



BLC Webinar The AI Act

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Agenda



The AI Act and its legal implications.

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AI Act | Compliance considerations

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Practical questions for Boards

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01

The AI Act and its legal implications

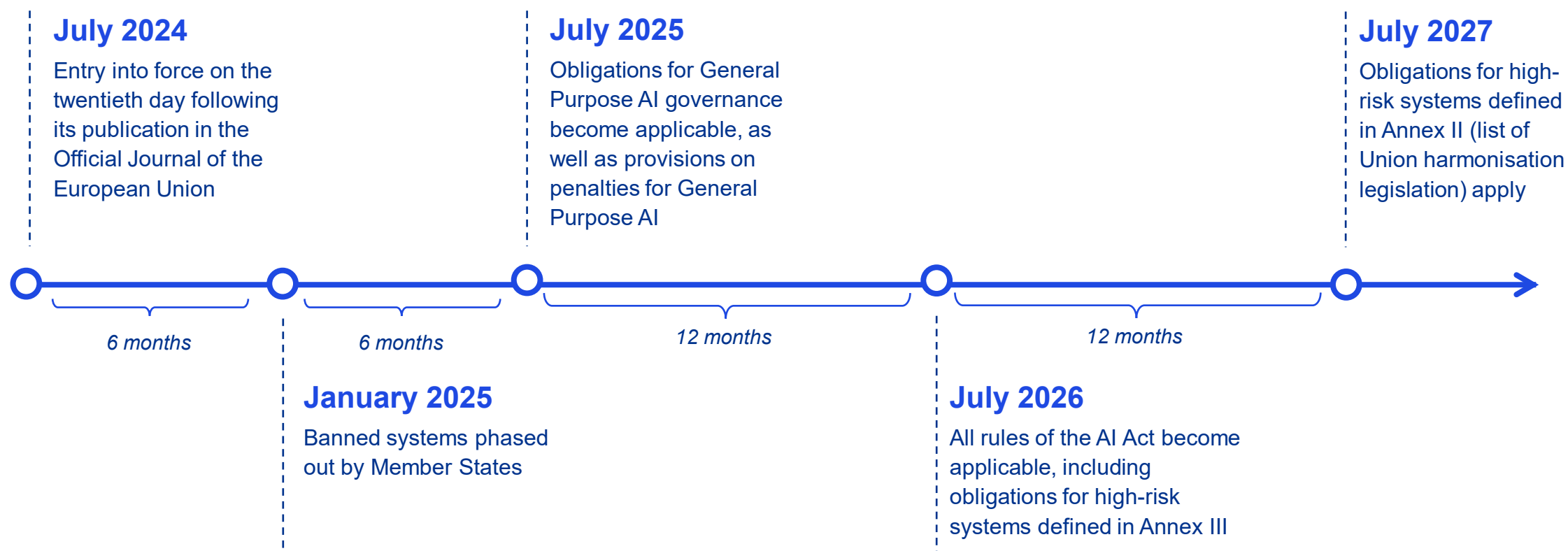


Heleen Lauwers

AI Act Timeline



AI Act Timeline: What are the next steps?



What is the AI Act?

The AI Act is the first horizontal legislation in the EU to regulate AI systems and takes the leading role in setting the global gold standards on the field.



Main objectives

(i) Safeguarding fundamental rights and (ii) product safety
Cultivating innovation and competitive growth



Risk - based approach

The AI Act introduces 4 risk categories and sets legal rules according to the level of risk.



Providers vs. deployers

Different actors in the AI value chain will assume distinct roles and responsibilities.



Extensive extraterritorial scope

The AI Act will govern not just AI systems developed by an EU provider, or put on the EU market, but also AI systems developed and used outside of the EU, but where the output of the system is intended for use in the EU.

