

BLC Webinar The Al Act



24th of June 2024

Agenda



The Al Act and its legal implications.

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Al Act | Compliance considerations

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Practical questions for Boards

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01

The Al Act and its legal implications

Heleen Lauwers



Al Act Timeline



The Council of the EU's common position ('general approach')

June - December 2023

Inter-institutional ("trilogue") negotiations

December 2023 – March 2024

Technical meetings to finalise the draft, adoption by European Parliament and Council

21 April 2021

Al Act Proposal of the European Commission

14 June 2023

European Parliament's negotiating position

8 December 2023

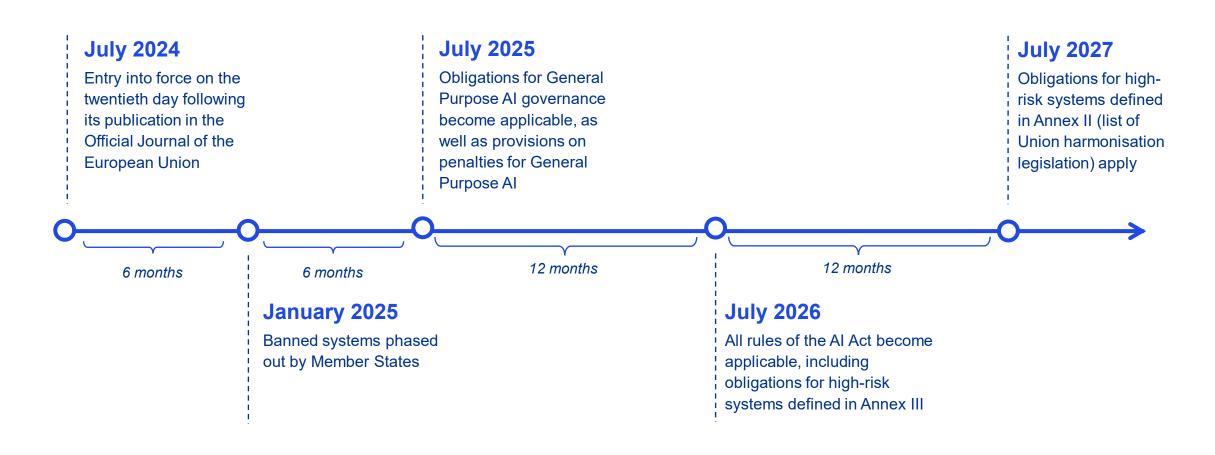
Political agreement on the AI Act

13 March 2024

The European
Parliament's plenary
vote (the final vote)



Al Act Timeline: What are the next steps?





What is the Al 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 Al Act introduces 4 risk categories and sets legal rules according to the level of risk.



Providers vs. deployers

Different actors in the Al 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:

