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4 PREFACE

Knowledge Representation and Reasoning (KR&R) is a cornerstone of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and a broad, prolific field of research with a vibrant international community. At its core lies the fundamental thesis that knowledge can often be represented in an explicit, declarative form—symbolic structures suitable for processing by dedicated reasoning engines. This allows users of knowledge-based systems to derive implicit knowledge from the explicitly represented knowledge in a formally well-understood way, through semantically grounded inference mechanisms. Due to this semantic grounding and the fact that the employed inference mechanisms can often produce formal proofs for the derived implicit knowledge, KR&R also plays an important role in explainable AI (XAI).

KR&R has profoundly influenced the theory and practice of numerous areas within AI, including automated reasoning, automated planning, robotics, multi-agent systems, natural language processing, computer vision, and machine learning. Its impact extends well beyond AI, contributing to fields such as data management, the Semantic Web, verification, software engineering, computational biology, and cybersecurity.

The International Conference on Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning (KR) is the leading forum for the in-depth and timely presentation of advances in the theory and practice of representing and computationally managing knowledge.

The twenty-third edition of KR, KR 2026, was held from Monday, July 20, to Thursday, July 23, 2026, in Lisbon, Portugal, as part of the Federated Logic Conference, FLoC 2026. The scientific program of KR featured two FLoC keynotes as well as three KR invited talks delivered by internationally renowned experts, more than 120 technical talks in several tracks, as well as tutorials, workshops, a Doctoral Consortium, and a Diversity and Inclusion session.

Conference Tracks and Events. The conference featured various tracks and special events, summarized below.

As in the past, the Main Track solicited papers presenting novel results on the principles of KR&R, which clearly contribute to the formal foundations of the field, or show the applicability of KR&R techniques to implemented or implementable systems. It also welcomed papers from other areas that demonstrate clear use of, or contributions to, the principles or practice of KR&R. In 2026, KR continued the successful *KR in the Wild* thematic track and introduced the new thematic track *KR meets Machine Learning and Explanation*, as a reaction to the growing need for explainable AI and the combination of KR&R’s symbolic reasoning methods with subsymbolic machine learning approaches. The conference also featured a Video Track and a Recently Published Research Track, continuing KR’s tradition of showcasing both foundational advances and innovative applications in Knowledge Representation and Reasoning.

Overall, the KR 2026 conference featured the following tracks and events:

Main Track
KR in the Wild Track
KR Meets Machine Learning & Explanation Track
Recent Published Research Track
Video Track
Doctoral Consortium
Diversity and Inclusion Session

Submissions and Reviewing. In the three technical tracks (Main, KR in the Wild Track, KR Meets Machine Learning & Explanation) we received 459 submissions (266, 37, 156), of which 92 were desk rejected (51, 0, 41). The remaining 367 papers underwent a thorough double-blind review process, where submissions received an average of three reviews by PC members or external reviewers. The reviewed papers of the main track additionally received a meta-review by the Area Chairs. A total of 112 papers (24.4%) were accepted for presentation and inclusion in the conference proceedings, with 66 in the main track (24.8%), 9 in KR in the Wild (24.3%), and 37 in KR Meets Machine Learning & Explanation (23.7%). One of the accepted papers of the main track was withdrawn by the authors after acceptance. This excellent scientific program is the result of the hard work of 43 Area Chairs, 287 Program Committee members and 96 additional reviewers, who provided a total of 1240 reviews and 266 meta-reviews. In addition, 18 PC members selected the 12 accepted contributions to the Recently Published Research Track (which are not part of these proceedings, but published on the KR 2026 Web site) and 22 PC members selected 12 doctoral students to attend the Doctoral Consortium (with contributions published in CEUR Workshop proceedings).

We are deeply grateful to all Track Chairs, Area Chairs, PC members, and external reviewers for their hard work and dedication helping us to create the outstanding scientific program of KR 2026.

Best Paper Awards. We are very glad to reveal the winners and runners-up for this year’s best paper awards.

- *Ray Reiter Best Paper Award:* “Fitting Horn DL Ontologies to ABox and Query Examples: A Tale of Simulation Quantifiers and Finite Models”, by Marvin Grosser and Carsten Lutz.
- *Marco Cadoli Best Student Paper Award:* “Logic of Hypotheses: from Zero to Full Knowledge in Neurosymbolic Integration”, by Davide Bizzaro and Alessandro Daniele.
- *Marco Cadoli Best Student Paper Award Runner-Up:* “Splitting Argumentation Frameworks with Collective Attacks and Supports”, by Giovanni Buraglio, Lydia Blümel, Matti Berthold and Anna Rapberger.

KR Inc. Awards. The KR 2026 program also included a session to announce and honor the winners of three KR Inc. awards.

The Test of Time Award, initiated in 2020, is awarded for a paper published at the KR conference at least 15 years

ago whose contributions have made a significant and lasting impact on the KR&R academic discipline, the application or adoption of KR&R techniques in industry, and/or for the betterment of society. This year the KR Test of Time Award goes to Sheila McIlraith and Son Tran, for their KR 2002 paper “Adapting Golog for Composition of Semantic Web Services”.

The Early Career Award, introduced in 2021, recognizes researchers having recently obtained their doctoral degree who have already made significant research contributions to the theory and/or practice of KR&R and who demonstrated great promise for future impactful contributions. This year the Early Career Award goes to Stylianos Loukas Vasileiou. In addition, Honourable Mentions for this award go to Jonas Haldimann and Sanja Lukumbuzya.

This year the Pavlos Peppas Distinguished Service Award recognizes Gerhard Brewka for his exceptional and sustained service to the Knowledge Representation and Reasoning community.

