Consultation on the White Paper on Artificial Intelligence - A European Approach

> Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a strategic technology that offers many benefits for citizens and the economy. It will change our lives by improving healthcare (e.g. making diagnosis more precise, enabling better prevention of diseases), increasing the efficiency of farming, contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation, improving the efficiency of production systems through predictive maintenance, increasing the security of Europeans and the protection of workers, and in many other ways that we can only begin to imagine.

At the same time, AI entails a number of potential risks, such as risks to safety, gender-based or other kinds of discrimination, opaque decision-making, or intrusion in our private lives.

The European approach for AI aims to promote Europe's innovation capacity in the area of AI while supporting the development and uptake of ethical and trustworthy AI across the EU. According to this approach, AI should work for people and be a force for good in society.

For Europe to seize fully the opportunities that AI offers, it must develop and reinforce the necessary industrial and technological capacities. As set out in the accompanying European strategy for data, this also requires measures that will enable the EU to become a global hub for data.

The current public consultation comes along with the **White Paper on Artificial Intelligence - A European Approach** aimed to foster a European ecosystem of excellence and trust in AI and a Report on the safety and liability aspects of AI. The White Paper proposes:

- Measures that will streamline research, foster collaboration between Member States and increase investment into AI development and deployment;
- Policy options for a future EU regulatory framework that would determine the types of legal requirements that would apply to relevant actors, with a particular focus on high-risk applications.

This consultation enables all European citizens, Member States and relevant stakeholders (including civil society, industry and academics) to provide their opinion on the White Paper and contribute to a European approach for AI. To this end, the following questionnaire is divided in three sections:

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- **Section 1** refers to the specific actions, proposed in the White Paper's Chapter 4 for the building of an ecosystem of excellence that can support the development and uptake of AI across the EU economy and public administration;
- **Section 2** refers to a series of options for a regulatory framework for AI, set up in the White Paper's Chapter 5;
- **Section 3** refers to the Report on the safety and liability aspects of AI.

Respondents can provide their opinion by choosing the most appropriate answer among the ones suggested for each question or suggesting their own ideas in dedicated text boxes.

Feedback can be provided in one of the following languages:

BG | CS | DE | DA | EL | EN | ES | ET | FI | FR | HR | HU | IT | LT | LV | MT | NL | PL | PT | RO | SK | SL | SV

Written feedback provided in other document formats, can be uploaded through the button made available at the end of the questionnaire.

The survey will remain open until 14 June 2020.

About you

*Language of my contribution
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- ○ Czech
- ○ Danish
- ○ Dutch
- ● English
- ○ Estonian
- ○ Finnish
- ○ French
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- ○ Consumer organisation
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- ○ Non-EU citizen
- ○ Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- ○ Public authority
- ○ Trade union
- ○ Other

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* Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

EUnited AISBL - European Engineering Industries Association

* Organisation size

- ● Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- ○ Small (10 to 49 employees)
- ○ Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- ○ Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

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Check if your organisation is on the [transparency register](). It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

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* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

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○ Åland Islands	○ Dominica	○ Liechtenstein	○

- Albania
- Algeria
- American Samoa
- Andorra
- Angola
- Anguilla
- Antarctica
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Aruba
- Australia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belarus
- ◉ Belgium
- Belize
- Benin
- Bermuda
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Bouvet Island
- Brazil

- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Estonia
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Falkland Islands
- Faroe Islands
- Fiji
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- France
- French Guiana
- French Polynesia
- French Southern and Antarctic Lands
- Gabon
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Gibraltar
- Greece
- Greenland
- Grenada
- Guadeloupe
- Guam
- Guatemala
- Guernsey
- Guinea

- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Macau
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mali
- Malta
- Marshall Islands
- Martinique
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mayotte
- Mexico
- Micronesia
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Montserrat
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar /Burma
- Namibia
- Nauru
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand

- Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Samoa
- San Marino
- São Tomé and Príncipe
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Sint Maarten
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
- South Korea
- South Sudan
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Svalbard and Jan Mayen
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania

- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Brunei
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Cayman Islands
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Christmas Island
- Clipperton
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Curaçao
- Cyprus
- Czechia

- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon

- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Niue
- Norfolk Island
- Northern Mariana Islands
- North Korea
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Palestine
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- Paraguay
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- Philippines
- Pitcairn Islands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Réunion
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Saint Barthélemy
-

- Thailand
- The Gambia
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States
- United States Minor Outlying Islands
- Uruguay
- US Virgin Islands
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Vatican City
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Wallis and Futuna
- Western Sahara
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- Zambia

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Only your type of respondent, country of origin and contribution will be published. All other personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number) will not be published.

