

eu-LISA Industry Roundtable – 12-13 November 2024

Artificial intelligence solutions addressing operational needs in the JHA area

Call for expression of interest

On **12-13 November 2024**, the **European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA)** will organise the next edition of the **Industry Roundtable**.

The event will take place **in person in Budapest, Hungary in cooperation with the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the EU**, and will also be streamed for **online participation**.

The next edition of the eu-LISA Industry Roundtable (IR), event organised since 2014, will focus on the challenges and opportunities associated with the application of artificial intelligence to address operational challenges of authorities operating in the Justice and Home Affairs domain. The objective of the event is to present novel solutions based on artificial intelligence tackling specific operational challenges of border guards, law enforcement, judicial and asylum authorities, among others, and discuss the challenges associated with the deployment of such AI-based solutions in the context of the AI Act, which enters into force in 2024.

Background

Four years after it was announced by the Commission, the Artificial Intelligence Act entered into force in 2024, making the EU Member States the first in the World to attempt to regulate this revolutionary technology. The Act introduces certain constraints on the application of artificial intelligence, in particular in the areas of internal security and migration. However, having the Act and the accompanying secondary legislative acts in place, will eventually reduce the uncertainty associated with the implementation of AI solutions that may be classified as high-risk within the scope of the Act. Another significant development in the area of artificial intelligence during the past two years was the introduction of generative AI tools and their widespread availability and use across all organisations in the public and private sectors. These tools have created new challenges for law enforcement authorities, but also provided a number of opportunities in the public sector. It is therefore the right time to return to the discussions of possible AI solutions that could address the pressing needs of authorities operating in the Justice and Home Affairs domain.

National and EU administrations across Europe handle sensitive missions which require the use of solutions with a high level of trust, security and accuracy. For its part, eu-LISA manages the operations and the development of some of the main underlying IT systems that serve the EU's vision of being an area of freedom, security and justice. The systems entrusted to the Agency include systems used by border guards, asylum, law enforcement and judicial authorities, and therefore are part of very sensitive business processes and handle very sensitive data. Authorities operating in the JHA domain face a number of challenges:

- They operate in a **highly stringent legal environment**, which now also includes the AI Act and the Data Act.

- The public sector is also expected to deliver an **uninterrupted high-quality service** within tight budgetary constraints. In the case of eu-LISA, the data managed need to be accessible 24/7 to border guards, law enforcement, justice and asylum authorities in a matter of seconds, across Europe, and in consulates all over the world. This necessitates investment in efficiency-enhancing technologies, including solutions based on artificial intelligence.
- Two other key priorities of public administration in general, and eu-LISA in particular, are **security** and **transparency**. This also applies to any AI solutions deployed by public sector authorities, including eu-LISA.

While the high level of expectations related to regulation, security and privacy are not easy to achieve, the need for continuous improvement of efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of their services requires keeping abreast with the recent technological developments such as Artificial Intelligence, and in particular Generative AI.

Focus of the event and tentative agenda

The Industry Roundtable will focus on topics such as:

- Advances in biometric recognition technologies for different biometric characteristics (e.g., remote and on-the-move face and iris recognition; contactless presentation attack detection; face recognition within vehicles);
- AI solutions for knowledge management;
- AI solutions for forecasting and risk management;
- AI solutions for fraud detection (document/identity fraud);
- Generative AI technologies;
- Solutions to support the development and implementation of AI solutions by eu-LISA and MS authorities e.g., low-code or no-code solutions for implementation of AI tools; toolboxes accelerating AI adoption;
- Solutions ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements (e.g., explainable AI; transparency and auditability; etc.)

The key objective of the Industry Roundtable (IR) will be to provide a good overview of the AI solutions addressing specific operational needs. In this regard, the IR will focus on providing answers to questions such as:

- How AI can help address the issue of document and identity fraud?
- How new AI-based biometric recognition technologies can help facilitate operational processes in border control and law enforcement?
- How AI can strengthen risk assessment and forecasting capabilities?
- How AI can help improve efficiency of business processes in law enforcement, border control, migration management, and the judiciary?
- What solutions can address the challenges associated with compliance with the AI Act regarding explainability, transparency, auditability?
- How GenAI solutions can help justice and home affairs authorities improve their operational processes?

The IR will provide a common platform to present and discuss the latest innovations in artificial intelligence addressing operational needs, in compliance with the applicable regulations.

The IR will also give the opportunity to debate, exchange ideas and share knowledge, based on practical experiences and good practices, with the ultimate goal of identifying the most suitable AI solutions that could support the three pillars of the Schengen area: security, freedom and justice.

To this aim, the Industry Roundtable will take place during 1.5 days with 5 sessions: 2 sessions on 12 November 13:30-17:30 CET and 3 sessions on 13 November starting at 9:00-16:00 CET.

Please note that all times specified below are given in the local time zone, which is CET .