Tutorials and Workshops. FLoC 2026 had an open call for tutorials and workshops, which could ask to be affiliated with one or more of the FLoC conferences. The acceptance decisions were made by the FLoC Workshops Committee, supported by the KR 2026 Tutorial and Workshop Chairs. Based on these decisions, KR 2026 had an extensive tutorial and workshop program on a variety of interesting and timely topics covering many areas of KR&R.

The following six tutorials were held at KR 2026:

- *The Evolving Landscape of Answer Set Programming: From Fundamentals to Recent Advancements* by Mario Alviano, Giuseppe Mazzotta, Francesco Ricca
- *Definite Descriptions in KR Languages* by Alessandro Artale, Andrzej Indrzejczak, Oliver Kutz, Andrea Mazzullo, Przemysław Wałęga
- *NeuroSymbolic AI for Making Sense of Streaming Data* by Alexander Artikis, Periklis Mantenoglou
- *LLMs for Reasoning and Reasoning for LLMs* by Nico Potyka
- *Arguing in Dynamic and Uncertain Situations: From Theoretical Insights to Application* by Jean-Guy Mailly
- *Geometric Ontology Embeddings* by Mena Leemhuis

The KR 2026 workshop program comprised the following events:

- *JoeFest - A Workshop in Honor of Joseph Y. Halpern* by Sander Beckers, Hana Chockler, Esra Erdem, Ivan Geffner, Fangzhen Lin, Evan Piermont
- *Joint Workshop on Statistics and Knowledge Integration for Logic, Learning, Ethical Decisions, and LLMs (SKILLED-LLMs 2026)* by Ha Thanh Nguyen, Francesca Toni, Kostas Stathis, Ken Satoh, Randy Goebel, Francesco Chiariello, Yves Lesperance, Matteo Magnini, Federico Sabbatini, Elena Umili, Nourhan Ehab, Mervat Abuelkheir

- *Workshop on Modularity and Splitting Techniques for Knowledge Representation and Reasoning (MoST 2026)* by Christoph Beierle, Alexander Hahn, Gabriele Kern-Isberner, Lars-Phillip Spiegel
- *International Workshop on Logical Aspects in Multi-Agent Systems and Strategic Reasoning (LAMAS& SR 2026)* by Antonio Di Stasio, Raphael Berthon, Rustam Galimullin
- *Joint Workshop on Explainable Logic-Based Knowledge Representation and Explanations with Constraints and Satisfiability (XLoKR-ExCoS 2026)* by Tias Guns, Matti Järvisalo, Francesco Leofante, Nico Potyka
- *Workshop on Logical Approaches to Handling Inconsistent Data (LINDA 2026)* by Meghyn Bienvenu, Camille Bourgaux, Anni-Yasmin Turhan
- *Workshop on Theory and Methods for Abstraction (THEMA 2026)* by Oliver Kutz, Zeynep Saribatur, Kai Sauerwald

The tutorials and workshops were held in the two days before or after the main conference.

In addition, KR 2026 was strengthened and enhanced by the co-location of the *23rd International Workshop on Non-Monotonic Reasoning (NMR 2026)* and the *39th International Workshop on Description Logics (DL 2026)*.

Keynote Presentations. The conference program included two FLoC keynote presentations and three KR invited talks from internationally recognized researchers aimed at cutting-edge topics in KR&R:

- Giuseppe De Giacomo, University of Oxford (FLoC Keynote)
- Magdalena Ortiz, TU Wien (KR Invited Talk)
- Carsten Lutz, Leipzig University (KR Invited Talk)
- Alessandra Russo, Imperial College London (FLoC Keynote)
- Joao Marques-Silva, Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies (KR Invited Talk)

Conference Organization. We wish to thank those people who helped in the many aspects that were needed to make KR 2026 a hugely successful event. The Area Chairs, Track Chairs, Program Committee members and additional reviewers were very helpful and supportive in their thorough and timely reviewing of the submissions.

The FLoC local arrangements team, especially Nuno Lopez as FLoC Organization Chair, and the KR Local Arrangement Chair, João Leite, have gone above and beyond to ensure an outstanding conference.

The KR 2026 Workflow Chairs, Christian Alrabbaa (TU Dresden) and Michaël Thomazo (Inria Paris), made sure that the submission and reviewing processes ran smoothly. In particular, they helped immensely with adapting the conference review platform HotCRP prescribed by FLoC to the needs of KR. Our KR 2026 Web Master Francesco Kriegel

(TU Dresden) set up the Web site and was always prompt in updating it.

The KR 2026 Funding and Sponsorship Chairs, Eduardo Fermé (University of Madeira) and Jesse Heyninck (Open Universiteit Heerlen), acquired funding from the Artificial Intelligence Journal (AIJ), which supported the Doctoral Consortium and the Diversity and Inclusion session, and from the European Association for Artificial Intelligence (EurAI), which supported our invited speaker Carsten Lutz. The KR 2026 Publicity Chairs, Carlos Damasio (NOVA University Lisbon) and Nico Potyka (University of Cardiff), ensured that the relevant scientific communities were always well-informed on our calls for papers in the various tracks and the calls for nominations for the KR Inc. Awards.

We were very fortunate in assembling this excellent team and are very grateful for their outstanding contributions to the conference.

In closing, we thank our KR colleagues and the KR community for their significant contributions to KR 2026, which appear on the following pages. The amazing spirit and unwavering support of the KR community is what makes our conference special.

Dresden (Germany), Montpellier (France),
São Paulo (Brasil),
July 2026

Franz Baader and Marie-Laure Mugnier
Program Chairs

Renata Wassermann
General Chair

5 SPONSORS

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Artificial Intelligence Journal

European Association for Artificial Intelligence

KR Inc.