



# EU AI Policy Initiatives

Driving Trustworthy AI through Design and Regulation

27 January 2026



EUROPEAN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE

# A CENTRE FOR AI EXPERTISE IN EUROPE

## 360 degrees vision on AI



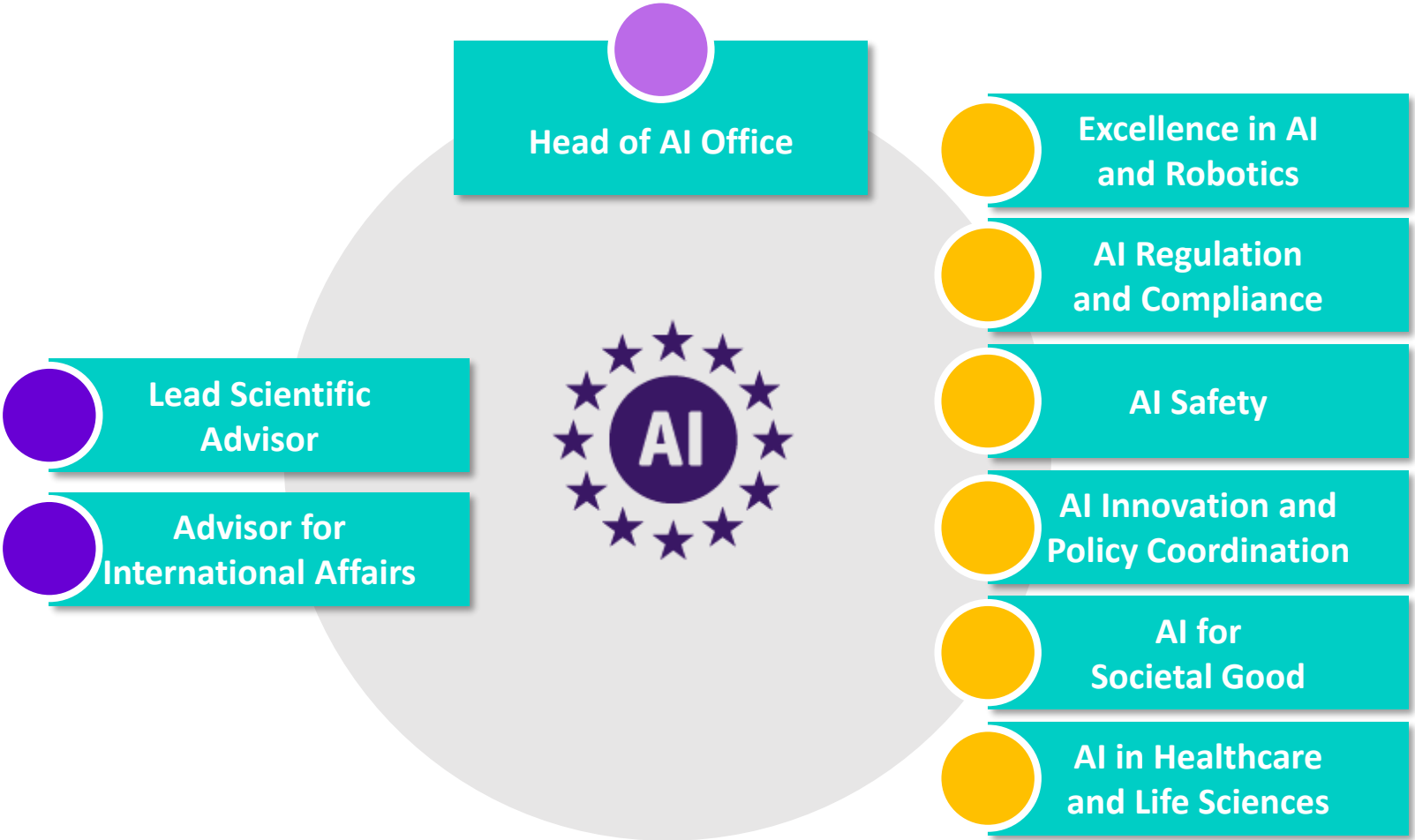
key role in the implementation of the AI Act



fosters research and innovation in trustworthy AI



positions the EU as a leader in international discussions and contributor to AI for good

