

# Artificial Intelligence standardisation Inclusiveness Newsletter

Edition 9 - June 2025

The inclusiveness Newsletter aims at facilitating a large participation of all stakeholders to the preparation of European standards on Artificial Intelligence (AI). It shares updated information on the landscape of standardisation activities in international bodies: the European Union, CEN-CENELEC Joint Technical Committee (JTC) 21, ISO-IEC Technical Committees, namely ISO-IEC JTC1 SC42 on AI, and other fora.

The writers try to be as accurate and factual as possible and the contents are reviewed by the CEN CENELEC JTC21 Task Group Inclusiveness. However, this newsletter is not binding and should not be considered as representing the official positioning of the bodies it quotes.

ETUC, the European Trade Union Confederation, is providing secretariat and contact services for the newsletter. You may register to the distribution list <a href="here">here</a>. Any other correspondence should be addressed to TG Inclusiveness@etuc.org.

All issues are also available on line:

JTC 21 website: www.jtc21.eu

• CEN CENELEC JTC 21 LinkedIn: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8793224/">https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8793224/</a>

• ETUC: <a href="https://www.etuc.org/en/artificial-intelligence-standardisation-inclusiveness-newsletter">https://www.etuc.org/en/artificial-intelligence-standardisation-inclusiveness-newsletter</a>

All ongoing standardisation projects are subject to confidentiality requirements. For detailed information regarding any of the standards mentioned in this newsletter, we encourage you to contact your respective national standardisation body. As part of the development process, a public enquiry will be held for each European standard prior to its final adoption.

# **News from the European Union**

Preliminary information: standardisation request (SR) on trusted data framework.

The European Commission is currently preparing a standardisation request to CEN and CENELEC aimed at establishing a trusted European data framework. This forthcoming request is expected to include standards on trusted data transactions, data catalogue implementation, implementation framework for semantic assets, quality assessment of internal data governance processes, and maturity assessment of common European data spaces. While this initiative is different from the standardisation request on Artificial Intelligence managed by JTC21, there are clear areas of alignment and potential synergy between the two requests.

Representatives from civil society hope that inclusiveness will be embedded as a core requirement within the request.



#### Commission seeks views on the use of data to develop Artificial Intelligence

May 2025 - The European Commission launched a consultation to gather views on the use of data in Artificial Intelligence (AI). The initiative also seeks views on ways to simplify data-related rules and address international data flows. Insights gathered will contribute to the development of the forthcoming Data Union Strategy.

To know more, click on this paragraph header.

# <u>European Commission releases analysis of stakeholder feedback on AI definitions and prohibited practices public consultations</u>

May 2025 - A new report, prepared by the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) for the EU AI Office, presents an analysis of stakeholder feedback from two recent public consultations. These consultations focused on key regulatory elements of the AI Act: the definition of AI systems and the identification of prohibited AI practices.

To know more, click on this paragraph header.

## Forthcoming call for tenders: Artificial Intelligence Act - Technical Assistance for AI Safety

The EU AI Office has announced an upcoming call for tenders concerning technical assistance to support the monitoring of compliance with the AI Act. The focus will be on assessing risks associated with General Purpose AI (GPAI) models at the Union level.

To know more, click on this paragraph header.

#### Commission seeks input to clarify rules for general-purpose AI models

April 2025 – The European Commission is inviting stakeholders to bring their practical experience to shape clear, accessible EU rules on general-purpose AI (GPAI) models in a targeted consultation that will contribute to the upcoming Commission guidelines. The guidelines will clarify key concepts underlying the provisions in the AI Act on GPAI models.

To know more, click here

#### <u>Creation of CEN-CLC/SAG 'Strategic standardization topics linked to EU legislation'</u>

May 2025 - The Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) has been established to identify specific requirements in transversal areas linked to EU legislation, where CEN and CENELEC can provide strategic input. The SAG's mission is to recommend ways to address these requirements in a systematic and holistic way, to enhance the flexibility and responsiveness of the CEN and CENELEC system.

Note that AI represents just one of many areas that may be addressed by the group.



## **CEN CENELEC JTC21**

# CEN CENELEC JTC21 11<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting:

May 12–15, 2025 – The CEN-CENELEC Joint Technical Committee 21 (JTC21) held its plenary meeting in Stavanger, Norway, attracting over 160 participants. The meeting was conducted in a hybrid format, allowing both in-person (see photo) and online attendance

In addition to representatives from CEN and CENELEC National Standardisation Bodies (NSBs), the event welcomed observers from Canada and Japan, as well as active engagement from the European Commission, who underscored the urgency of timely standard delivery. Also in attendance were delegates from the CEN-CENELEC Central Management Centre and representatives from various professional and civil society organisations.



