The EU AI Act
Quick Overview

The EU AI Act

What is the EU AI Act?

The EU AI Act is the flagship AI regulation of the European Union, putting in place obligations for AI systems and General Purpose models (GPAI). The Act recently passed into law and will be gradually coming into effect over the next couple of years. While the Act is only a law in the European Union, it applies beyond it. It is enough that one of the following holds:

Influence in scope (Article 2.1)			
The system affects people in the EU	The outputs will be used in the EU	The system is placed in the EU market	The deployer is in the EU

Who is subject to the Act?

The Act applies to many actors along the supply chain, including companies that develop AI and companies who deploy it, with most obligations to those who develop it.

Roles in scope (Article 3.2-8)
Provider - Develops the AI/GPAI   **Deployer** - Uses the AI/GPAI professionally   **Importer** - EU-based and puts the tech into EU market under a non-EU party name   **Distributer** - Makes the AI/GPAI available in the EU and isn't provider or importer   **Authorized representative** - EU-based and represents a non-EU party   **Product Manufacturer** - Puts AI on market with their product under their own name   **Non-providers may count as providers** - E.g., if they make substantial changes or put the system under their name (Article 25)

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Key Definitions

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

"a machine-based system that is designed to operate with varying levels of autonomy and that may exhibit adaptiveness after deployment, and that, for explicit or implicit objectives, infers, from the input it receives, how to generate outputs such as predictions, content, recommendations, or decisions that can influence physical or virtual environments" (Article 3.1)

General Purpose AI model (GPAI)

"an AI model, including where such an AI model is trained with a large amount of data using self-supervision at scale, that displays significant generality and is capable of competently performing a wide range of distinct tasks regardless of the way the model is placed on the market and that can be integrated into a variety of downstream systems or applications, except AI models that are used for research, development or prototyping activities before they are placed on the market" (Article 3.63)

General Purpose AI model (GPAI) with Systemic Risk

A GPAI that meets any of the following conditions:
"(a) it has high impact capabilities evaluated on the basis of appropriate technical tools and methodologies, including indicators and benchmarks;
(b) based on a decision of the Commission, ex officio or following a qualified alert from the scientific panel, it has capabilities or an impact equivalent to those set out in point (a) having regard to the criteria set out in Annex XIII." (Article 51)

High Risk AI System

An AI system is considered to pose "high risk" if it included in the High Risk list (article 6)

Three types of requirements

The Act assigns different obligations depending on the the context. In addition to variability by actor type already mentioned above, the main deciding factors are the use case, type of technology, and type of human interaction.

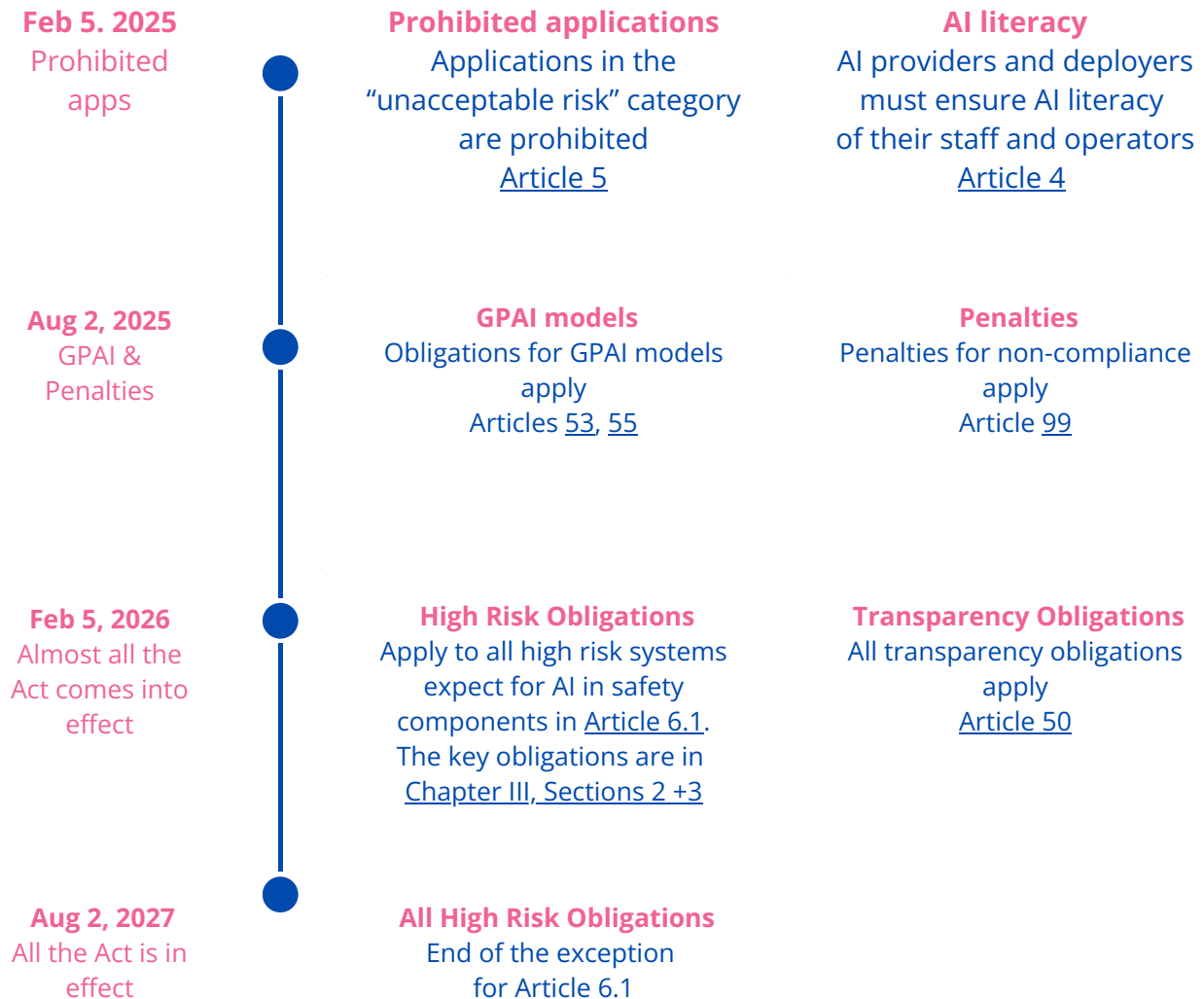| Use case | **Prohibited use cases,** List: Article 5 | **Prohibited in the EU** |
| | **High risk use cases,** List: Article 6 | **High risk obligations** Esp. Chapter III, Sections 2 +3 |