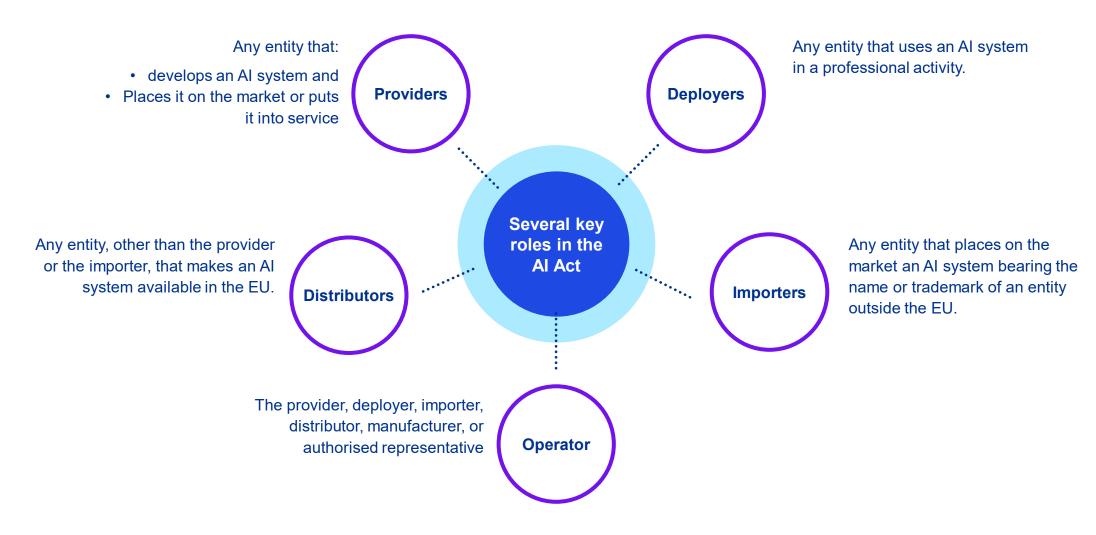
€35m

7%

Company total worldwide annual turnover for the preceding financial year.



Scope of the Al Act





Risk-based approach

Unacceptable risk Banned



Social scoring, use of subliminal techniques, emotion recognition in the workplace or at school

High-risk

Products covered by specific EU legislation Machinery, vehicle security, toys, lifts, medical devices List of high-risk AI systems in Annex III

Critical infrastructure, creditworthiness, terms of work

- **Essential Requirements**
- Conformity Assessment
- Post Market Monitoring

Specific transparency risk

Transparency requirements

Chat bots, deep fakes, emotion recognition systems

Minimal risk

Voluntary basis / Code of Conduct

Spam filters, video games based on Al



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 Al Act
- Impact of new legislative initiatives
 - Product Liability Directive
 - Al Liability Directive



Other legal challenges

The Al 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 Al Act is now.





Roles and responsibilities

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

Navigating legal intersections

Understanding the intersection of the Al 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

Al 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 Al.



The Al Act aims to ensure that Al systems are safe, respect fundamental rights, foster Al investment, improve governance, and encourage a harmonized single EU market for AI.

Board Liability & Accountability

Role of the board linked to Al

- 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 Al Act.
- Consequences in cases of fine, and classic accountability of board members.



What does compliance entail?

Risk management

A risk management system must be established, implemented, documented and maintained.

Accuracy, robustness and cybersecurity

Al systems are designed and developed to achieve an appropriate level of accuracy, robustness and cybersecurity, and perform consistently in those respects throughout their lifecycle

Data Management & Data Governance

Quality Management system

Human Oversight

Data Management & Data Governance

Training, validation and testing data sets shall be subject to appropriate data governance and management practices

Record-Keeping

Al systems shall be designed and developed with capabilities enabling the automatic recording of events ('logs') while the high-risk Al systems is operating to support the traceability of the decisions

Transparency

Al systems shall be designed and developed in such a way to ensure that their operation is sufficiently transparent to enable users to interpret the system's output and use it appropriately



Al systems are designed and developed to be effectively overseen by natural persons to prevent or minimize risk to fundamental rights.



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 Al Act can be Provider derived from three main factors: 1. The role of the organization, as defined in the Al Deployer Act Other 2. The purpose of the AI system and the impact its use with gave on natural persons; and Role 3. The risk level associated with the AI system Define the impact of the use for which the AI system is intended, it purposes, on individuals **Al Act** Negative impact on security, safety and fundamental rights of individuals Unacceptable Compliance High requirements Limited Purpose negatively impacting individuals **Purpose and Risk level** Minimal Purpose impacting individuals impact No to minimal impact in individuals



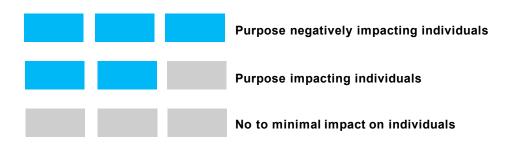
Purpose & impact

What is the intended purpose?

"The use for which an AI system is <u>intended by the</u> <u>provider</u>, including the specific <u>context and conditions of</u> <u>use</u>, 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 Al Systems

What Al is in use?

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

Risk Tiering and Risk assessments

What is the Risk Level?

The Al Act categorizes Al 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 Al system deployments adhere to all necessary laws and regulations, avoiding potential legal issues and sanctions.
- Conformity Assessments: All 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 Al 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, Al Governance Program Maturity
Assessments will help re-align the organization with best practices, regulations, and ethics while maximizing the value derived from Al technology.