DAY 1, 12 November 2024

Session 1. Setting the scene: Legal framework and the European context

This session will provide the latest status update on the relevant regulatory acts, in particular focusing on the implementation of the AI Act, as well as the Commission initiatives to support the adoption of artificial intelligence.

Session 2-A. Adoption of AI Solutions: Challenges and Opportunities from the perspective of MS authorities and EU Institutions

In this session, representatives of different national and EU Institutions, will provide an overview of their experience with the adoption of AI solutions to address practical challenges, elaborating both on the opportunities provided by AI, the challenges they faced, and the specific challenges pertaining to the compliance with the AI Act.

Session 2-B. Solutions for compliance with the regulatory framework for AI

In this session, we will delve into the solutions that facilitate compliance with the applicable regulatory framework for AI, such as the AI Act and the GDPR, among others. Industry representatives will be invited to present solutions facilitating compliance, including by way of ensuring explainability, auditability and transparency of AI systems deployed by public sector authorities.

DAY 2, 13 November 2024

Session 3. AI solutions tackling operational challenges

In this session, we will delve into the AI solutions tackling specific operational challenges faced by Member State authorities and EU Agencies. Some key discussion points in the session will be:

- **AI solutions for data analysis, risk management and forecasting:** risk management is an important issue, for example in processing applications for visas (or ETIAS applications); another important issue is forecasting passenger flows, in particular at land border crossing points, which may help alleviate long queues at BCPs. Companies will present solutions addressing these practical challenges.
- **AI solutions focusing on the improvement of business processes:** law enforcement, border control and judicial authorities are responsible for processing large amounts of sensitive data, including as part of investigations, etc. Companies will present solutions improving the efficiency of data processing in operational environments.
- **Solutions to support the development and implementation of AI:** MS authorities and EU Agencies often lack internal capabilities to implement complex solutions requiring computer science skills and therefore could benefit from solutions that facilitate the implementation of AI tools, e.g., low-code or no-code solutions for implementation of AI tools; toolboxes accelerating AI adoption (e.g., Huggingface Enterprise Hub; AWS SageMaker; Azure Machine Learning; cloud solutions dedicated to ML workloads);

Session 4. New developments in biometric recognition technologies and identity fraud detection

Biometric recognition technologies are at the core of identity management in the context of border control and law enforcement. Improvement in biometric recognition may have a significant positive effect on processes at border crossing points, on reducing identity fraud, and on improving investigative capabilities of law enforcement and judicial authorities. This session will address:

- **AI solutions tackling identity and document fraud:** identity and document fraud are some of the key challenges faced by authorities responsible for visa issuance, for border control as well as for the processing asylum applications. Companies will present solutions addressing the challenge of document and identity fraud with AI.
- **Technologies for remote and on-the-move biometric identification:** New solutions for high-accuracy remote and on-the-move biometric recognition, including in vehicles.

Session 5. Generative AI solutions

The final session will cover how Generative AI solutions can be a catalyst for innovation. It will highlight the use of Generative AI and how they can enhance public services and improve efficiency. Key discussion points in this session will be:

- **Leveraging Gen AI for innovation:** Discuss how Gen AI enables performance improvements in the delivery of public services.
- **Challenges and opportunities:** Delve into the challenges of the use of Generative AI, such as data protection, intellectual property rights.
- **Threats posed by Gen AI:** discuss the particular threats that Gen AI presents to law enforcement and other authorities and the tools that can help tackle these threats.

Practical information

If your company/organisation is interested in presenting an innovative technology, product or service at the event, please **sign up to participate** using this:

[Application form](#)

Please note that a maximum of one presentation per company/organisation will be selected to present at the event. However, you are welcome to submit several proposals addressing different challenges (e.g., security and sovereignty, interoperability, cloud as enabler of digital transformation, etc.)

Please specify in your application to which of the sessions (sessions 3, 4 or 5) you would like to participate.

Should the IR organisers feel that your proposed presentation fits better in a different session than the one selected, they will get in contact with you to discuss the point.

Please provide also a brief description of your company/organisation and the solution/technology you would like to present.

Please note that the number of presentation slots is limited and submissions will be evaluated by eu-LISA experts. The selection of submitted proposals will be based on the relevance of the proposals to the topic of the event, their novelty and potential impact.

Presentations will be scheduled for 15 minutes plus Q&A.

eu-LISA will communicate the outcome of the selection procedure to all applicants.

All relevant information of the event will be updated regularly in the dedicated webpage, in due time:

<https://www.eulisaroundtable.eu/>

Timeline

- The Call for Expression of Interest will be published on **26 August 2024**.
- The Call for Expression of Interest will be open until **27 September 2024**.
- eu-LISA will review the proposals and inform the selected speakers by **11 October 2024**.
- The final programme will be made available on **6 November 2024**.
- The Industry Round table will take place face to face in Budapest, Hungary on **12-13 November 2024**, with the option of following it also online.