Penalties Regime up to

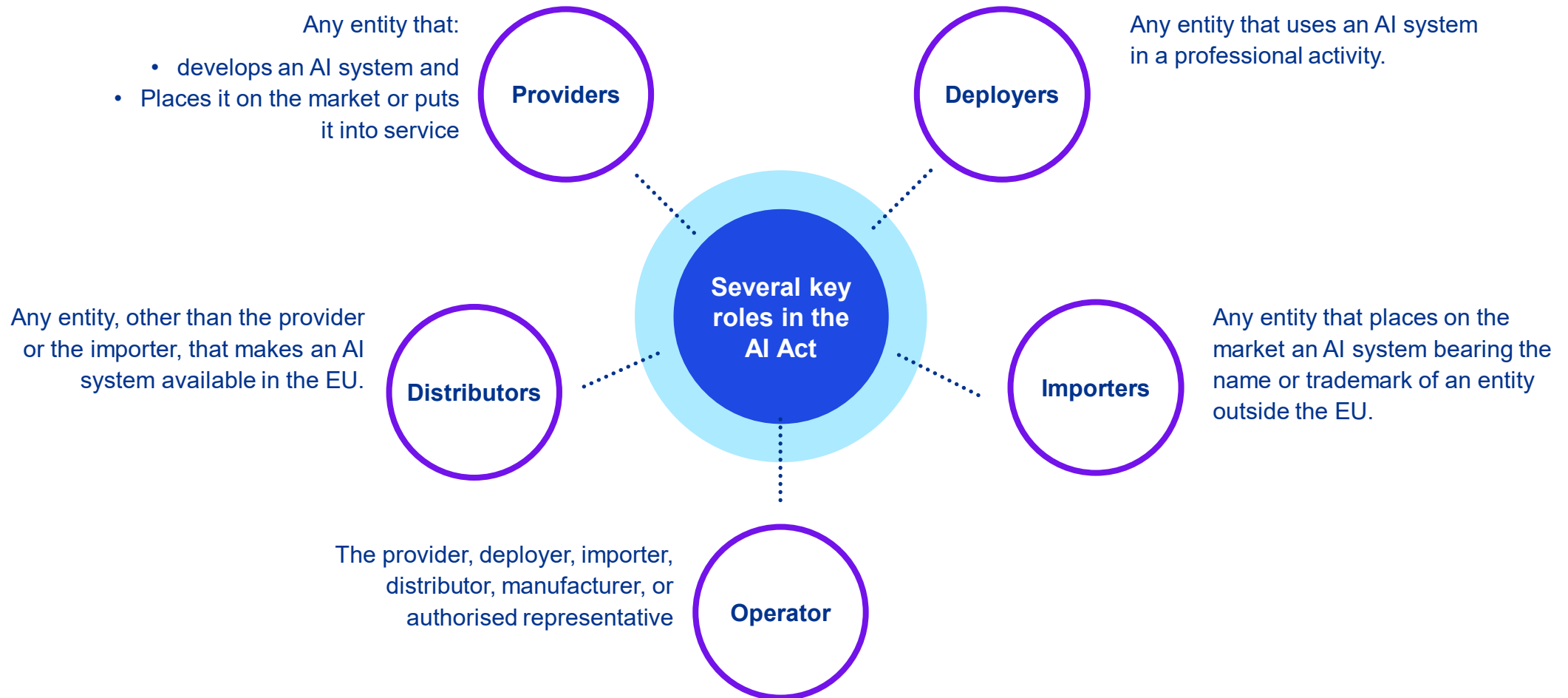
Fines for non-compliance:

€35m

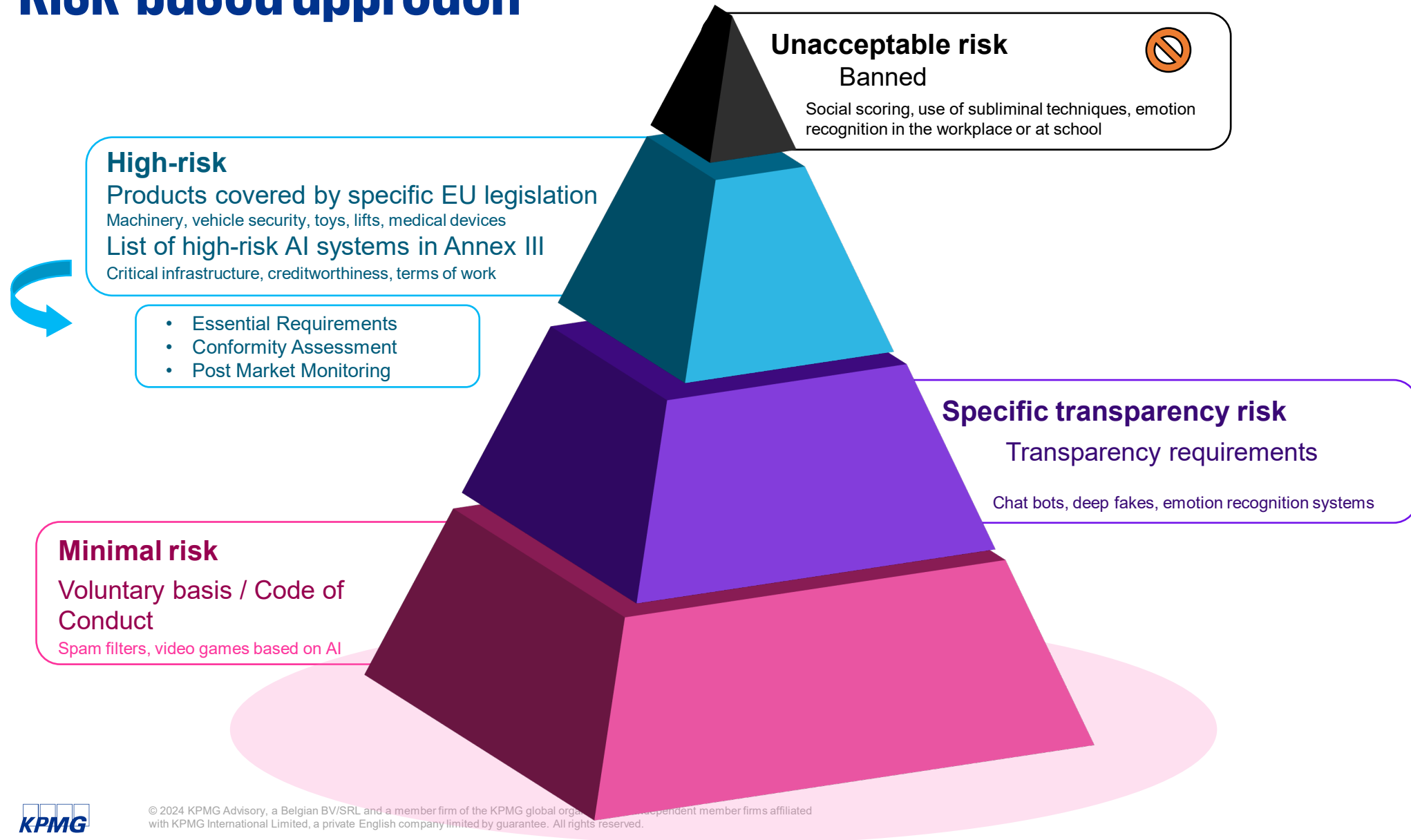
7%

Company total worldwide annual turnover for the preceding financial year.

Scope of the AI Act



Risk-based approach



Key legal challenges



Interplay with GDPR

Development and use of AI systems triggers the question of data privacy.

- Complementary frameworks
- Each with its own set of rules and obligations
- Already having in place the necessary data protection controls and policies will prove to be an advantage



Liabilities

Various liability regimes are to be taken into account.

- Allocation of liabilities in contracts between provider and deployer
- No specific attention to director liability in the AI Act
- Impact of new legislative initiatives
 - Product Liability Directive
 - AI Liability Directive



Other legal challenges

The AI Act does not answer everything.

- Consumer protection law
- Intellectual property law
- Competition law
- Product safety
- Sector specific regulations
- ...

Key Take Aways

Urgency of preparation

The time to understand and prepare for the AI Act is now.



Roles and responsibilities

Understanding the different roles and responsibilities outlined in the AI Act is crucial for ensuring compliance.

Navigating legal intersections

Understanding the intersection of the AI Act with existing legislation will enable organizations to streamline their efforts and meet their requirements more effectively and efficiently.



Consider director liability

Directors should be mindful of potential liabilities and should review indemnification terms in their organization's articles of association and their liability insurance policies.

02

AI Act and compliance considerations

Mahault Piéchaud Boura



Why compliance matters

Claims



7% or €35M

Prohibited AI violations: up to 7% of global annual turnover or 35 million euros



3% or €15M

Most other violations (providers and deployers): up to 3% of global annual turnover or 15 million euros.



1% or €7.5M

Supplying incorrect information to authorities: up to 1% of global annual turnover or 7.5 million euros.

Trust

- Regulations and compliance thereto are expected to protect individuals for negative impact of AI.
- The AI Act aims to ensure that AI systems are safe, respect fundamental rights, foster AI investment, improve governance, and encourage a harmonized single EU market for AI.



Board Liability & Accountability

Role of the board linked to AI

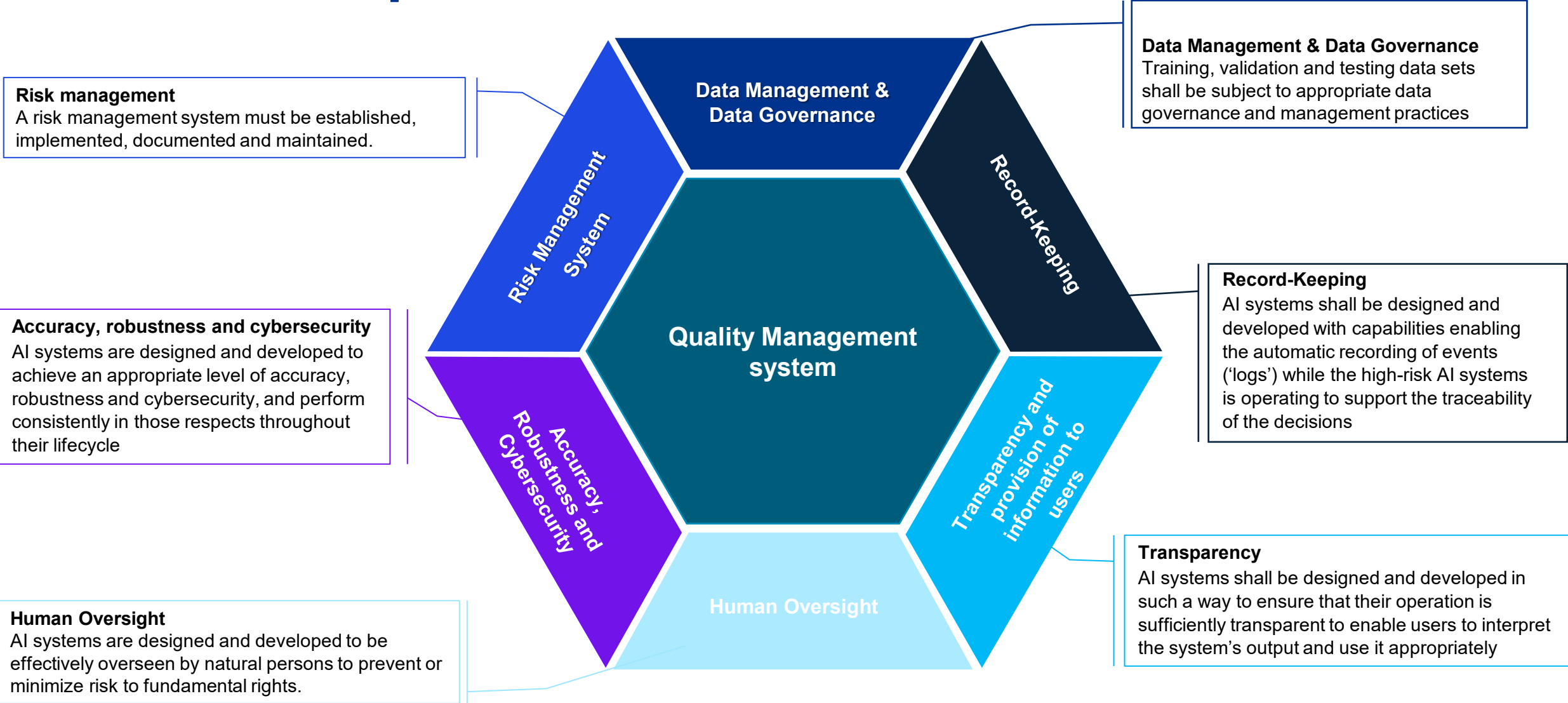
- Understanding AI as a matter of corporate strategy and risk;
- Considering the impact of AI activities on employees, customers, other key stakeholders, and the environment; and.
- Overseeing the company's compliance with laws and regulations that are relevant to AI and the development of related policies, information systems, and internal controls.