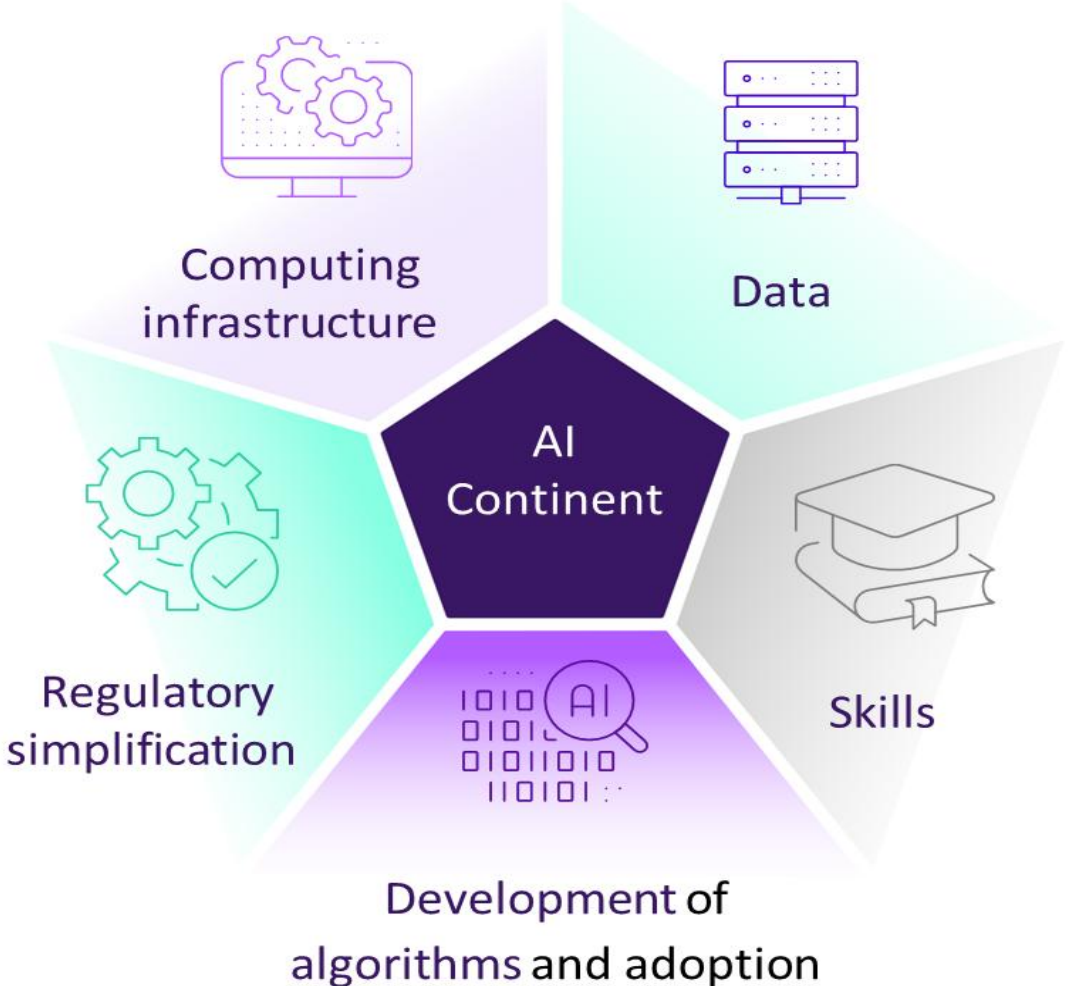


# AI Innovation Policy



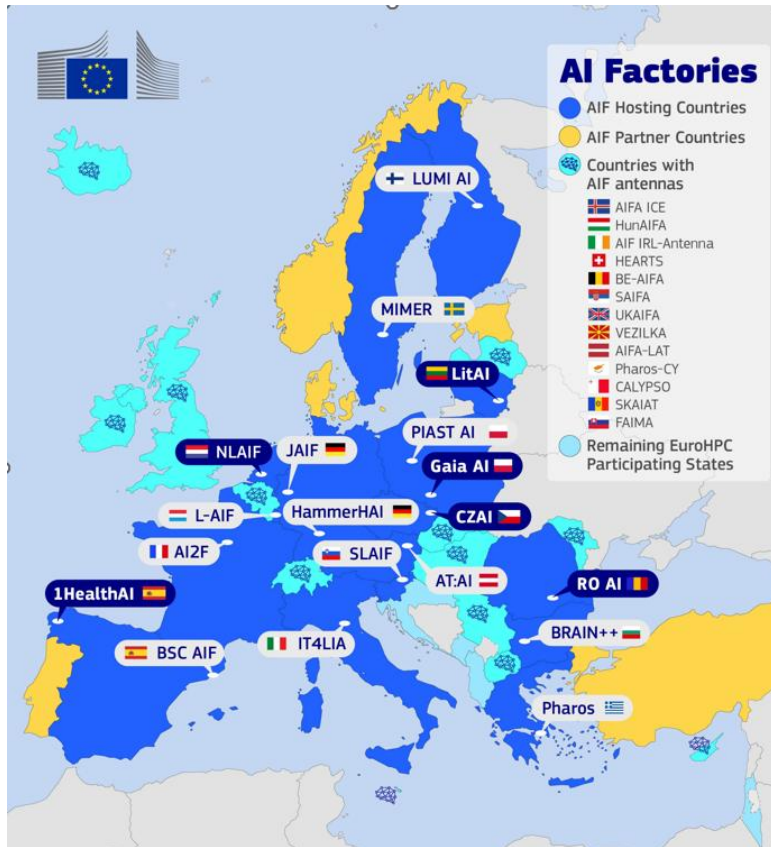
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# TOWARDS THE CREATION OF THE AI CONTINENT



# COMPUTING INFRASTRUCTURE: AI FACTORIES AND AI GIGAFACTORIES

## 19 AI Factories and 13 antennas across 16 MS



### Public-public infrastructures

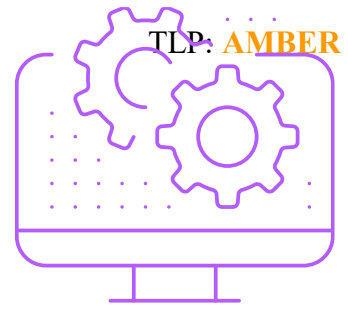
- Dynamic innovation ecosystems, connecting **supercomputing centres**, start-ups, research, industry
- 10 B€ of investments

## AI Gigafactories



### Public-private infrastructures

- Ultra large-scale facilities for next generation AI models
- Essential for Europe to be able to **compete on the global level** and ensure its **strategic autonomy in science and in critical industrial sectors**
- Level of investment: 4-5 AI Gigafactories at ~4-5 B€ per Gigafactory



# COMPUTING INFRASTRUCTURE: BOOST EU CLOUD AND DATA CENTRE CAPACITY

## Cloud and AI Development Act

- **Incentivise large investments** in cloud and edge capacity, notably by **simplifying the permitting process** for building data centres
- At least **triple the EU data centre capacity within the next 5 to 7 years**
- Preserve our **technological sovereignty** by relying on highly secure EU-based cloud capacity

# THE DATA UNION STRATEGY

## DATA AVAILABILITY



### Data Labs – 2025 onwards

Dedicated facilities linking  
data spaces with the AI  
ecosystem

Continue support of  
Common European Data  
Spaces – 2026 onwards  
Further support of 100M€

