

Certified AI Act Short Course - Course Overview

Thordis, Filippo and Sara from leading ethical AI company Trilateral Research will provide participants with an overview of the new EU AI Act and share the ambition, purpose, and scope of the Act, and some of its potential impacts. The course will educate learners on the key compliance elements of the proposed AI Act. It will provide a basic introduction to AI, including understanding how to recognise AI, what tools are in scope of the Regulation and basic ethical principles relevant to the responsible use of AI in an organisation. It will provide learners with important information on identifying the appropriate risk level of an AI system as well as practical guidance on meeting the requirements of the legislation, especially in relation to high-risk systems. Finally, the course will identify where existing regulatory requirements can be built upon to support compliance requirements and where new frameworks need to be developed in reference to brand new requirements like Fundamental Rights Impact Assessments. At the end of this course, learners will have the baseline knowledge and building blocks to build readiness for the AI Act within their organisation and support the responsible development and deployment of AI across Ireland and beyond.

Week One: What is AI? – This session provides the attendee with a grounding in AI necessary to understand the purpose and impacts of the EU AI Act. It will cover types of AI and potential AI use cases, examples of real-life negative impacts from poorly developed or deployed AI, ethical principles in AI, and an introduction to various international efforts to regulate AI. It will also highlight the importance for all types of organisations to develop an AI inventory.

Week Two: The EU AI Act - A risk-based approach to AI regulation. This session focuses on the core of the EU AI Act, helping the attendee to understand the intended purpose and structure of the legislation. This will include what technologies and uses of AI fall inside or outside the scope of the regulation, and how different categories of AI are to be regulated based upon their risk. It will also cover the types of AI that the Act prohibits. The session will introduce how to conduct a risk category threshold assessment and how to identify AI risks.

Week Three: EU AI Act accountability framework – different actors, responsibilities and required documentation. The AI Act creates multiple accountability requirements for providers and users of AI systems. This session will examine these requirements, including the different responsibilities of AI providers and users, how to identify different roles under the act, the types of documentation that will need to be created or received from suppliers, and links to other pre-existing legislation, standards and assessments such as DPIA. It will cover recent guidance from authorities on building datasets for AI in accordance with data protection law and DPIAs.

Week Four: EU AI act accountability framework – Fundamental rights impact assessment and conformity assessment. The AI act creates new requirements arounds AI risk assessment, the assessment of risks to fundamental rights and freedoms, algorithmic transparency and accountability, human oversight procedures, post-market monitoring measures and the requirement to certain types of high-risk AI systems to undergo conformity assessment. This session will explore these new types of compliance obligations.

Week Five: EU AI Act accountability framework – Technical documentation. This session explores the technical documentation requirements required for accountability of AI systems under the Act, including advice on how non-technical professionals can understand and manage this. This included guidance on algorithmic auditing – the processes through which we can assess the accuracy, bias or reliability of an AI system. It will cover the potential role AI audits can play in AI act compliance.

Week Six: Stakeholder Communication – This final session deals with some of the practical measures of navigating compliance with the AI Act, including appropriate distribution of internal roles and responsibilities, considering liability, potential fines and enforcement for non-compliance, potential skills and training including in AI literacy, incident monitoring, and how to think about handling complaints or incidents.