NEW REGULATION FOR THE UNIVERSAL ACCESSIBILITY LAW

Constant evolution since 1995

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In 1995, Andorra approved its first Accessibility Law, a legal framework that established the bases to guarantee rights and opportunities to people with disabilities in the field of mobility and access to public services. Miquel Llongueras, vice-president of the Association of People with Functional Diversity of Andorra (AMIDA), recalled the importance of this law in the context of its time and the role that the entity played in its creation.

According to Llongueras, "the current accessibility law is that of 1995, and was promoted by AMIDA, which not only draf-

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Miquel Llongueras

VICE PRESIDENT OF AMIDA

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ted it, but also financed it." This law was the result of continuous pressure on political leaders to ensure its approval and provide the country with regulations that would regulate accessibility for everyone.

The Accessibility Commission, which was created as a result of this law, is made up of different institutional and professional representatives. "It is made up of a representative of the College of Engineers, a representative of the College of Architects, a representative of the Municipalities, a representative of the Civic Entities and a representative of the Government, in addition to the president, who is appointed by the Minister of Territorial Planning," explained

Llongueras.

Since its approval, the law has regulated fundamental aspects to make Andorra a more accessible country, although, according to Llongueras, it is already obsolete and needs to be updated. "It is now a law that is outdated and needs to be updated," he says, highlighting the need to adapt the regulations to the new demands of universal accessibility.

Universal accessibility is the new paradigm that guides the updating of this legislation. "Universal accessibility means that in the design you take into account the whole of society, because the life expectancy of this in the country is increasingly longer," explained the vice president of AMIDA. This perspective not only considers people with disabilities, but also other groups that may encounter access difficulties, such as the elderly or those with cognitive or sensory problems.

The revision of the law, planned for the coming years, is based on the experience of the last thirty years and the need to expand its objectives. "At AMIDA we made the current law, we financed it and we pressured politicians to approve it. Now, it must be updated based on universal accessibility, which is the benchmark that moves at a Western level", concluded Llongueras. ●

COMPANIES STRIKE FOR FREE ASSISTANT

DeepSeek is the storm that is crushing the global technology stock market

The microchip manufacturer Nvidia has experienced a 17% drop in shares

FRANCE 24

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It has been the most viral phenomenon that has marked (and revolutionized) the technological field last January. This is DeepSeek, a free virtual assistance model created by a Chinese startup with that name that has recently unleashed a catastrophe and checkmate to giants like OpenAI with its famous ChatGPT, even surpassing its number of downloads on a global scale. This is because its operating models are open source, so it is accessible to any user to examine and modify them freely.

Furthermore, as if that were not enough, its R1 model equals the performance and efficiency of its North American competitors with the difference that it has a lower cost. Thus, the emergence of what aims to be the 'Trojan Horse' threatening to elevate China to the first position in the world in the artificial intelligence market and thus sink the large manufacturers of high-end microchips is already installed on the device of many people.

The logo that shows the new Chinese startup DeepSeek and that is revolutionizing the global panorama of artificial intelligence.

DeepSeek's operating models are open source and accessible to any user

The consequence of this free chatbot, which just entered the App Store on January 11th with the DeepSeek-V3 version and which later on the 20th was transformed into an improved reasoning model, the DeeSeek R1 for only six million dollars (an insignificant cost for what it takes to fully train an AI) has resulted in a historic fall in the shares of some semiconductor microchip manufacturers. This is the case of Nvidia, the largest company in the sector by market capitalization in the world, which has experienced a drop in shares of nearly 17% on Wall Street, making this the largest daily drop in the value of a listed company ever seen.

To understand the magnitude involved in training an advanced artificial intelligence system, it cost the company OpenAI about 80 million dollars to develop the famous ChatGPT, the most widespread tool until the discovery of this competition from the Asian market, which is challenging it to the point of surpassing it by achieving broader (not more complete) but above all, more personalized responses to user demand. It is worth noting that, as with other services such as Gemini or ChatGPT, this tool is also subject to the values of the country where it has been developed; it cannot be asked about certain topics about politics or geopolitics «due to the fact that it faces fundamental socialist values».

The last point that needs to be mentioned, apart from this checkmate to multinationals that has caused a model that only needs a tenth of the computing power used by its competitors, is the issue of its internal price; that is, the use of the tokens with which it operates (the currency that serves as a token for each word scanned). For this reason, it is important to know that 1,000 tokens are equivalent to about 750 words in English, and that in this sense, DeepSeek is offering application programming interface (API) services at a cost of 1 yuan (equivalent to 0.14 dollars) for each million input tokens, while, on the contrary, the OpenAI model has a price of 15 dollars for a million input tokens. A difference that is abysmal. ●