## SIMPLIFICATION



Consolidate data acquis –  
from 4 to 1 data instrument

Modernise rules applicable  
to cookies

Targeted GDPR amendments

Support the implementation  
of the Data Act

## INTERNATIONAL DATA FLOWS



Fair conditions in  
international digital trade

Protection of EU sensitive  
data

Boosting Europe's voice in  
global data governance

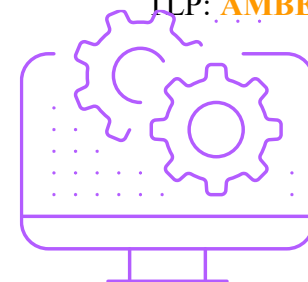
## APPLY AI STRATEGY

- **AI First** : help businesses to consider AI as a useful solution to tackle their challenges while also considering the risks
- Support **adoption and integration of AI in 10 strategic industrial sectors** (e.g. healthcare, manufacturing, robotics...) and the **public sector**
- **Addressing cross-cutting challenges** (e.g. support to Frontier AI, AI and science,...)

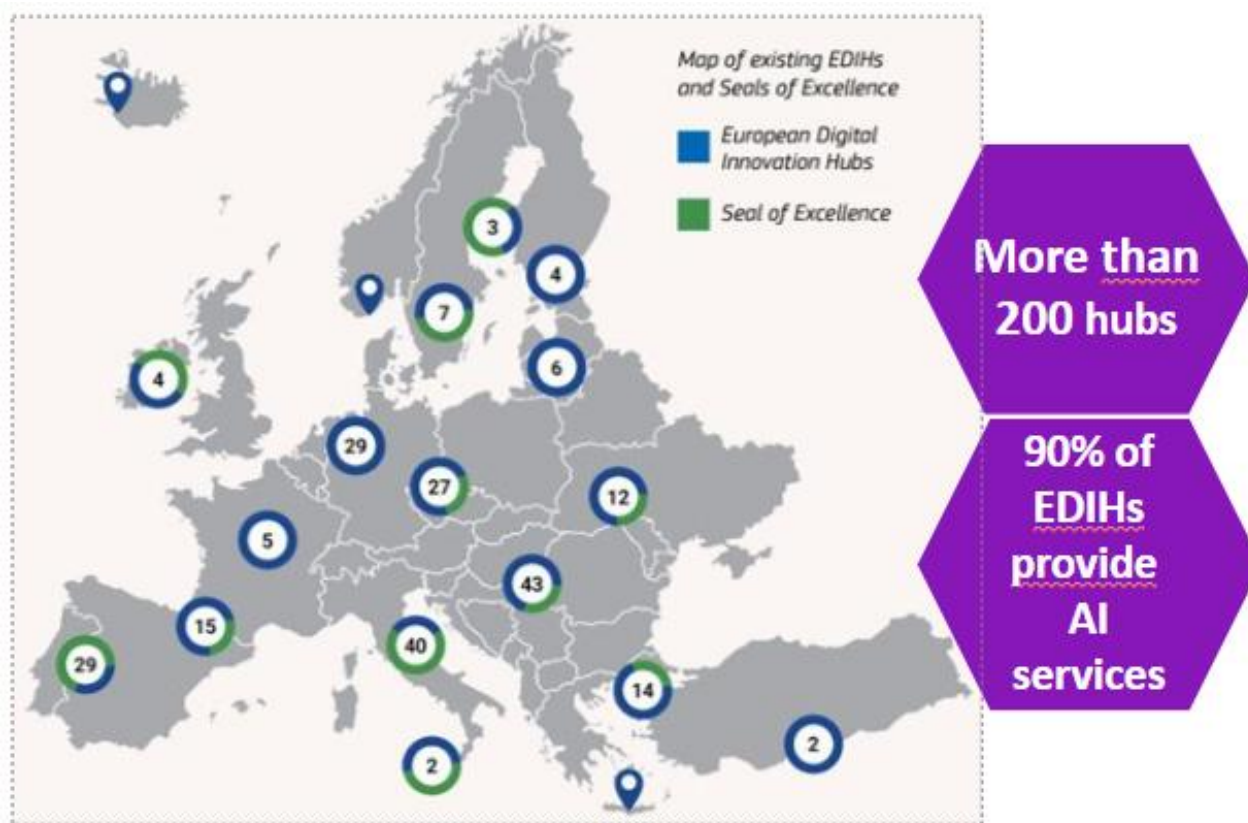


**enhance competitiveness**  
**further develop EU's technological sovereignty**

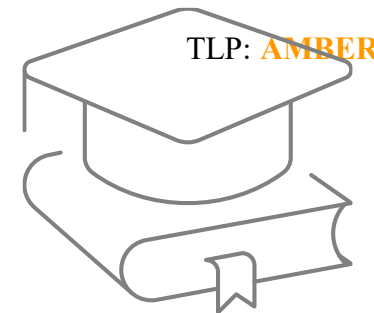




# EUROPEAN DIGITAL INNOVATION HUBS: EXPERIENCE CENTRES FOR AI CLOSE TO BUSINESS AND LOCAL PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



- Main entry point of the EU AI innovation ecosystem
- Key role in supporting adoption of sector-specific AI solutions
- New focus : Experience Centres for AI



# BOOSTING SUPPORT TO STARTUPS INCLUDING IN AI SKILLS

## Startups and Scaleups

- **EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy** adopted in May 2025: make EU the place for starting and growing global technology-driven companies
- **28th regime** (to be proposed in 2026): a single legal framework for innovative companies across the Union
- **Investment and Savings Union Strategy**: channeling a greater share of households' savings into European innovative companies

## Skills

- Educating the next generation of AI experts and training the workforce, including through the **AI Skills Academy**
- Attracting AI talent to the EU, including through **AI fellowships**
- Capitalising on the network of European Digital Innovation Hubs (**EDIHs**), which will increase **training services for SMEs**

# DIGITAL SIMPLIFICATION PACKAGE



## 1. DIGITAL OMNIBUS

simplifying rules on data – personal and non-personal, cyber and AI



## 2. DATA UNION STRATEGY

unlocking more, high-quality data for AI



## 3. EU BUSINESS WALLETS

cutting paperwork and ease regulatory burdens

Targeted amendments to the GDPR, Data Act, AI Act  
for clear rules on the trustworthy and privacy-preserving training of AI in Europe  
Access to high-quality and synthetic data for AI training