# CEN CENELEC published documents on artificial intelligence

The meeting reviewed the list of 11 published CEN CENELEC documents, which include standards, technical specifications, and technical reports on AI. Most of the deliverables were adopted from ISO/IEC.

- CEN/CLC/TR 17894 :2024 "Artificial Intelligence Conformity Assessment";
- EN ISO/IEC 22989:2023 "Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology", (ISO/IEC 22989:2022);
- EN ISO/IEC 23053:2023 "Framework for Artificial Intelligence (AI) Systems Using Machine Learning (ML)", (ISO/IEC 23053:2022);
- CEN/CLC/TR 18115:2024 "Data governance and quality for AI within the European context";
- CEN/CLC/TR:2025 18145 "Environmentally sustainable Artificial Intelligence";
- CEN/CLC ISO/IEC TS 12791 "Treatment of unwanted bias in classification and regression machine learning tasks".



- EN ISO/IEC 25059:2024 "Software engineering Systems and software Quality Requirements and Evaluation (SQuaRE) – Quality model for AI systems", (ISO/IEC 25059:2023);
- EN ISO/IEC 23894:2024 "Guidance on risk management", (ISO/IEC 23894:2023);
- CEN/CLC ISO/IEC/TR 24027:2023 "Bias in AI systems and AI aided decision making", (ISO/IEC TR 24027:2021);
- EN/CLC ISO/IEC/TR 24029-1:2023 "Assessment of the robustness of neural networks Part 1: Overview", (ISO/IEC TR 24029-1:2021);
- EN ISO/IEC 8183:2024 "Data life cycle framework", (ISO/IEC 8183:2023).

The following 4 international standards have received a positive vote from National Standardisation Bodies and should be published shortly as European (EN) standards.

- ISO/IEC 5259-1 "Data quality for analytics and machine learning (ML) Part 1: Overview, terminology, and examples";
- ISO/IEC 5259-2 "Data quality for analytics and machine learning (ML) Part 2: Data quality measures";
- ISO/IEC 5259-3 "Data quality for analytics and machine learning (ML) Part 3: Data quality management requirements and guidelines";
- ISO/IEC 5259-4 "Artificial intelligence Data quality for analytics and machine learning (ML) Part 4: Data quality process framework".

## WG1 – Strategic advisory group – feedback the plenary meeting:

- WG1 has updated the document outlining the architecture of standards developed in response
  to the European Commission's standardisation request. The document makes proposals to
  ensure consistency across the various working groups, particularly in areas such as
  terminology, testing methodologies, interplay matrices, and high-level requirements.
- WG1 is preparing a cross-cutting document intended to serve as an introduction to the JTC21
  work programme. Aimed at future users of harmonised standards, this document will draw on
  the architecture of standards and related deliverables, stakeholder terminology, and
  introductory clauses from each component.
- WG1 has conducted a survey among JTC21 participants to gather data on the country, gender, represented interest, and past experience of experts. The final results will be available in June and will be featured in an upcoming Inclusiveness Newsletter.
- Discussions were held regarding a collaboration with ISO on ISO/IEC CD TS 22443 "Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Guidance on addressing societal concerns and ethical considerations".
- It was agreed to proceed with a ballot for the direct adoption of ISO/IEC 42001 *Management System* as a European standard.



#### WG2 – Operational aspects – feedback from the plenary meeting:

- The standards Quality management system for EU AI Act regulatory purposes and Risk management have progressed well, with both Committee Drafts now sent to ballot. The work is currently focussing on the interplay between standards and on the catalogue of risks.
- AI Conformity assessment framework is expected to go to ballot by September 2025.

## WG3 – Engineering aspects– feedback from the plenary meeting:

Several documents are under ballot or expected to go to Committee draft ballot in the coming months.

- System logging: ballot in progress;
- Natural Language Processing: ballot planed in June / July 2025;
- Data sets and Bias: ballot planed in August 2025;
- Computer Vision: working draft planned in September 2025;
- Taxonomy of AI system methods and capabilities: parallel development with ISO lead. Committee draft expected in November 2025.;
- Decision to launch a new project for parallel development with ISO lead of ISO/IEC 22440
   Functional Safety and AI systems.