Liability

- No direct liability under the AI Act.
- Consequences in cases of fine, and classic accountability of board members.

What does compliance entail?



Granular obligations



Provider

Cannot market

- Quality and risk management systems
- Compliance high risks requirements
- Conformity assessment
- Risk monitoring (post market monitoring)
- Transparency and provision of information to deployers
- Incident and mal function reporting
- Retaining generated logs

Transparency by design

Code of conduct (voluntary)

Deployer

Cannot deploy

- Intended use
- Ensure human oversight
- Transparency to users / data subjects
- Keep logs
- Incident and mal function reporting

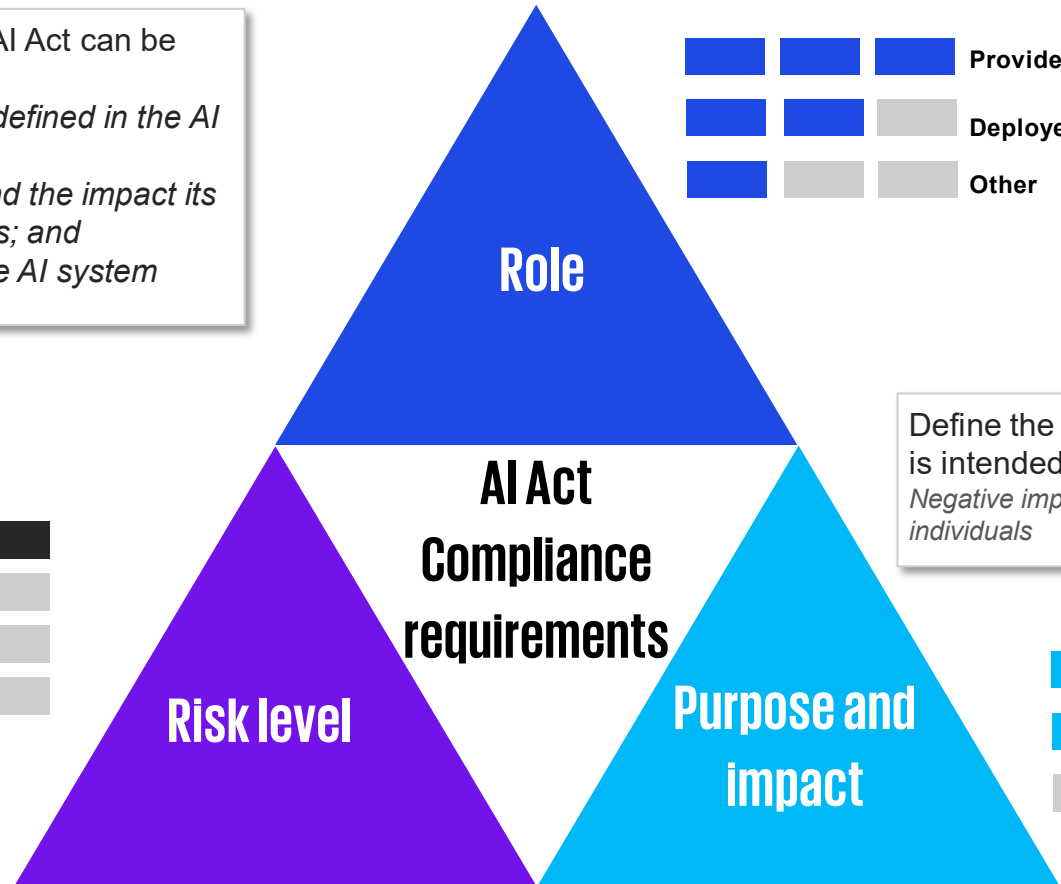
Transparency by default

Code of conduct (voluntary)

Defining compliance requirements

The degree of obligation under the AI Act can be derived from three main factors:

1. The role of the organization, as defined in the AI Act
2. The purpose of the AI system and the impact its use will have on natural persons; and
3. The risk level associated with the AI system



Define the impact of the use for which the AI system is intended, its purposes, on individuals
Negative impact on security, safety and fundamental rights of individuals

| | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|
| Unacceptable | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| High | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Limited | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| Minimal | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| ■ | ■ | ■ | Purpose negatively impacting individuals |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | Purpose impacting individuals |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | No to minimal impact in individuals |

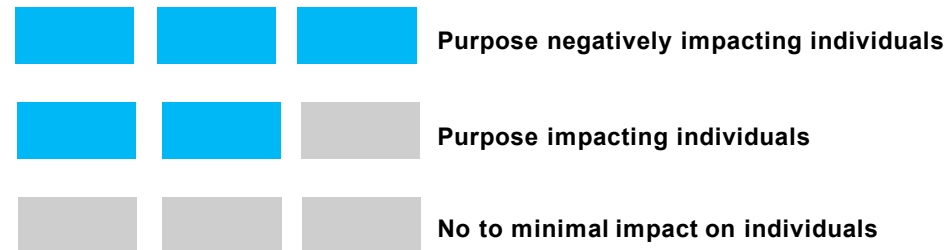
Purpose & impact

What is the intended purpose?

“The use for which an AI system is intended by the provider, including the specific context and conditions of use, as specified in the information supplied by the provider in the instructions for use, promotional or sales materials and statements, as well as in the technical documentation”

Defining the impact

- Who is affected by the use of the system?
- In what context?
- Does it impact their fundamental rights?
- Does it impact their safety and security?
- Is the impact negative?



Assessments

Mapping of AI Systems

What AI is in use?

- Organizations must have and maintain a good view of the AI systems in use internally and externally.
- AI system registry can be used as a base line to follow on compliance.

Risk Tiering and Risk assessments

What is the Risk Level?

The AI Act categorizes AI systems by risk to public safety and rights, defining specific compliance requirements for each category.

- **Risk Management:** Identify, understand, and mitigate potential risks before they occur to prevent operational, legal, and reputational damage.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure AI system deployments adhere to all necessary laws and regulations, avoiding potential legal issues and sanctions.
- **Conformity Assessments:** AI providers must demonstrate compliance with standards before deployment and maintain these standards throughout the system's lifecycle.

Compliance Assessment

What is your organization Compliance Level?

Evaluating the maturity of your overall AI governance program to identify areas where improvements can be made, and ensure alignment with best practices, regulations, and ethical guidelines.

No matter the stage an organization is in, **AI Governance Program Maturity Assessments** will help re-align the organization with best practices, regulations, and ethics while maximizing the value derived from AI technology.

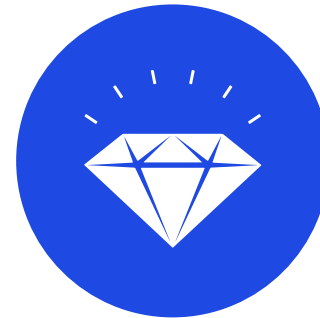
Journey to AI Act compliance



Key Take Aways

Purpose and Impact

Intended purpose of a system and its impact on individuals drive the applicability of the AI act.



Compliance fosters Trust

Compliance can be used to foster trust

Granularity of obligations

The compliance requirements are dependent on the risk qualification under the AI Act. A sturdy compliance framework is necessary to flexibly take compliance requirements.



Continuous exercise

Compliance and risk assessments are iterative processes and need to be monitored overtime.

