General-Purpose AI Code of Practice

The European AI Office is facilitating the drawing-up of the Code, chaired by independent experts, involving nearly 1000 stakeholders, as well as EU Member States representatives, European and international observers.

Why a Code of Practice for General-Purpose AI?

General-purpose AI (GPAI) models can perform a wide range of tasks and are becoming the basis for many AI systems in the EU. Some of these models could carry systemic risks if they are very capable or widely used. To ensure safe and trustworthy AI, the AI Act (https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/regulatory-framework-ai) puts in place rules for providers of such models. This includes transparency and copyright-related rules. For models that may carry systemic risks, providers should assess and mitigate these risks.

The AI Act rules on general-purpose AI will become effective in August 2025. The AI Office is facilitating the drawing-up of a Code of Practice to detail out these rules. The Code should represent a central tool for providers to demonstrate compliance with the AI Act, incorporating state-of-the-art practices.

How is the Code of Practice being drawn-up?

The Code will be prepared in an iterative drafting process by May 2025, 9 months after the AI Act's entry into force on 1 August 2024. On 30 September, the AI Office hosted the <u>Kick-off Event for the Code of Practice Plenary</u> (https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/kick-plenary-general-purpose-ai-code-practice-took-place-online) involving nearly 1000 participants, including a https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/kick-plenary-general-purpose-ai-code-practice-took-place-online) involving nearly 1000 participants.

(https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/redirection/document/109943). These are the eligible respondents to the <u>call to participate in the drawing-up</u>

(https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/ai-act-participate-drawing-first-general-purpose-ai-code-practice) launched by the Al Office on 30 July 2024.

The plenary is structured in four working groups on specific topics. Following the kick-off Plenary, the participants will convene three times virtually for drafting rounds with discussions organised in working groups. For each of the working groups, discussions are facilitated by chairs and vice-chairs

(https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/meet-chairs-leading-development-first-general-purpose-ai-code-practice), who were selected and appointed by the AI Office from interested independent experts. Participants can express comments during each of those meetings or within two weeks in writing.

The Code is drafted in an inclusive and transparent process, with a variety of interested stakeholders involved: general-purpose Al model providers, downstream providers, industry organisations, civil society, rightsholders and other entities, as well as academia and independent experts.

As the main addressees of the Code, providers of general-purpose AI models are invited to dedicated workshops with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs, contributing to informing each iterative drafting round, in addition to their Plenary participation. The <u>first workshop</u>

(https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/first-workshop-general-purpose-ai-model-providers-code-practice-drafting-process) took place on 23 October 2024. The Al Office is ensuring transparency into these discussions.

Close involvement of EU Member States representatives is ensured throughout the process, via the <u>Al Board</u> (https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/ai-board). The Al Office also invited other public bodies and agencies from all over the world working on risk assessment and mitigation for general-purpose Al models to the Plenary as observers.

The Al Office plays a pivotal role throughout the process. By facilitating the drawing-up, coordinating the discussions and documenting the outcomes, the Al Office guarantees that the Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and all the participants in the Plenary have access to the information and can contribute meaningfully. This oversight helps maintain an open and collaborative environment, fostering trust and accountability in the development of the Code of Practice.

Template for the summary of training data

In parallel to the Code of practice process, the Al Office is also developing a template on the sufficiently detailed summary of training data that general-purpose Al model providers are required to make public according to Article 53(1)d) of the Al Act. The Al Office collected input from stakeholders during a broader multi-stakeholder consultation on general-purpose Al

(https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-launches-consultation-code-practice-general-purpose-artificial-intelligence), where more than 430 responses were provided from a wide range of stakeholders.

The template for the summary of training data (https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/redirection/document/111909) is closely linked to the providers' obligations in relation to transparency and copyright that are currently being detailed out in the Code of Practice. Given the close interlinkages of the two processes and the participation of all interested stakeholder groups with more than 1000 participants in the Code of Practice drafting, the Al Office has presented its preliminary ideas and allowed the participants to the Code to provide additional feedback on the preliminary structure and elements by 31 January. The topic will also be discussed with the Member States' representatives in the Al Board subgroup and the European Parliament before the Commission adopts the template in the second guarter of 2025.

Timeline

This is a tentative timeline that may be subject to changes depending on the progression of the drafting process.

• 10 December 2024

Al Board debriefed on progress with the Code of Practice (CoP)

• 11 December 2024

European Parliament invites AI Office, Chairs and Vice-Chairs

• 19 December 2024

Al Office publishes the second draft

(https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/second-draft-general-purpose-ai-code-practice-published-written-inde pendent-experts) of the CoP (first draft

(https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/first-draft-general-purpose-ai-code-practice-published-written-independent-experts))

EU Survey launched simultaneously for participant feedback

Week of 13 January 2025

Working Group Meetings

(https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/second-draft-general-purpose-ai-code-practice-published-written-independent-experts) (dates under "next steps")

Week of 20 January 2025

Provider workshops

Al Board: GPAI subgroup meeting with Chairs

• 27 January 2025

Summary Plenary

• 11 March 2025

Third draft of the Code of Practice

(https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/third-draft-general-purpose-ai-code-practice-published-written-independent-experts)

• Week of 17 March 2025

Working group meetings

Week of 24 March 2025

Fourth provider workshops

• 28 March 2025

Summary plenary

• March 2025 (date to be confirmed)

Al Board: GPAI subgroup meeting with Chairs

Al Board: full meeting

• From May 2025

Final version of the first CoP to be presented in a Closing Plenary and published Al Office and Al Board assess the CoP and publish the assessment The Commission may approve CoP via an Implementing Act

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