

EU AI Act FAQs

1 Who is impacted by the EU AI Act?

Within the European Union, the EU AI Act applies to providers and product manufacturers placing AI systems on the market in the EU, AI system deployers that are established or located in the European Union, AI system importers and distributors, authorized representatives of providers who are not established in the European Union, and affected persons in the European Union.

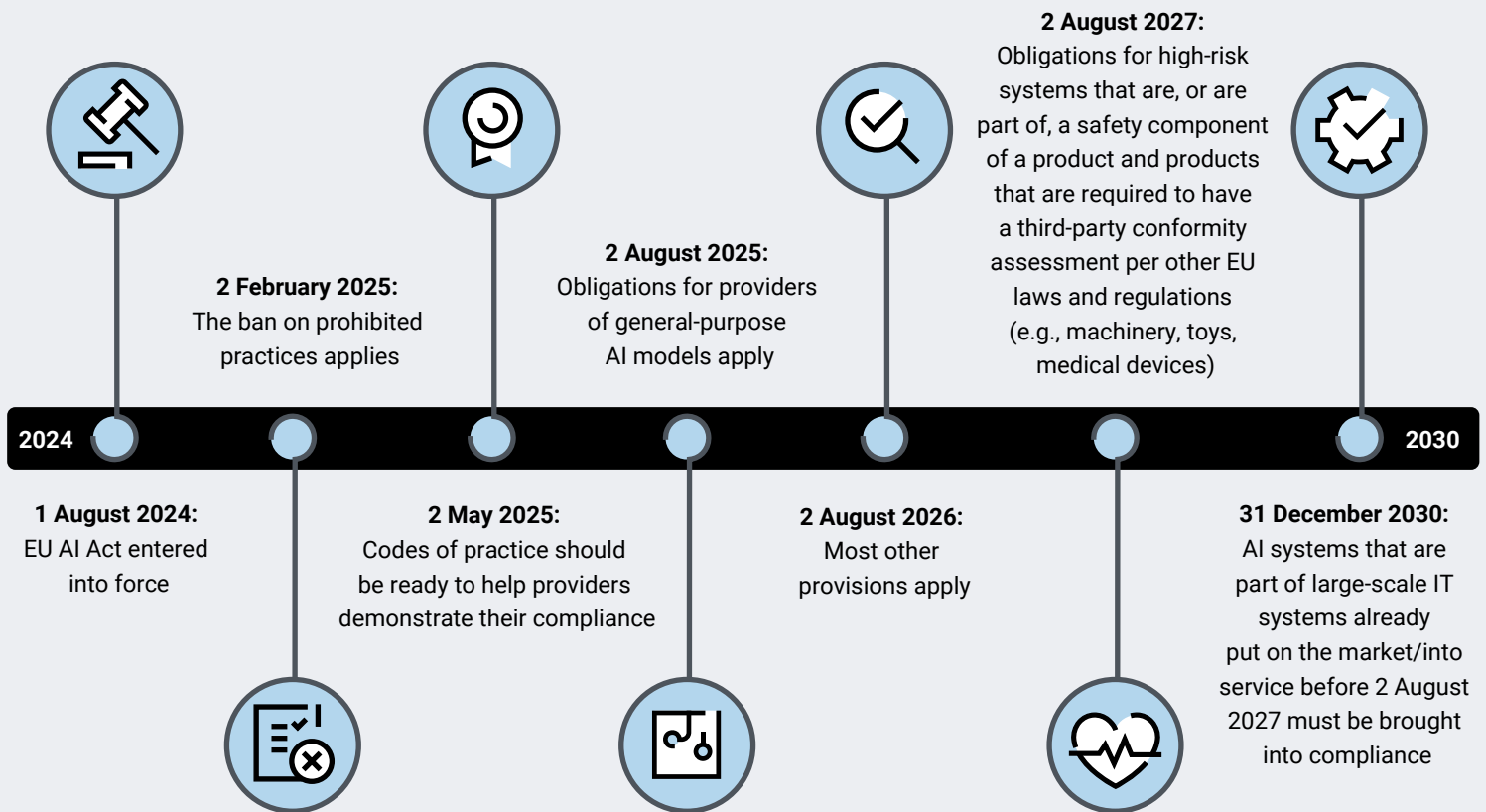
Outside of the European Union, the AI Act applies to providers who are placing AI systems on the market in the European Union (regardless of where they are located), and AI system providers and deployers outside the European Union whose AI output is used in the European Union.