03

Practical questions for Boards

Bart Van Rompaye





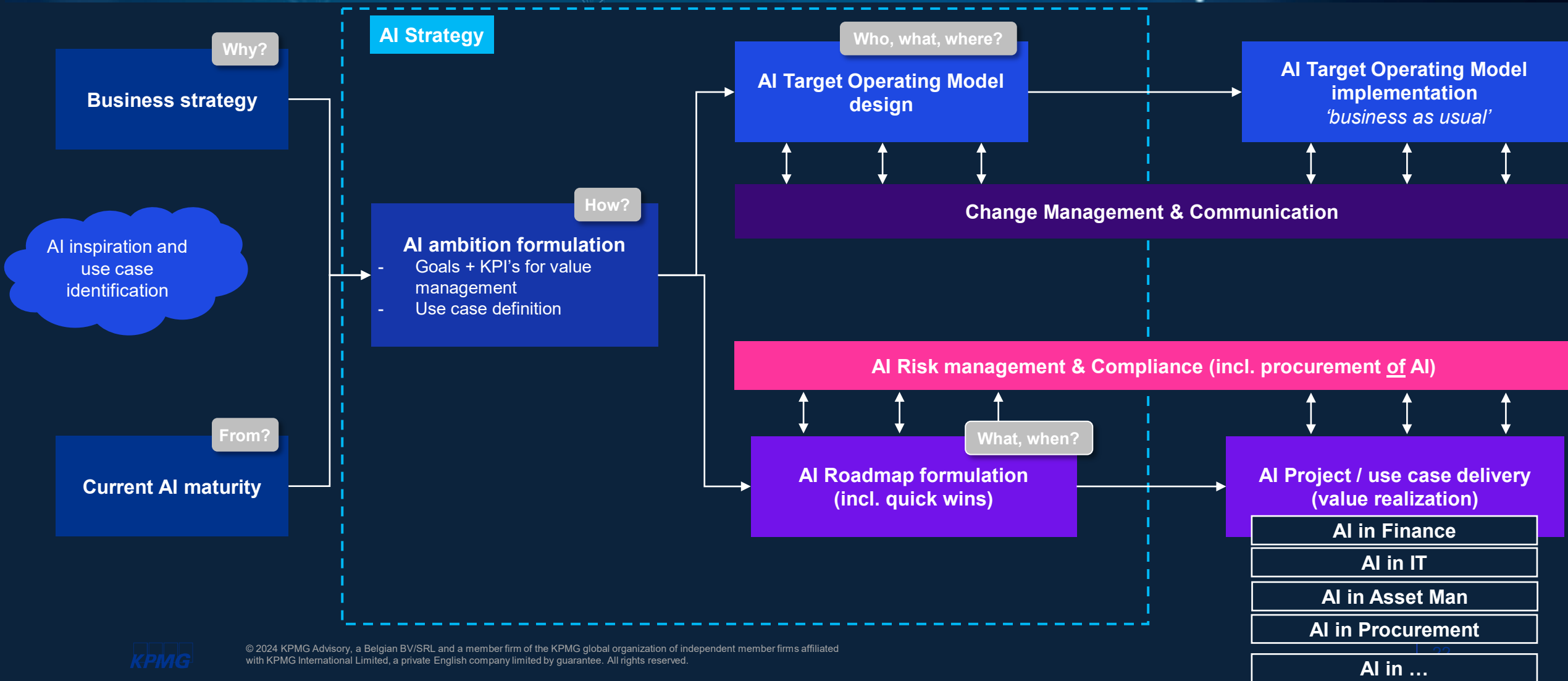
**Minimize
risk to
individuals**

**Minimize
risk to your
company**

**Maximizing
the value**



The top needs to start providing structure



Trusted AI is critical



We understand trustworthy and ethical AI is a complex business, regulatory, and technical challenge, and we are committed to helping clients put it into practice. We help develop, and deploy an end-to-end Trusted AI program across the AI/ML lifecycle



Fairness

Ensure models reduce or eliminate bias against individuals, communities or groups



Privacy

Ensure compliance with data privacy regulations and consumer data usage



Transparency

Include responsible disclosure to provide stakeholders a clear understanding as to what is happening within the AI solution and across the AI lifecycle



Sustainability

Optimize AI solutions to limit negative environmental impact where possible



Explainability

Ensure AI solutions are understandable as to how and why recommendations are made or conclusions drawn



Data integrity

Ensure data quality, governance, and enrichment steps embed trust



Accountability

Human oversight and responsibility embedded across the AI lifecycle to manage risk and ensure compliance with regulations and applicable laws



Reliability

Ensure AI systems perform at the desired level of precision and consistency



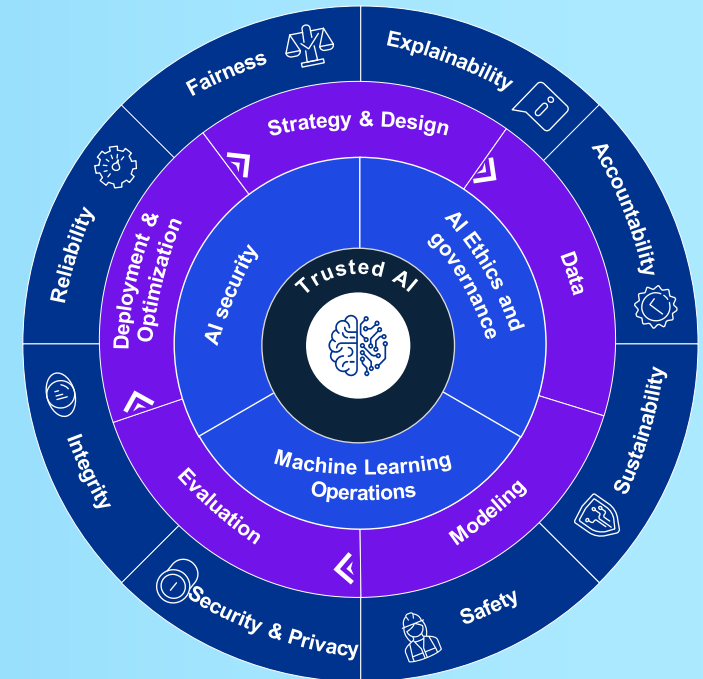
Security

Safeguard against unauthorized access, bad actors, misinformation, corruption, or attacks



