and policy-aligned environment.

Claude, Anthropic's family of state-of-the-art Large Language Models (LLM), is designed for enterprise applications, featuring advanced capabilities such as reasoning, vision analysis, code generation, and multilingual processing. These features are particularly relevant to academic and research environments, where institutions increasingly seek to automate complex document analysis, support software development, and enable more intuitive digital interactions for students, researchers, and administrative staff.

A key advantage for the R&E community is the continuity this offer provides. Research & Education institutions already running workloads on AWS through Sparkle's OCRE 2024 framework can seamlessly access Claude through Amazon Bedrock, the same managed environment they already use to build and scale cloud-native applications. This eliminates the need for additional infrastructure or complex onboarding processes, allowing institutions to integrate generative AI directly into their existing environments.

For GÉANT members and R&E institutions across the 39 countries covered by the OCRE 2024 Framework, generative AI is now available through a procurement channel they already trust, delivered by a partner with deep roots in the community.

As a result, use cases can be implemented more rapidly and efficiently. Institutions can develop intelligent assistants to support teaching and administrative functions, automate the processing and analysis of large volumes of research data, enhance user engagement across digital platforms, and streamline internal workflows. The ability to operate within an established cloud framework also ensures consistency in governance, security, and cost management, critical factors in the public and academic sectors.

Equally relevant to the R&E context is Anthropic's foundational approach to AI safety. Institutions operating under strict data governance frameworks - and increasingly under the expectations of the EU AI Act - will find Claude's architecture and design principles a natural fit. Responsible AI is not a feature layer added on top; it is built into the model development from the ground up, a priority that resonates with the values of the academic and research community.

Sparkle's long-standing engagement with GÉANT further reinforces the value of this initiative. Its collaboration with GÉANT under the OCRE framework spans three consecutive agreements, reflecting a deep understanding of the sector's technical, regulatory, and operational requirements. This experience positions Sparkle not merely as a cloud reseller, but as a strategic partner able to support institutions throughout their digital transformation journey.

Sparkle's broader portfolio further complements this approach. In addition to AWS and Google Cloud services delivered within the OCRE framework, Sparkle also offers advanced connectivity solutions such as Cloud Connect, enabling private and secure access to public cloud environments,

and SD-WAN for optimized and resilient networking. The inclusion of Quantum Safe Interconnect (QSI), already available on the AWS Marketplace, further strengthens the security posture of institutions by addressing emerging risks associated with quantum computing.

Taken together, Sparkle's OCRE-enabled cloud services and its complementary connectivity portfolio enable R&E institutions to move beyond isolated experimentation with AI and toward the development of scalable, production-ready solutions. By combining secure connectivity, flexible cloud environments, and access to state-of-the-art generative AI models, Sparkle supports the creation of digital infrastructures that are both robust and future ready.

In an environment where innovation must coexist with strict governance and accountability, the ability to adopt AI technologies confidently and efficiently is becoming a defining factor for success. Sparkle's agreement with Anthropic, and the integration of Claude into its OCRE-enabled offering, provides European R&E institutions with a practical and trusted pathway to harness the full potential of generative AI, accelerating research, enhancing education, and delivering greater value to society.

Learn more on:

