Artificial Intelligence & Technology
In International Law

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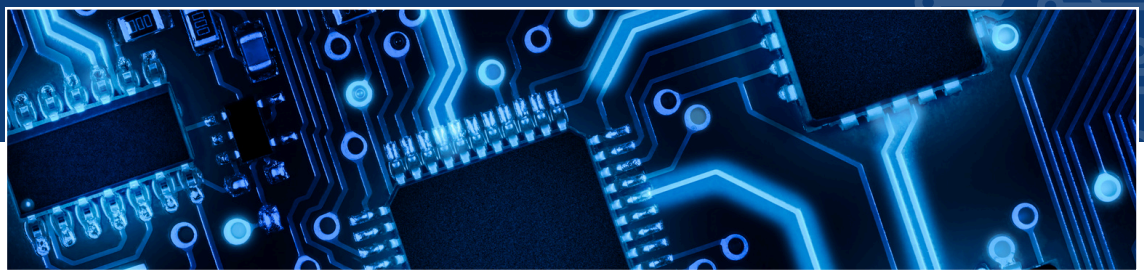

ASEAN Digital Ministers release the 2025 expanded AI Governance and Ethics Guide

At the fifth ASEAN Digital Ministers Meeting on January 17, 2025, officials adopted the Expanded Guide of AI Governance and Ethics (the 2025 Guide) to address six major risks posed by generative AI: mistakes and anthropomorphism, inaccurate responses and disinformation, deepfakes, intellectual property infringement, privacy concerns, and embedded biases. Building on the 2024 Guide, this new framework recommends clear accountability across the Gen AI ecosystem, trusted development and deployment, robust content provenance measures, thorough testing and assurance, and the promotion of AI for public good. The goal is to foster transparency, safety, and ethical use while encouraging innovation and supporting social and economic growth throughout Southeast Asia.

Click Here to See the Guide

CNIL Releases 2025-2028 Strategic Plan, Highlighting AI Governance

On January 16, 2025, France's data protection authority, the Commission nationale de l'informatique et des libertés (CNIL), published its 2025-2028 strategic plan. It emphasizes protecting personal data and upholding individual rights, particularly in the context of artificial intelligence. Key priorities include raising public awareness of the challenges posed by generative AI, combatting misleading or malicious content, and ensuring respect for individuals' rights. The CNIL also plans to collaborate closely with European and international authorities to provide clear guidance, harmonize AI governance standards, and monitor AI systems throughout their lifecycle to ensure compliance.

Click Here to See the Plan

German Federal Office for Information Security Updates Guide on Generative AI Models

On 17th January, 2025 Germany's Federal Office for Information Security has released an updated guide detailing the capabilities and risks of generative AI tools such as large language models, image generators, and video generators. It advises German companies and public authorities to undertake thorough risk assessments before integrating these technologies into their operations, emphasizing user education, secure data handling, and caution when working with sensitive information. The guide also recommends transparent communication of potential risks, deploying filters to monitor AI inputs and outputs, and developing expertise through safe, controlled experimentation.

Click Here to See the Guide

US Government Rescinds AI Executive Order

On January 20, 2025, President Donald Trump revoked the 2023 Executive Order issued by former President Joe Biden, which had established federal oversight for AI including disclosure rules for safety data and a US AI Safety Institute. As a result, there is currently no federal AI regulatory framework in place, leaving the US behind Europe's more robust measures. While some states continue developing their own AI laws, this federal decision may signal a more permissive and open national approach to regulate AI that is favored by proponents of rapid AI innovation.

Click Here to See the Order

Competition Bureau of Canada Issues AI Competition Report

The Competition Bureau of Canada (CBC) released a discussion paper on AI's impact in March 2024 and followed up on January 27, 2025, with a report summarizing stakeholder feedback. Key insights highlight that AI-driven markets differ in complexity from typical digital markets, with both large companies and emerging startups. Despite innovation, smaller firms face barriers like data access, computing resources, and specialized expertise. The CBC emphasizes the potential for new enforcement mechanisms to address AI-driven anti-competitive behavior, including algorithmic pricing and collusion. The report also recommends maintaining tech-neutral legislation, conducting more detailed AI market studies, and promoting international collaboration to standardize AI policies.

Competition Bureau of Canada Issues AI Competition Report

In the public feedback, stakeholders identified the unique market dynamics of AI where a handful of large players hold vast resources and data while highlighting the rapid emergence of startups. Concerns ranged from barriers to entry and possible anti-competitive behaviors (including algorithmic collusion and deceptive marketing) to vertical integration and partnerships that can both foster innovation and raise monopoly risks. Respondents overwhelmingly supported technology-neutral legislation, ongoing market studies, and international collaboration to standardize AI policies and oversight.

Click Here to See the Report

California Attorney General provides advisory on AI Compliance Under Existing Laws

On January 13, 2025, California Attorney General ssued two advisories one for businesses and another specific to healthcare providers emphasizing that existing state laws already govern AI practices. The AG highlights potential violations of the Unfair Competition Law (e.g., deceptive advertising or deepfakes), anticompetitive behaviors (such as AI-based price coordination), and discrimination prohibited by civil rights statutes. Businesses must also heed privacy requirements under the CCPA and Invasion of Privacy Act when training AI on personal data or monitoring communications without proper consent. New rules effective in 2025 demand clear disclosures for AI training datasets and generative outputs.

Click here to read the General Advisory.

California Attorney General provides advisory on AI Compliance Under Existing Laws

On January 13, 2025, California's Attorney General released an advisory for healthcare providers, insurers, developers, and investors, emphasizing that existing state laws covering consumer protection, civil rights, competition, patient privacy, and the corporate practice of medicine apply to AI-driven tools. The advisory cites numerous scenarios where AI could violate statutes, such as denying medically necessary care, automating inaccurate or discriminatory decisions, or improperly using patient data for model training. For example, the Knox-Keene Act (amended by S.B. 1120) mandates human oversight for AI-based insurance coverage decisions, while California's Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (CMIA) safeguards reproductive and sexual health data from unauthorized use. Entities relying on AI must ensure risk assessments, robust testing and auditing procedures, and transparent disclosures (including informed consent) to maintain compliance with these legal requirements.

Click Here to See the Healthcare Advisory

California Enforces Three New AI Laws Covering Personal Data and Healthcare

On January 1, 2025, California began enforcing three significant AI regulations aimed at protecting personal information and overseeing AI use in healthcare. AB 1008 extends the CCPA to AI-processed data, requiring businesses to update privacy policies, provide consumers with rights to access or delete AI-derived personal information, and disclose AI's role in data handling. SB 1120 applies to healthcare providers and insurers, mandating that AI-driven utilization reviews be supervised by licensed physicians, rely on individual patient histories, and remain free from discriminatory practices. AB 3030 compels healthcare facilities to issue clear disclaimers when using generative AI for patient communications, while offering ready access to human providers. Failure to comply with any of these laws can result in significant penalties for organizations across the state.

Click here to see Legislation [1], [2] and [3].

NUS National University of Singapore

CIL CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW National University of Singapore

International AI Safety Report: A New Global Standard for Responsible AI

An international AI Safety Report Was released in January 2025. It is chaired by Turing Award winner Yoshua Bengio. This report compiled by 100 AI experts from 30 countries, and endorsed by bodies such as the UN, EU, and OECD offers the first comprehensive synthesis of research on advanced, general-purpose AI risks and capabilities. Developed independently of government or industry influence, it addresses three core concerns: what AI can do, the potential hazards it poses, and the mitigation methods available. While it does not prescribe policies, the report aims to foster a shared scientific understanding and stimulate evidence-based dialogue among international stakeholders. Commissioned by the UK after the Bletchley AI Safety Summit, it is currently administered by the UK AI Safety Institute, with plans to present the findings at the AI Action Summit in Paris in February 2025.

Click Here to See the Report

Italy Blocks Chinese AI App DeepSeek Over Data Protection Concerns

On 30th January, 2025, the Italian data protection authority, Garante, has ordered the immediate blocking of DeepSeek's AI chatbot due to insufficient responses about its privacy practices. Regulators questioned how and where DeepSeek collects, stores, and processes personal data particularly whether data might be kept in China and found the company's explanations "totally insufficient." Despite DeepSeek removing its app from Italian app stores and claiming exemption from local laws, the Garante deemed the startup noncompliant, warning the ban will remain unless the firm cooperates. Other European watchdogs, including those in Ireland and France, have also scrutinized DeepSeek's operations. The move follows Italy's temporary ban on ChatGPT in 2023, reflecting the Garante's assertive approach to AI oversight and Europe's broader concern over data handling by foreign tech companies.

Read more here.