Safety

Safeguard AI solutions against harm to humans and/or property



AI – the full playing field

Traditional AI

Generative AI

Self-built AI

Intentional AI

Dedicated vendor solution

Embedded AI components

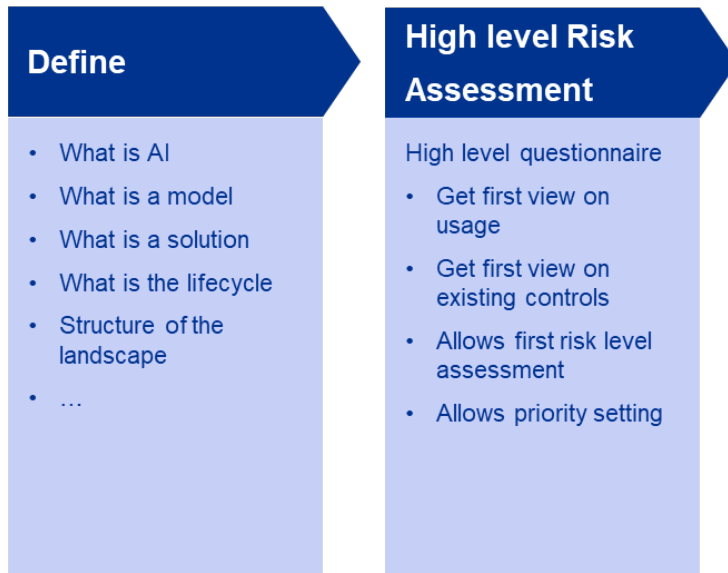
Incidental AI

Online AI

Shadow AI

AI Paradox

Creating visibility: from an initial view...



Creating visibility: from an initial view... to BAU

Technical Screening

- Of tools
- Of online interactions
- Of company resources (documentation, collaboration sites,...)
- Of own code

Processes

- Make sure your (existing or new) processes actively screen
- E.g. procurement, risk processes, product development, legal review,...

Focus

- Recurrent deep dives in areas where high risk AI is more likely
- E.g. HR, critical infrastructure, essential services

Training

- Teach people to recognize AI
- Teach about the importance of its visibility
- Give an easy way to flag it

Article 4: AI literacy

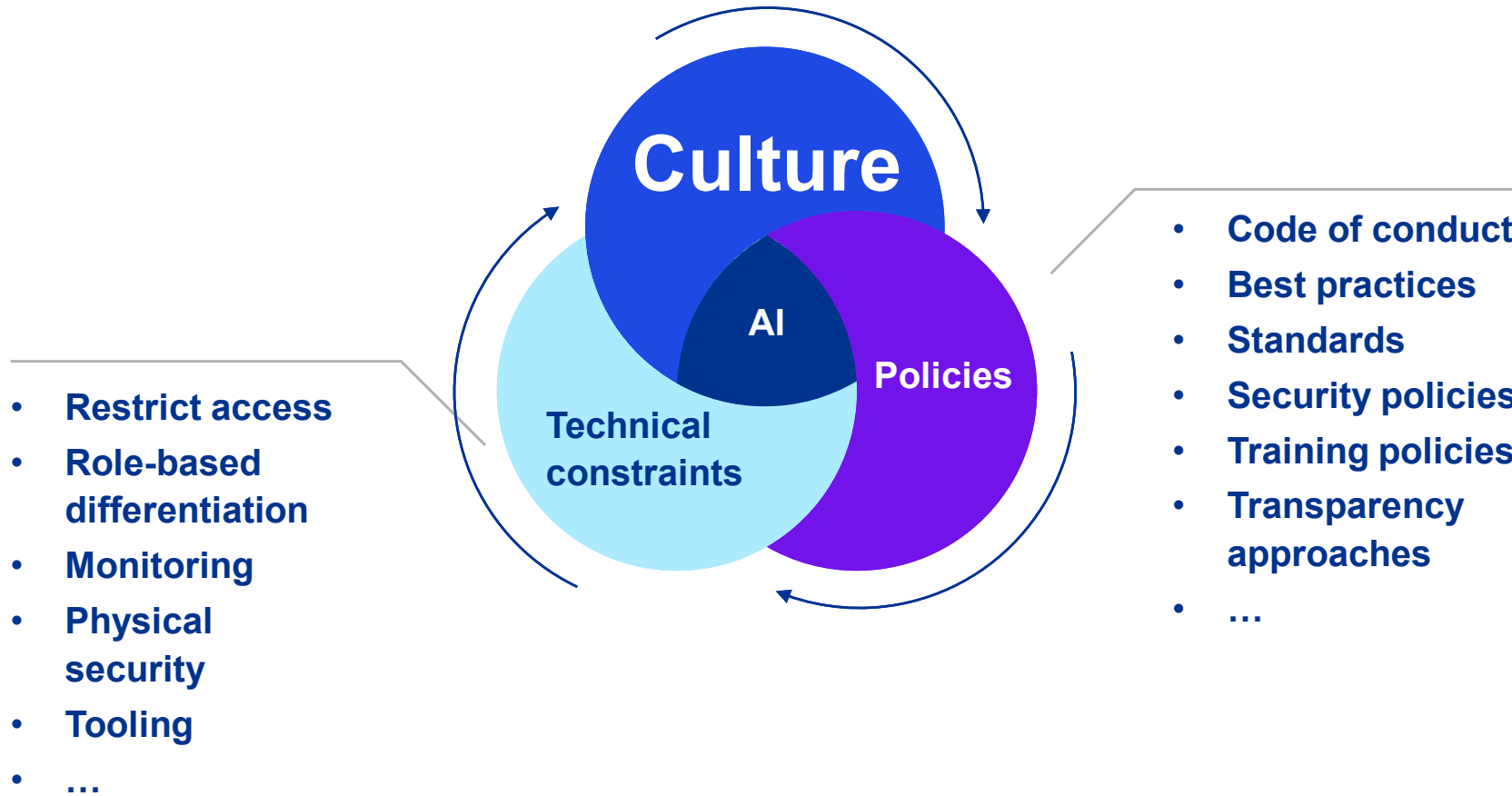
SUMMARY +

Providers and deployers of AI systems shall take measures to ensure, to their best extent, a sufficient level of AI literacy of their staff and other persons dealing with the operation and use of AI systems on their behalf, taking into account their technical knowledge, experience, education and training and the context the AI systems are to be used in, and considering the persons or groups of persons on whom the AI systems are to be used.