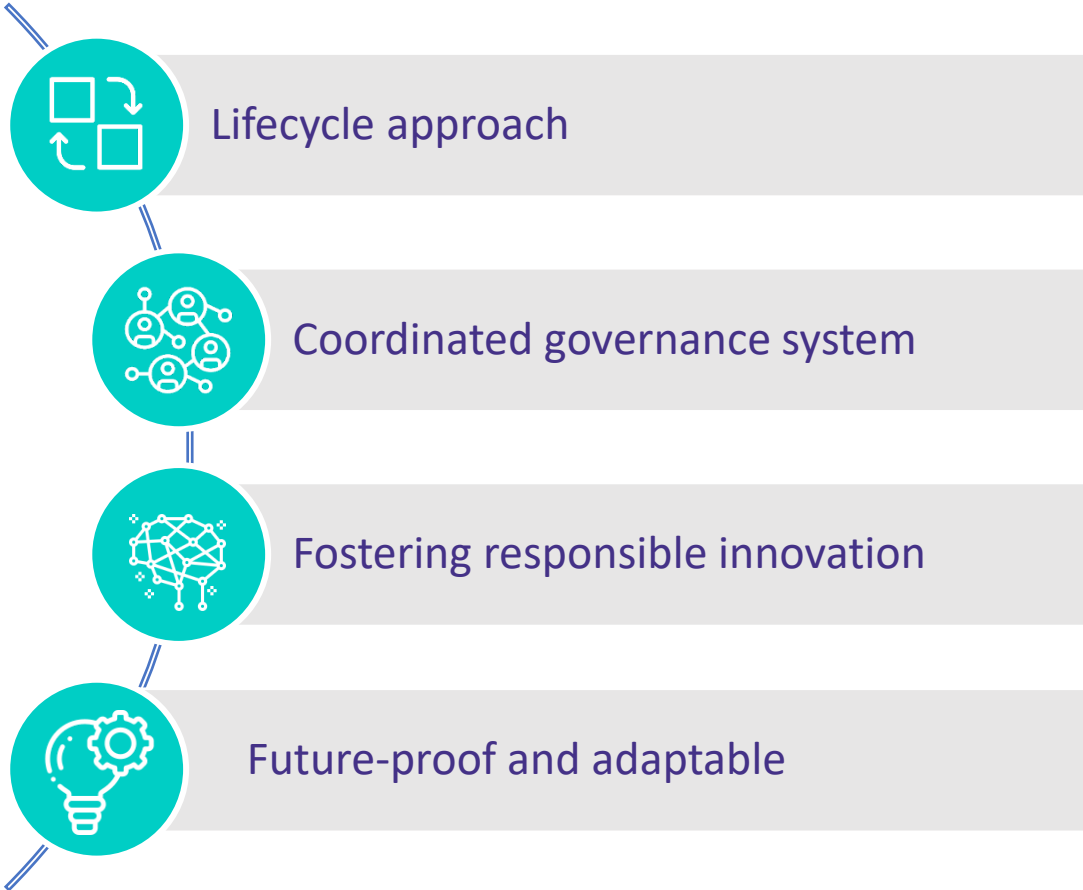
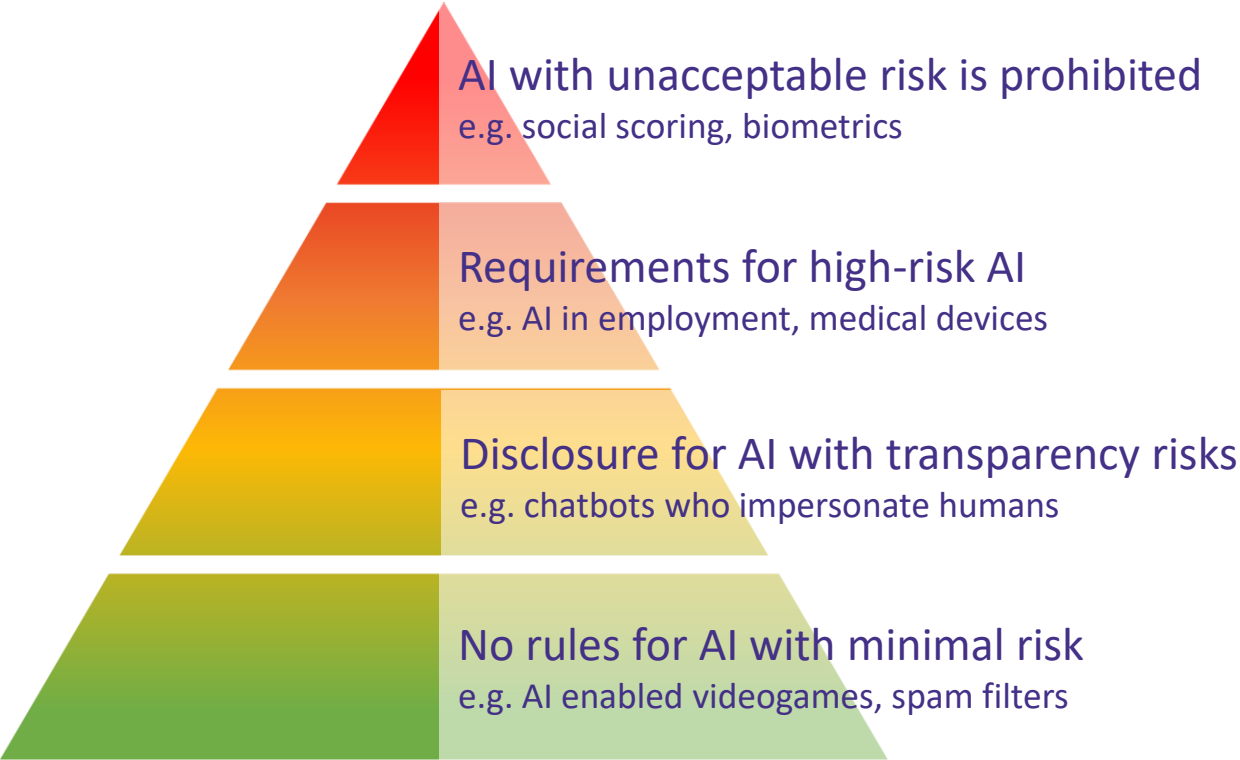
# Regulatory framework – the EU AI Act



