



Autumn School organised by **FOCUS ERA Chair**

AI for GLAMs

Artificial Intelligence for Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums

10–11 November 2026, Sofia, Bulgaria | Pre-conference event of Museum Big Data 2026

Call for module contributors

Module proposals due 31 July 2026

Confirmation by 15 August 2026

Invitation to contribute

The **FOCUS ERA Chair project** will organise the first **Autumn School on AI for GLAMs** in Sofia on **10–11 November 2026**, immediately before the **International Conference on Museum Big Data** (12–14 November 2026): <https://museumbigdata.org/>. The school will bring together up to 25 early-stage researchers, PhD students and emerging professionals interested in the responsible, creative and critical use of artificial intelligence in galleries, libraries, archives, museums and the wider cultural heritage sector.

We invite expressions of interest from colleagues willing to deliver focused teaching modules of **2 hours to half a day**. Modules may combine lectures, demonstrations, hands-on activities, case studies, tool walkthroughs, group discussion or critical reflection.

Possible topics include but are not limited to:

Area	Possible focus
AI for digitisation	OCR, layout analysis, transcription, image enhancement
AI for metadata	metadata enrichment, entity recognition, knowledge graphs, semantic discovery
AI for collections	image, audiovisual, 3D, manuscript and born-digital collections
Generative AI	interpretation, storytelling, education, access and engagement
Responsible AI	bias, ethics, copyright, data protection, governance and transparency
Collections as data	AI-ready datasets, datasheets, Jupyter notebooks and reproducible workflows
Evaluation	assessing AI tools, quality, trust, risk and institutional readiness
Human-centred AI	participatory, community-aware and GLAM-led AI practices

Format of contributions

Duration	Possible formats
2 hours	focused lecture, demonstration, discussion or short hands-on session
Half day	Introduction to a topic, practical workshop, tool-based session, dataset exercise or combined lecture/lab

Support for selected contributors

For selected contributors, travel and accommodation costs will be covered. As a token of appreciation, the contributors to the autumn school will also have their registration fee for the Museum Big Data 2026 conference waived and the accommodation for the conference dates covered, enabling them to attend the main conference following the Autumn School. Contributors to the autumn school are also welcome to suggest papers to the conference (see <https://2026.museumbigdata.org/call-for-papers/>).

Expression of interest

All proposals should be submitted via the [web form](#).

Key dates

What	When - deadline
Submission of module proposals	31 July 2026
Confirmation of selected contributors	15 August 2026
Autumn School on AI for GLAMs	10–11 November 2026
Museum Big Data 2026	12–14 November 2026

About FOCUS ERA Chair

FOCUS – Fostering Open Cultural Heritage through Open Innovation and Open Science is an ERA Chair project hosted by the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The project develops research capacity and leadership in digital cultural heritage, with a focus on open innovation, open science, AI, data, 3D, GLAM infrastructures and responsible digital transformation. <https://focus.openresearch.bg/>

FOCUS ERA Chair · Fostering Digital Cultural Heritage via Open Innovation and Open Science

Project No.: BG16RFPR002-1.016-0002



Co-funded by
the European Union