#### WG4 - Foundational and societal aspects – feedback from the plenary meeting:

Project published earlier this year: Environmentally sustainable Artificial Intelligence

Project that are at Committee Draft stage: Al trustworthiness framework.

This is a key standard of the EU standardisation request. WG4 should decide by the end of June whether or not to split standard into several parts depending on the different progress of each subject.

Projects in progress after validation of the New Work Item proposal:

- Impact assessment in the context of the EU Fundamental Rights
- Competence requirements for AI ethicists professionals. Collaboration likely with CEN CENELEC
   TC428: ICT professionalism and digital competences

## Projects accepted as Preliminary Work Items:

- Guidelines and metrics for the environmental impact of AI systems and services
- Guidance for upskilling organisations on AI ethics and social concerns
- Guidelines on tools for handling ethical issues in AI system life cycle
- Guidance on application of Risk Management in Critical Digital Infrastructure

Potential new project: Al-intervention labelling (label indicating that an application is based on Al).



#### WG5 - Cybersecurity for AI – feedback from the plenary meeting:

- The Comment Resolution for *Cybersecurity specifications for AI systems* is in full progress. The project is expected to be out for public enquiry in July 2025.
- Cybersecurity is recognised as a transversal issue across the standardisation landscape. As such, regular coordination meetings are held between Working Group 5 (WG5) and other JTC21 working groups to ensure alignment and coherence in addressing cybersecurity-related aspects. In addition, WG5 actively collaborates with other entities engaged in cybersecurity, including:
  - ETSI Securing Artificial Intelligence (SAI) and the development of Baseline Cybersecurity Requirements for AI Models and Systems
  - CEN-CENELEC JTC 13.

#### Liaisons and partners – feedback from the plenary meeting:

The number of "external" bodies associated with CEN CENELEC JTC21 is increasing. During the plenary meeting the following organisations presented a report on their activities related to AI standardisation:

#### Partner organisations:

- ANEC, the European consumer voice in standardisation
- ETUC, the European Trade Union Confederation
- SBS, Small Business Standards

## Liaison organisations:

- 5 Rights foundation, the global voice for child rights online
- Nolefa, the pilot project designated by the EC for preparing the long-term establishment of a Union Testing facility in support of the market surveillance of the AI Act

OWASP (Open Worldwide Application Security Project) and BDVA (Big Data Value Association) had also sent reports, but they were not presented during the plenary.

The Inclusiveness Task Group can provide contacts with representatives of these organisations on request.

## ISO/IEC JTC1 SC42

The Inclusiveness Newsletter #8 was mostly dedicated to reporting on the ISO/IEC JTC1 SC42 plenary meeting, which took place in Delhi, India, in early April. This Newsletter #9 provides brief updates of some noticeable events that have happened since.



 ISO/IEC DTS 6254 - Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Objectives and approaches for explainability and interpretability of machine learning (ML) models and artificial intelligence (AI) systems.

This draft technical specification has been approved with comments.

- ISO/IEC DIS 12792 Information technology Artificial intelligence Transparency taxonomy of AI systems. The comments on this standard have been resolved; the document is under final ballot.
- ISO/IEC DTR 20226 Information technology Artificial intelligence Environmental sustainability aspects of AI systems. The draft technical report has been approved with corrections for publication.
- ISO/IEC TS 22443 AI -- Guidance on addressing societal concerns and ethical considerations

The Committee Draft consultation on this Technical Specification closed. Comments received will now be processed. A possible cooperation is envisaged with CEN CENELEC JTC21 as stated above.

- ISO/IEC 22989— Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology & ISO/IEC 23053 Framework for Artificial Intelligence (AI) Systems Using Machine Learning (ML). Both already published standards will be amended mainly to take into account generative AI. The amendments are in the last stage of review, and the final ballot is expected shortly
- ISO/IEC NP 25623 Machine learning (ML) model description framework has been formally approved as a new project (NP).
- ISO-IEC 25651 Guidance on the implementation of ISO-IEC 42001 has been formally approved as a new project. The work has been ongoing for some time. This document should be a practical guide for SMEs on the implementation of an AI quality management system.
- ISO/IEC FDIS 42005 AI system Impact assessment was published in May.
- ISO/IEC FDIS 42006 Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of artificial intelligence management systems. The final document was approved with still a few comments to resolve. Its publication is expected shortly.
- ISO/IEC CD 42105 Guidance for human oversight of AI systems. The comments received during the Committee draft ballot are being resolved. Several meetings are planned in June and July.
- ISO/IEC CD TR 42106 Overview of differentiated benchmarking of AI system quality characteristics. The resolution of the comments is completed; the document should go to final ballot soon.