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# ENSURING SAFE AND TRUSTWORTHY AI

Risk-based rules for AI systems:



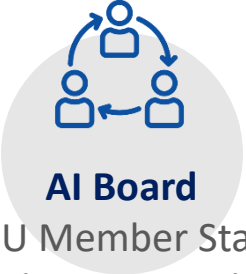
Transparency and risk management for frontier AI models that can be components of AI systems



# A HOLISTIC GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Rules for AI systems

**National level:**  
EU Member States to designate supervisors



**AI Board**

with EU Member States to coordinate at EU level



**Scientific Panel**

supports with independent technical advice



**Advisory Forum**

supports with stakeholder input

Rules for general-purpose AI models

**EU level:**  
AI Office within Commission



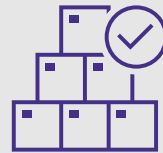
# IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES

## Set-up of governance structure



- Growing the **AI Office**
- Collaboration with **Member States** in the **AI Board**
- Establishing the **Scientific Panel** and **Advisory Forum**

## Providing guidance on the practical AI Act application



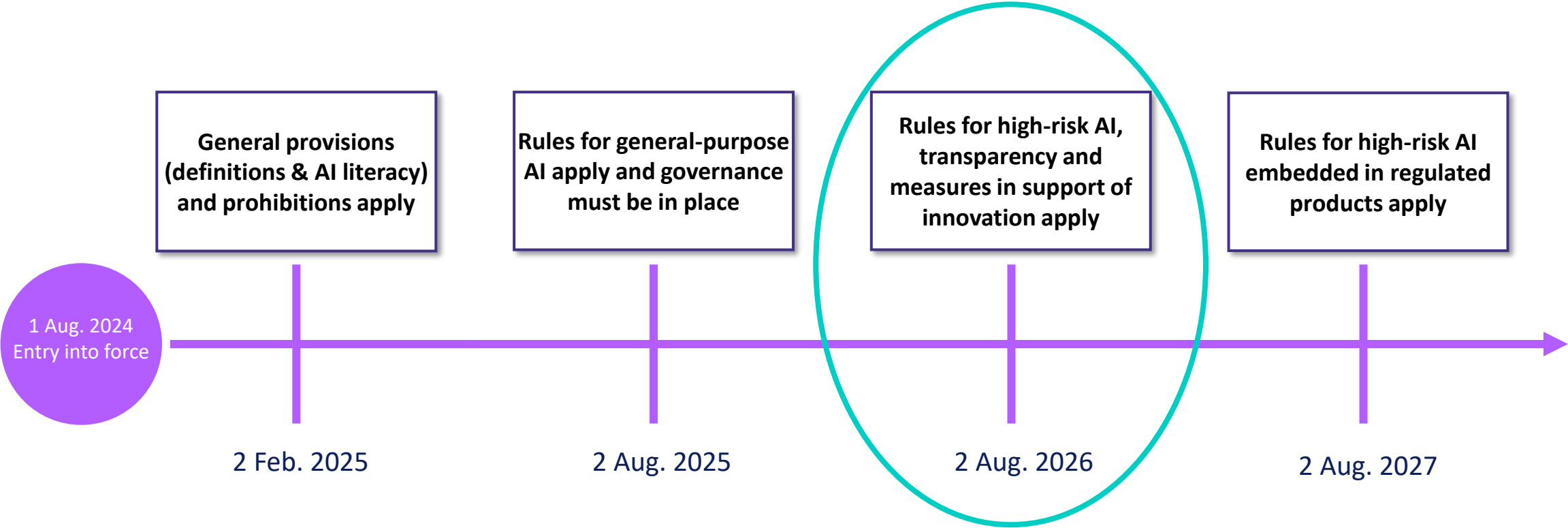
- In-depth **guidance documents & guidelines**
- Coordinating the development of stakeholder-driven instruments like **standards** and the **codes of practice**