Journey to Al Act compliance

Define your organization's strategic approach to

A

To foster compliance and adhere to legal and industryspecific requirements, minimizing risks associated with data privacy, security, and bias



Define and deploy your policies and control framework

Defining policies and standards will for AI will strengthen the organization's existing directives, guidelines, and procedures to account for the unique risks and challenges presented by AI.



Assess and Remediate



Al Deployment Risk
Assessments are crucial for identifying potential risks and implementing appropriate mitigation strategies to ensure compliance with laws and regulations and your organization's policies and standards.



Monitor and Improve

Compliance is a never-ending effort, based on iterative evaluation and improvement to keep up with your organization's activities.



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 requirement are dependent on the risk qualification under the Al Act. 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.

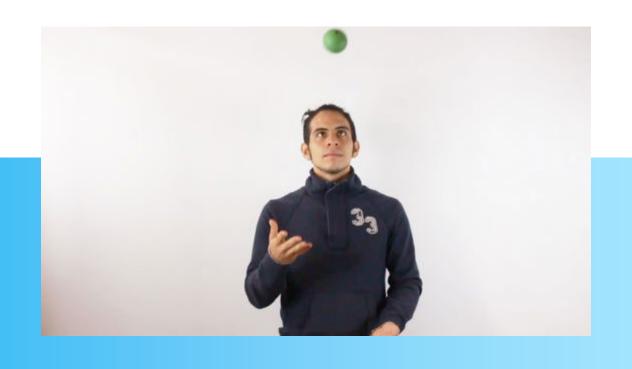


03

Practical questions for Boards

Bart Van Rompaye





Maximizing the value

Minimize risk to your company

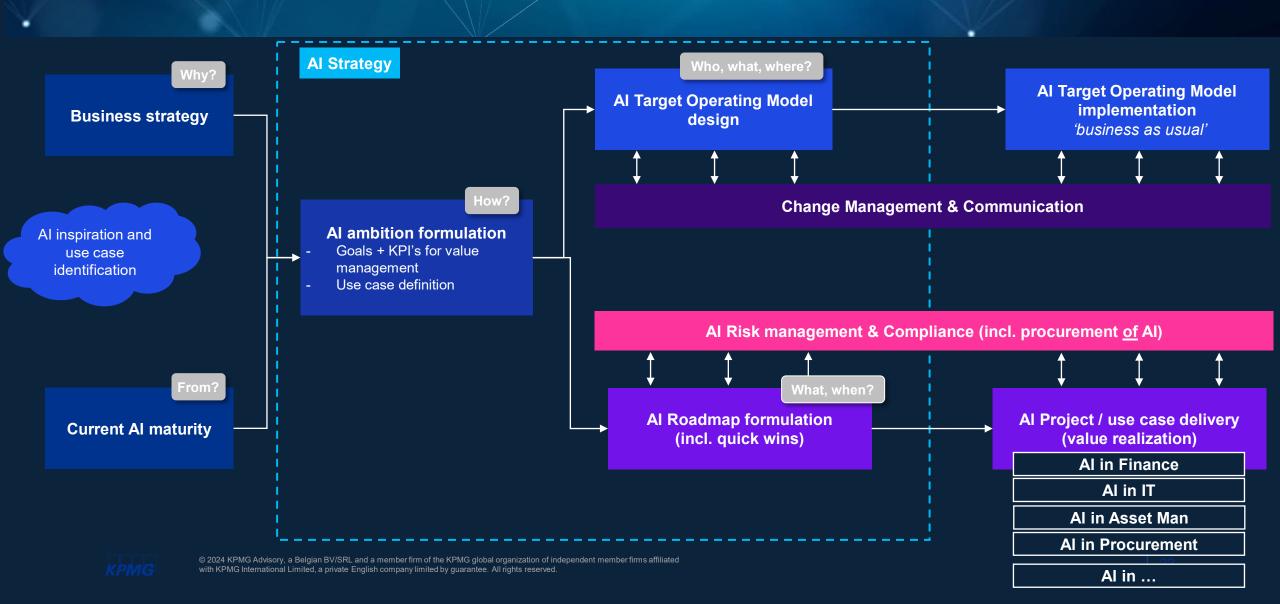


Minimize

risk to

individuals

The top needs to start providing structure



Trusted Alis 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 Al solution and across the Al lifecycle