#### **Fora**

## Al standard hub seminars:

Building on the success of a <u>high-impact webinar on 4 February</u>, the AI Standards Hub and the CEN-CENELEC JTC 21 AI Inclusiveness Task Group hosted a follow-up invitation-only online workshop on 22 April.

This workshop offered selected international civil society stakeholders with a unique opportunity to explore the development of the European standard on Risk Management and share their perspectives. Participants heard directly from the Project Editors, who presented the standard's overall structure, as well as from other key experts actively involved in shaping it.

See <a href="https://aistandardshub.org/event-search/">https://aistandardshub.org/event-search/</a>

#### ANEC Webinar on AI Standards and Fundamental Rights

On April 9, 2025, ANEC hosted a webinar on "How can AI standards deal with the risks to Fundamental Rights?". The event explored how the EU AI Act's risk-based approach relies on harmonized standards to ensure AI systems respect fundamental rights.

Speakers from the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) and ANEC discussed the challenge of translating principles like privacy and non-discrimination into technical standards. They emphasized the need for continuous risk assessment and flexibility in standards to address Al's evolving nature.

#### Online Harmonization bootcamp for CEN CENELEC JTC 21 experts

The bootcamp will take place on 19 June 2025, from 9:30 am to 12:00 am (CEST); CCMC officers will present the development process for EU harmonised standards with the following topics:

- Vademecum on European standardisation
- Drafting principles
- Normative references in harmonised European standards
- Annex ZA
- Common Checklist

Meeting link: <u>here</u>. The meeting records are usually available later online.

#### Nice to know, useful to read

### **CEN CENELEC JTC21 Website**

Access is available through the website to a number of valuable links, webinars, and training sessions to gain further knowledge on standardization. <a href="https://jtc21.eu/learning-center/">https://jtc21.eu/learning-center/</a>



## The ETUC Standardisation Committee turns 10 years old.

Since 2015, the ETUC has worked to ensure better representation and more effective participation of trade unions in standardisation. This year, taking stock of long-standing experience and with the aim of further supporting trade union engagement in standardisation, the ETUC is pleased to launch practical and hands-on tools on standardisation, including:

- Handbook "Standards at the Workplace"
- Video "Trade Unions and Standardisation"

Through the publication of new, practical tools, the ETUC STAND Project aims to support trade unions and their members in standardisation. Based on decade-long experience, through useful tips and tricks, interesting facts and helpful insights, these tools can hopefully support a journey as a worker in standardisation – whether just at the beginning of such a journey, or a more experienced expert.

#### **ANEC AI Task Force**

Thanks to funding from the European AI & Society Fund (EAISF), ANEC has been able to launch a new AI Taskforce for consumer professionals. The AI Taskforce was created early February and has 9 members from 8 countries (Austria, Germany, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Netherlands, Greece, Spain and Italy).

The Taskforce aims at providing capacity building on AI standardisation and preparing its members to become active at national level in the mirror committees of CEN-CLC JTC21 on AI, developing the AI Act Standards. As a follow up, the AI Task Force will join the ANEC AI experts in drafting comments on AI standards for use at national level.

#### Decoding the AI Act: European: Standards & the Future of AI regulation

Danish Standards, SIS (Sweden), Standard Norge (Norway), SFS (Finland), and Staðlaráð Íslands (Iceland), have created a webinar exploring the current regulatory landscape and what lies ahead. Contents:

- Overview of the AI Act: Status, Timeline, and Challenges, by Dr. Tatjana Evas, Legal and Policy Officer at the European Commission
- Al Act and the surrounding Legal Landscape, by Jesper Løffler Nielsen, Associate Partner, Lawyer (L), Ph.D. Fokus advokater
- Navigating the Evolving Landscape of Al Standards, by Ana Paula Gonzalez Torres, Ph.D. researcher at Aalto University and member of the Finnish Standardisation Association
- Al Act from a SME Perspective, by Anders Kofod-Petersen, founder and CEO of OptikosPrime, Ph.D. and professor in applied Artificial Intelligence at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology
- Al Act Compliance from a Product Perspective, by Luis Martinez, Ph.D. Global Al Product Compliance Expert ASSA ABLOY



Access the 2 hours webinar  $\underline{\text{here}}$ . A shorter PDF presentation "Standards in support of the AI Act" is also available.

ENDS.