2 What does it require?

The EU AI Act classifies AI systems based on their level of risk. Requirements and obligations may vary based on the level of risk. Some practices that are considered too risky ("unacceptable"), e.g., emotion detection in the workplace or biometric mass surveillance for law enforcement purposes, are banned by the AI Act. High-risk AI systems, on the other hand, have numerous conditions that must be met prior to being placed on the EU single market. For example, there are recordkeeping, conformity assessment, and human oversight requirements for high-risk systems. Across risk levels, the EU AI Act calls for transparency.

The AI Act also has additional obligations for providers of general-purpose AI models, i.e., AI models that can perform a variety of distinct tasks and display generalities. These obligations include the creation and maintenance of technical documentation, and a publicly available summary of the content that trained the general-purpose AI model. In addition to these requirements, additional requirements apply to providers of general-purpose AI models with systemic risk.





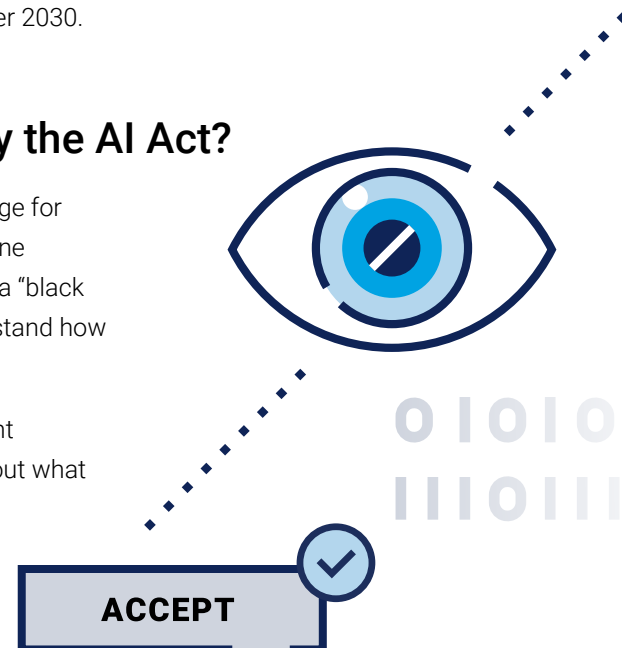
3 What is the deadline to be in compliance?

The EU AI Act provisions do not apply on the same date. The EU AI Act entered into force on 1 August 2024. On 2 February 2025, the ban on prohibited practices applies. On 2 August 2025, the obligations for providers of general-purpose AI models apply. Most other provisions, including those for high-risk AI systems, apply on 2 August 2026, but the specific obligations for high-risk systems that are part of a safety component of a product apply on 2 August 2027. AI systems that are part of large-scale IT systems and already on the market/in service before 2 August 2027 must be brought into compliance by 31 December 2030.

4 What are the biggest challenges posed by the AI Act?

The EU AI Act's emphasis on transparency may be a significant challenge for many enterprises. Some AI systems, especially those leveraging machine learning, operate in opaque ways, leading to what some consider to be a "black box." It is critical that those who must comply with the EU AI Act understand how AI systems operate and the technology and data on which they rely.

Transparency about the data used to train AI models is also a significant challenge. Many AI model providers are unclear, or perhaps unsure, about what data is used to train the model and if it was collected with consent.





5 What are the biggest benefits?

The biggest benefit of the EU AI Act is that it can help to build a safe world in which AI benefits rather than harms people. By considering the risk associated with AI systems, banning certain extremely risky practices, and having stringent requirements for high-risk systems, the harm that comes to people from improper AI development and deployment is significantly reduced. The EU AI Act can help enterprises—regardless of their compliance obligations—to think about how to develop and deploy AI technologies in a safe and ethical manner.

The EU AI Act also aims to promote honesty, integrity, and transparency around the use of AI. Truthfully and accurately communicating AI use and its impact can help enterprises maximize the value of AI and allow consumers to trust AI more, leading to a greater return on AI-related investment.

6 What resources does ISACA offer to help?

ISACA has many resources to help enterprises prepare for the EU AI Act and learn more about AI. The *Understanding the EU AI Act: Requirements and Next Steps* and [The Promise and Peril of the AI Revolution: Managing Risk](#) white papers are complimentary resources. The [Artificial Intelligence: A Primer on Machine Learning, Deep Learning, and Neural Networks](#) book provides a comprehensive overview of AI and how it works. ISACA also has [courses](#) about AI fundamentals, governance, AI auditing, ethics, and more.



LEARN MORE AT www.isaca.org/ai

1700 E. Golf Road, Suite 400, Schaumburg, IL 60173, USA

Phone: +1.847.660.5505 | Fax: +1.847.253.1755 | Support: support.isaca.org | Website: www.isaca.org