◉ **Public**
Your personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number, country of origin) will be published with your contribution.

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Section 1 - An ecosystem of excellence

To build an ecosystem of excellence that can support the development and uptake of AI across the EU economy, the White Paper proposes a series of actions.

In your opinion, how important are the six actions proposed in section 4 of the White Paper on AI (1-5: 1 is not important at all, 5 is very important)?

	1 - Not important at all	2 - Not important	3 - Neutral	4 - Important	5 - Very important	No opinion
Working with Member states	○	○	○	○	◉	○
Focussing the efforts of the research and innovation community	○	○	○	○	◉	○
Skills	○	○	○	○	◉	○
Focus on SMEs	○	○	○	○	◉	○
Partnership with the private sector	○	○	○	○	◉	○
Promoting the adoption of AI by the public sector	○	○	○	○	◉	○

Are there other actions that should be considered?

500 character(s) maximum

- Providing a clear definition of AI
- Promoting international approach towards technical standardisation of trustworthy AI

Revising the Coordinated Plan on AI (Action 1)

The Commission, taking into account the results of the public consultation on the White Paper, will propose to Member States a revision of the Coordinated Plan to be adopted by end 2020.

In your opinion, how important is it in each of these areas to align policies and strengthen coordination as described in section 4.A of the White Paper (1-5: 1 is not important at all, 5 is very important)?

	1 - Not important at all	2 - Not important	3 - Neutral	4 - Important	5 - Very important	No opinion
Strengthen excellence in research	○	○	○	○	●	○
Establish world-reference testing facilities for AI	○	○	●	○	○	○
Promote the uptake of AI by business and the public sector	○	○	○	○	●	○
Increase the financing for start-ups innovating in AI	○	○	○	○	●	○
Develop skills for AI and adapt existing training programmes	○	○	○	●	○	○
Build up the European data space	○	○	○	○	●	○

Are there other areas that that should be considered?

500 character(s) maximum

> - Ensure that excellence in research is also partially targeted towards industrial AI
> - Ensure appropriate EU funding mechanisms through MFF to make the above the ambitions listed above realistic.

A united and strengthened research and innovation community striving for excellence

Joining forces at all levels, from basic research to deployment, will be key to overcome fragmentation and create synergies between the existing networks of excellence.

In your opinion how important are the three actions proposed in sections 4.B, 4.C and 4.E of the White Paper on AI (1-5: 1 is not important at all, 5 is very important)?

	1 - Not important at all	2 - Not important	3 - Neutral	4 - Important	5 - Very important	No opinion
Support the establishment of a lighthouse research centre that is world class and able to attract the best minds	○	○	●	○	○	○
Network of existing AI research excellence centres	○	○	●	○	○	○
Set up a public-private partnership for industrial research	○	○	●	○	○	○

Are there any other actions to strengthen the research and innovation community that should be given a priority?

500 character(s) maximum

> - Above questions difficult to assess/rate in terms of importance without knowing what aspects of AI are to be the subject of research.
> - R&I should focus on AI applications rather than AI per se.

Focusing on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

The Commission will work with Member States to ensure that at least one digital innovation hub per Member State has a high degree of specialisation on AI.

In your opinion, how important are each of these tasks of the specialised Digital Innovation Hubs mentioned in section 4.D of the White Paper in relation to SMEs (1-5: 1 is not important at all, 5 is very important)?

