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**Subject: Opinion regarding Dr. Yuta Nakano's (IMRA Europe)
plan to become accredited to supervise research**

I am pleased to write this letter to support my colleague Dr. Yuta Nakano's plan to become accredited to supervise research by writing and defending an HDR project.

Dr. Yuta Nakano is a senior researcher at IMRA Europe, he is the Director of Department of Computer Vision, where he manages a team and several projects. The company IMRA Europe specializes in computer vision applied to the automotive industry. On my side, my research activities at the i3S laboratory focus on machine learning, computer vision, and spiking neural networks.

A research collaboration between IMRA Europe and i3S since 2023, with several CIFRE PhD projects (Hugo Bulzomi since November 2023, Sadia Memudu since January 2025, and Pedro Rosa since March 2026). M. Bulzomi and Ms. Memudu are co-supervised by Dr. Nakano and me, each sharing 50% of the supervision. Pedro Rosa is currently supervised by me and co-advised by Dr. Nakano. The work with M. Bulzomi has been published in two international conferences (MVA 2023, AICAS 2024) and two international workshops (Event-based vision workshop during the flagship conference CVPR 2025, and IWASI 2025). The work with Ms. Memudu has been submitted and is currently under review at AICAS 2026. M. Bulzomi is currently writing his manuscript, and we expect him to defend his PhD in November 2026.

The expertise provided by IMRA Europe and Dr. Nakano is central to the successful completion of these PhD CIFRE projects. Dr. Nakano possesses extensive expertise in computer vision, as evidenced by his scientific publications and numerous patents in the field. During the supervision, Dr. Nakano and I jointly oversee the scientific progress of the projects, thus sharing the doctoral

training between the company and the laboratory. This collaboration provides doctoral candidates with complementary expertise from both academia and industry, enriching the research approach by offering diverse perspectives, different methodological approaches, and additional support in developing professional and academic skills.

Finally, the collaboration between IMRA Europe and i3S is likely to be strengthened by the preparation of a scientific proposal to the INDUSTRIAL CHAIRS 2026 program of ANR in May 2026. This proposal will include funding for PhD students and postdocs, in wider research domains including robotics and the involvement of other researchers from i3S. The HDR plan of Dr. Nakano is a very important part of this collaboration.

Jean Martinet
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