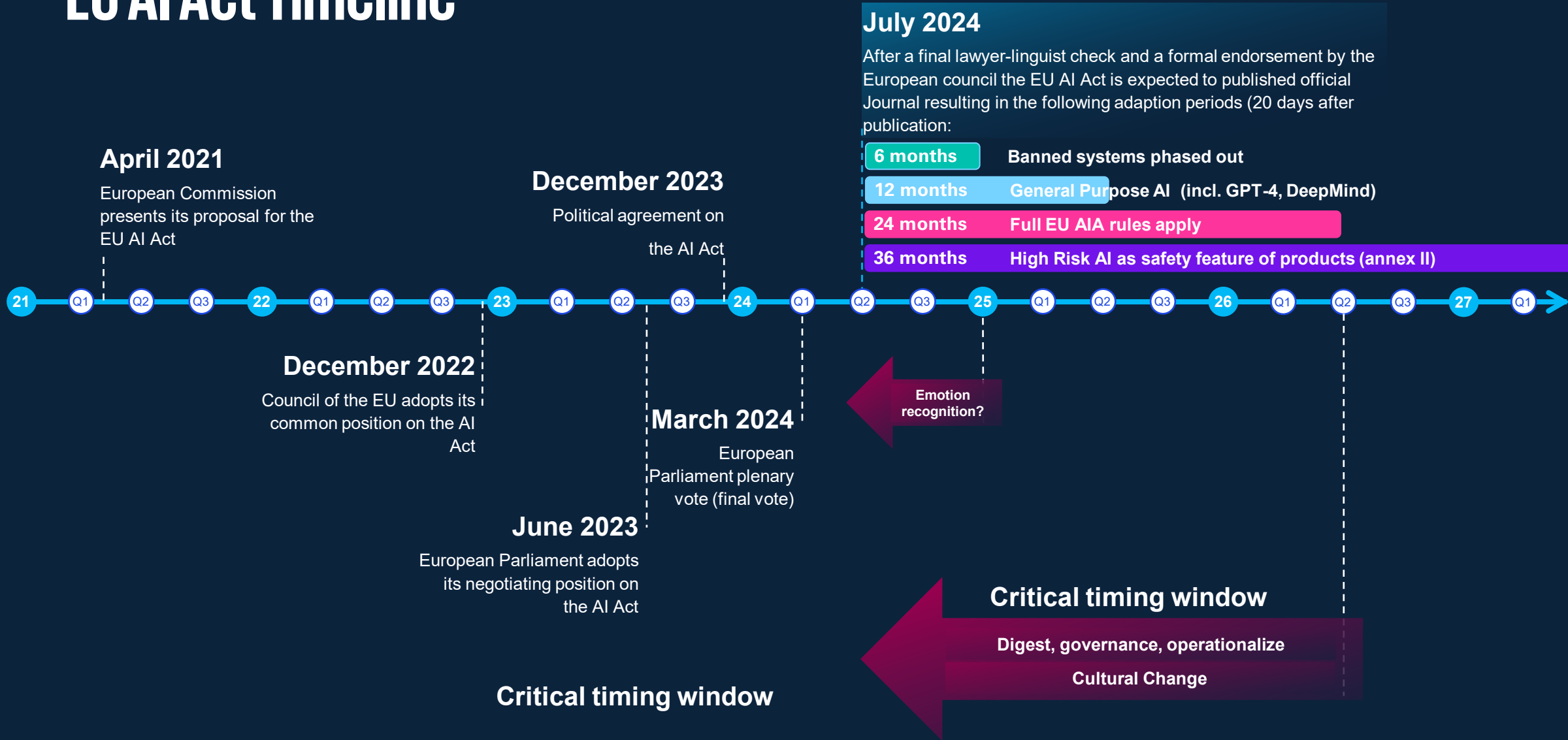
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The most important?

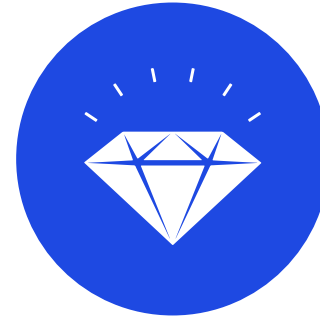


EU AI Act Timeline



Key Take Aways

Balance risk and pursuit of value



Check the essential building blocks

Your AI vision, ambition, risk appetite, strategy

Create visibility across the entire AI playing field



Work on knowledge and expertise

Train everyone, also yourself, and fill gaps by partnering with externals

**And most important:
start now!**



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