	1 - Not important at all	2 - Not important	3 - Neutral	4 - Important	5 - Very important	No opinion
Help to raise SME's awareness about potential benefits of AI	○	○	○	●	○	○
Provide access to testing and reference facilities	○	○	○	○	●	○
Promote knowledge transfer and support the development of AI expertise for SMEs	○	○	○	○	●	○
Support partnerships between SMEs, larger enterprises and academia around AI projects	○	○	●	○	○	○
Provide information about equity financing for AI startups	○	○	○	●	○	○

Are there any other tasks that you consider important for specialised Digital Innovations Hubs?

500 character(s) maximum

- Focus described above is only on AI. Data economy is not limited to AI. Digital Innovation Hubs should look at the broader data economy.
- find possibilities to optimise data flow and storage needs for economic and environmental aspects

Section 2 - An ecosystem of trust

Chapter 5 of the White Paper sets out options for a regulatory framework for AI.

In your opinion, how important are the following concerns about AI (1-5: 1 is not important at all, 5 is very important)?

	1 - Not important at all	2 - Not important	3 - Neutral	4 - Important	5 - Very important	No opinion
AI may endanger safety	○	○	○	○	●	○

AI may breach fundamental rights (such as human dignity, privacy, data protection, freedom of expression, workers' rights etc.)	○	○	○	○	●	○
The use of AI may lead to discriminatory outcomes	○	○	○	○	●	○
AI may take actions for which the rationale cannot be explained	○	○	○	○	●	○
AI may make it more difficult for persons having suffered harm to obtain compensation	○	○	○	○	●	○
AI is not always accurate	○	○	○	○	●	○

Do you have any other concerns about AI that are not mentioned above? Please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

> - Despite importance of each issue, the question poorly framed. AI is a technology. Such concerns relate to specific applications & technology within which AI is used.
> - AI applications are embedded in products which are subject to existing regimes on safety and liability.
> -In comparison to humans performing repetitive tasks, AI often leads to greater speed and accuracy surpassing existing technology.

Do you think that the concerns expressed above can be addressed by applicable EU legislation? If not, do you think that there should be specific new rules for AI systems?

○ Current legislation is fully sufficient
○ Current legislation may have some gaps
○ There is a need for a new legislation
● Other
○ No opinion

Other, please specify

500 character(s) maximum

> What is an AI system? No definition provided therefore impossible to answer the question. In EUnited's case AI is a technology embedded in a product. For products with embedded AI systems produced by EUnited's members, the current regimes are sufficient .

If you think that new rules are necessary for AI system, do you agree that the introduction of new compulsory requirements should be limited to high-risk applications (where the possible harm caused by the AI system is particularly high)?

○ Yes
○ No
◉ Other
○ No opinion

Other, please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

> High-risk AI needs to be properly defined to provide legal certainly. Alternatively, an exhaustive set presumptive elements / indicators for the existence of high-risk AI must be developed. Otherwise the level of legal certainly required in the case of rules on high-risk AI will not be sufficient.

If you wish, please indicate the AI application or use that is most concerning ("high-risk") from your perspective:

500 character(s) maximum

> An application's risk level should be determined by the level of criticality of the application itself. Any application which impacts life or fundamental rights such as privacy should be considered on a case-by-case basis.

In your opinion, how important are the following mandatory requirements of a possible future regulatory framework for AI (as section 5.D of the White Paper) (1-5: 1 is not important at all, 5 is very important)?

	1 - Not important at all	2 - Not important	3 - Neutral	4 - Important	5 - Very important	No opinion
The quality of training data sets	○	○	○	○	○	◉
The keeping of records and data	○	○	○	○	○	◉
Information on the purpose and the nature of AI systems	○	○	○	○	○	◉
Robustness and accuracy of AI systems	○	○	○	○	○	◉
Human oversight	○	○	○	○	○	◉
Clear liability and safety rules	○	○	○	○	○	◉

In addition to the existing EU legislation, in particular the data protection framework, including the General Data Protection Regulation and the Law Enforcement Directive, or, where relevant, the new possibly mandatory requirements foreseen above (see question above), do you think that the use

of remote biometric identification systems (e.g. face recognition) and other technologies which may be used in public spaces need to be subject to further EU-level guidelines or regulation:

- ○ No further guidelines or regulations are needed
- ○ Biometric identification systems should be allowed in publicly accessible spaces only in certain cases or if certain conditions are fulfilled (please specify)
- ○ Other special requirements in addition to those mentioned in the question above should be imposed (please specify)
- ● Use of Biometric identification systems in publicly accessible spaces, by way of exception to the current general prohibition, should not take place until a specific guideline or legislation at EU level is in place.
- ○ Biometric identification systems should never be allowed in publicly accessible spaces
- ○ No opinion

Please specify your answer:

Do you believe that a voluntary labelling system (Section 5.G of the White Paper) would be useful for AI systems that are not considered high-risk in addition to existing legislation?

- ○ Very much
- ○ Much
- ● Rather not
- ○ Not at all
- ○ No opinion

Do you have any further suggestion on a voluntary labelling system?

500 character(s) maximum

What is the best way to ensure that AI is trustworthy, secure and in respect of European values and rules?

- ☐ Compliance of high-risk applications with the identified requirements should be self-assessed ex-ante (prior to putting the system on the market)
- ☑ Compliance of high-risk applications should be assessed ex-ante by means of an external conformity assessment procedure
- ☐ Ex-post market surveillance after the AI-enabled high-risk product or service has been put on the market and, where needed, enforcement by relevant competent authorities
- ☐ A combination of ex-ante compliance and ex-post enforcement mechanisms
- ☐ Other enforcement system
- ☐ No opinion

Do you have any further suggestion on the assessment of compliance?

> Any system for industrial machines should be aligned with NLF legislation regarding placing on the market and market surveillance. For High-Risk applications a 3rd party conformity assessment procedure is necessary.

Section 3 – Safety and liability implications of AI, IoT and robotics

The overall objective of the safety and liability legal frameworks is to ensure that all products and services, including those integrating emerging digital technologies, operate safely, reliably and consistently and that damage having occurred is remedied efficiently.

The current product safety legislation already supports an extended concept of safety protecting against all kind of risks arising from the product according to its use. However, which particular risks stemming from the use of artificial intelligence do you think should be further spelled out to provide more legal certainty?

- ☑ Cyber risks
- ☑ Personal security risks
- ☑ Risks related to the loss of connectivity
- ☐ Mental health risks

In your opinion, are there any further risks to be expanded on to provide more legal certainty?

Do you think that the safety legislative framework should consider new risk assessment procedures for products subject to important changes during their lifetime?

- ○ Yes
- ● No
- ○ No opinion

Do you have any further considerations regarding risk assessment procedures?

> Unclear what is meaning of important change. If it constitutes substantial modification then risk assessment is needed e.g. re-manufacturing requiring a new CE marking. Depending on who is carrying out the important change is relevant as to who should carry out the risk assessment. Determination of intended use by the manufacturer is already part of the conformity assessment procedure under the machinery directive. But the above doesn't deviate from current rules so no new RA procedure needed.

Do you think that the current EU legislative framework for liability (Product Liability Directive) should be amended to better cover the risks engendered by certain AI applications?

- ⦿ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ No opinion

Do you have any further considerations regarding the question above?

500 character(s) maximum

> The Directive is broadly fit for purpose. There may be a need to clarify the scope, to make clear that embedded software is considered to be a product in the scope of the directive.

Do you think that the current national liability rules should be adapted for the operation of AI to better ensure proper compensation for damage and a fair allocation of liability?

- ◯ Yes, for all AI applications
- ◯ Yes, for specific AI applications
- ◯ No
- ⦿ No opinion

Do you have any further considerations regarding the question above?

500 character(s) maximum

> EUnited will not comment on the effectiveness of national regimes. Rather, it believes that a harmonised European approach is most preferable to avoid market fragmentation.

Thank you for your contribution to this questionnaire. In case you want to share further ideas on these topics, you can upload a document below.

You can upload a document here:

The maximum file size is 1 MB
Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

Contact

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