## Stakeholder outreach and support in compliance



- **AI Pact** network with more than 3000 stakeholders, webinar and workshops
- Launch of **AI Act Service Desk** which allows stakeholders to ask questions and receive tailor-made answers

# AI ACT IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE



# GENERAL-PURPOSE AI MODEL RULES STARTED TO APPLY ON 2 AUGUST 2025

## What does it mean in practice?

- Transparency rules apply to providers of general-purpose AI models
- Providers of the most powerful models have additional risk management obligations
- Supervision and enforcement of the Commission, entrusted to AI Office

## Our guidance package:

▶ **General-purpose AI Code of Practice**  
as tool to demonstrate compliance

▶ **Guidelines** to clearly delineate the  
scope of the rules

▶ **Template** for training data summary  
to support copyright enforcement

# TRANSPARENCY & DISCLOSE RULES WILL START TO APPLY ON 2 AUGUST 2026



Recap: Transparency obligations (Article 50 AI Act)

- People **interacting with AI systems shall be informed**
- **Providers** shall **mark** AI-generated or manipulated content in a **machine-readable and detectable format**
- **Deployers** shall **disclose artificial origin of deep fake or AI-generated text** on matters of public interest
- People should be informed when **emotion recognition or biometric categorisation** systems are used

## Commission has launched a Code of Practice and writes guidelines to facilitate compliance



### Code of Practice on AI-generated content

- Drafted by independent experts in an iterative process, with input of **over 200 organisations** and individuals
- Process started in November 2025 and is expected to conclude in **June 2026**

### Commission is preparing guidelines

- **Guidelines** will cover all Art. 50 obligations and provide **legal clarity** for concepts, scope and exceptions

# HIGH-RISK AI RULES START TO APPLY ON 2 AUGUST 2026\*

## ONGOING PREPARATION:

- Development of standards for high-risk requirements in CEN and CENELEC
- Commission developing guidelines on the following topics:
  - Guidelines on high-risk classification
  - Guidelines on high-risk requirements
  - Guidance on reporting of serious incidents
  - Guidelines on high-risk obligations, substantial modification and AI value chain
  - Template for fundamental rights impact assessment
- Commission setting up EU database for high-risk AI systems

# AI Act simplification



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# DIGITAL SIMPLIFICATION PACKAGE OF 19 NOVEMBER 2025

Simpler EU digital rules and new digital wallets to save billions for businesses and boost innovation.



## 1. DIGITAL OMNIBUS

simplifying rules on  
data, cyber and AI



## 2. DATA UNION STRATEGY

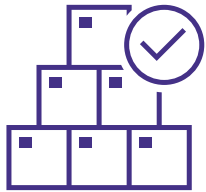
unlocking more,  
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## 3. EU BUSINESS WALLETS

cutting paperwork and  
ease regulatory burdens

# DIGITAL OMNIBUS ON AI



## Simplification measures



In addition to existing support measures like Codes of practices, guidelines, stakeholder outreach & the [AI Act Service Desk](#)

- ▶ Alignment of the implementation timeline for high-risk rules
- ▶ Cutting compliance costs for companies
- ▶ Strengthening the governance system
- ▶ Expanding measures in support of innovation
- ▶ Improving procedures and operations

Thank you.



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