AI AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS: THE FRIA MODEL FOR RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

The scenario

The recent development of AI is radically transforming many sectors, bringing many benefits, but also raising specific concerns about its potential impact on the enjoyment of fundamental rights. In this context, the AI Act requires AI providers and developers to assess the impact of AI systems and models on fundamental rights before placing them on the market, putting them into service or developing them.

Against this background, it is important for both private and public entities to adopt an appropriate methodology that streamlines the assessment of impacts on fundamental rights, supports the design of fundamental rights-compliant solutions, and facilitates accountability with respect to legal obligations.

The main objective of the workshop

The aim of the workshop is to familiarise participants with Fundamental Rights Impact Assessment (FRIA) and to present and apply to concrete cases a FRIA model template that offers a practical solution for carrying out this assessment. In a learning-by-doing workshop, participants will learn the methodology for FRIA and also to test it on some cases.
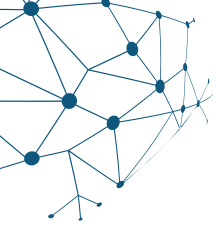
During the workshop, participants can bring their own cases of AI use or planned use. Those who wish to share their AI solutions and test the FRIA model on them will be asked to present a summary of their case, i.e. a general description of the main features of the systems and the expected objectives. No in-depth analysis or disclosure of sensitive information is required at this stage.

Based on the case presentation, 2-3 cases will be selected and the FRIA model template will be applied to them in the workshop to drive their design towards a fundamental rights compliant AI.

Expected outcomes

Benefits for the participants:

- Acquire know-how on a challenging topic where methodological skills are lacking.
- Become familiar with an AI FRIA model template that has already been tested in concrete cases and is useful for the design, deployment and development of fundamental rights-oriented AI.
- Strengthen their readiness to respond to the growing call for a risk-based approach to AI and to the obligations set out in the AI Act and the European Union legislation.

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Session 1 (1h) - The AI Act: the risk-based approach and the interplay with the GDPR

This session will provide an overview of current developments in the regulation of data-intensive technologies, with a focus on AI and the interplay between the GDPR and the AI Act in addressing the associated risks.

Anamarija Mladinić
Alessandro Mantelero

Session 2 (45min) - The FRIA model for AI

This session will address the following question: how can fundamental rights impact assessments be designed and implemented in relation to AI services and products? The following key elements will be presented and discussed: assessment models, planning and scoping, risk analysis methodology, relevant variables and matrices, mitigation measures and balancing test.

Alessandro Mantelero

Break

Session III (1h) - FRIA model: use cases

This session will present the application of FRIA to some use cases to help participants familiarise themselves with the model before using it in the workshop.

Alessandro Mantelero

Lunch Break

Session IV (1h) - Presentation of case studies by participants

Participants who are already working on AI solutions will provide a brief general description of the AI product/service they are planning to develop, are already developing or have already implemented. The level of description will not include disclosure of aspects covered by intellectual property or other legal non-disclosure requirements, and the entire discussion will be conducted under the Chatham House Rule, with all participants committing not to disclose the details of the discussion, including the application of the FRIA model in the following section. For each case, an initial analysis of the AI systems, the context of use and the potentially relevant issues will be undertaken by all participants using the FRIA model.

Moderator: Alessandro Mantelero

Session V (1,5h) - Application of the FRIA model to selected cases

Based on group work, participants will discuss and apply the FRIA to each of the selected cases and present the results of their evaluation, including comments on the FRIA model and its application.

Moderator: Alessandro Mantelero

Q&A (30 min)