Sustainability

Optimize AI solutions to limit negative environmental impact where possible



Explainability

Ensure Al 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 Al 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



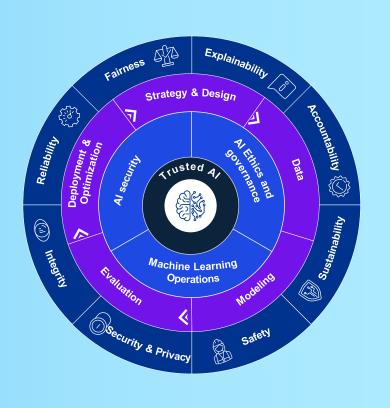
Security

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



Safety

Safeguard AI solutions against harm to humans and/or property



Al - the full playing field

Traditional Al Generative Al Self-built Al **Intentional Al Dedicated vendor** solution **Incidental Al Embedded Al components Shadow Al Online Al Al Paradox**



Creating visibility: from an initial view...

Define

- · What is Al
- What is a model
- What is a solution
- What is the lifecycle
- Structure of the landscape
- ...

High level Risk Assessment

High level questionnaire

- Get first view on usage
- Get first view on existing controls
- Allows first risk level assessment
- · Allows priority setting

Al Governance

Focus: the current governance framework around Al

Auditor knowledge: All and governance knowledge, and IT auditor

Al Integration

Focus: management and operations of Al-enabled activities

Auditor knowledge: Auditor with Al knowledge, much involvement of IT auditor

Al Development

Focus: solution risk of specific project/model/application and its regulatory compliance

Auditor knowledge: All and governance knowledge, and IT auditor, and All experts



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 Al
 is more likely
- E.g. HR, critical infrastructure, essential services

Training

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



Part of Chapter I: General Provisions

Article 4: Al 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.

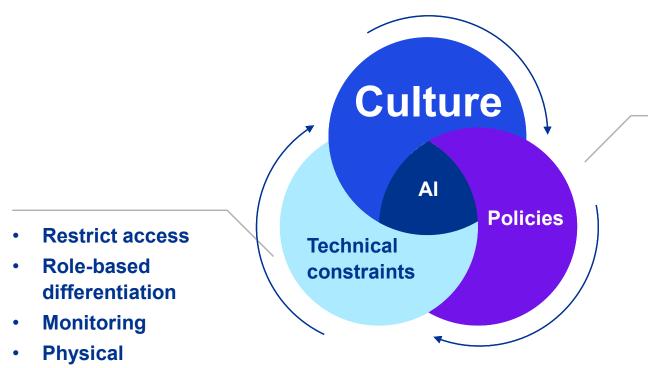
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The most important?

security

Tooling



- Code of conduct
- Best practices
- Standards
- Security policies
- Training policies
- Transparency approaches

EU AI Act Timeline

publication: **April 2021** 6 months Banned systems phased out December 2023 General Purpose Al (incl. GPT-4, DeepMind) **European Commission** 12 months presents its proposal for the Political agreement on Full EU AIA rules apply 24 months EU AI Act the Al Act High Risk AI as safety feature of products (annex II) 36 months December 2022 **Emotion** Council of the EU adopts its recognition? March 2024 common position on the AI Act European Parliament plenary vote (final vote) June 2023 European Parliament adopts its negotiating position on **Critical timing window** the Al Act Digest, governance, operationalize **Cultural Change Critical timing window**

July 2024

After a final lawyer-linguist check and a formal endorsement by the European council the EU Al Act is expected to published official Journal resulting in the following adaption periods (20 days after



Key Take Aways

Balance risk and pursuit of value





Check the essential building blocks

Your Al vision, ambition, risk appetite, strategy

Create visibility across the entire Al 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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