| GPAI | **General Purpose AI model,** Def. Article 3.63 | **Provider obligations**, Article 53 |
| | **GPAI with systemic risk**, Def. Article 51 | **Provider obligations**, Article 55 |

Special Transp- arency	**Generates content**, Def. Article 50.2	**Transparency obligations**, Article 50.2
	Generates deepfakes, Def. Article 50.4	**Transparency obligations**, Article 50.4
	Interacts with humans, Def. Article 50.1	**Transparency obligations**, Article 50.1
	Emotion recognition or biometric categorization, Def. Article 50.3	**Transparency obligations**, Article 50.3

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Timeline

The Act entered into force on August 1, 2024. From that point on, increasingly more obligations will come into effect, with most coming into effect over the following two years. The following are key obligations. For the full timeline, see Article 113 and the helpful summaries by the FFLI and IAPP.

Feb 5. 2025
Prohibited apps

Prohibited applications
Applications in the "unacceptable risk" category are prohibited
Article 5

AI literacy
AI providers and deployers must ensure AI literacy of their staff and operators
Article 4

Aug 2, 2025
GPAI & Penalties

GPAI models
Obligations for GPAI models apply
Articles 53, 55

Penalties
Penalties for non-compliance apply
Article 99

Feb 5, 2026
Almost all the Act comes into effect

High Risk Obligations
Apply to all high risk systems expect for AI in safety components in Article 6.1. The key obligations are in Chapter III, Sections 2 +3

Transparency Obligations
All transparency obligations apply
Article 50

Aug 2, 2027
All the Act is in effect

All High Risk Obligations
End of the exception for Article 6.1

Additional support
Workshop

Workshop: Get the Best out of Your AI

We have developed a governance evaluation framework that combines the EU AI Act with the US government's NIST Risk Management Framework, one of the most influential AI governance standards in the world.

We are offering a two-week workshop based on this combined framework. Participants will learn how to evaluate AI governance using the framework and apply it to AI products their company is developing or procuring.

Participants will finish this workshop with:

- A document describing the responsibility level of their AI product to be used internally, with clients, or for external visibility.
- Actionable steps for improvement.
- Ways to leverage AI responsibility activities to improve their ability to develop, buy, and sell AI tools.
- A certificate of completion from TechBetter

The workshop is for anyone involved with developing or procuring AI:
Executives, product managers, compliance officers, HR Managers, software developers, and anyone else involved in developing of procuring AI-enabled products.

Registration and additional information at:
https://www.techbetter.ai/event-details/get-the-best-out-of-your-ai

For More
And to get in touch

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More Resources

For more AI ethics resources, visit:
https://www.techbetter.ai/resources

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Get in Touch

For support in implementing AI governance in your organization, hosting workshops at your event, or speaking engagements, or anyquestion contact us at contact@techbetter.ai