

YOUR AI GOVERNANCE SOLUTION

AI governance services for organisations operating
across the UK and EU.



Amsterdam • Dublin • London • New York • Toronto



WHY AI GOVERNANCE MATTERS

AI is transforming many operational processes across industries. But without strong governance, AI systems can expose organisations to a range of legal, ethical, and reputational risks.

AI governance provides the structures, policies, and oversight needed to ensure systems are used responsibly, transparently, and in line with evolving regulations like the EU AI Act.

Done well, a strong governance programme reduces risk, ensures compliance, and helps organisations keep ahead of regulatory demands. More importantly, it builds trust with customers and stakeholders.

Yet building an effective AI governance programme can be complex. With a growing skills gap for internal teams, many organisations are struggling to find the right expertise.

This playbook outlines The DPO Centre's outsourced AI governance solutions, designed to close the skills gap and enable organisations to deploy AI compliantly and confidently.

AI Governance Essentials

- Clear roles and accountability
- Compliance and risk management
- Transparency and explainability
- Data quality, integrity, and fairness
- Safety
- Ethics guidance



WHY CHOOSE THE DPO CENTRE



The DPO Centre gives your organisation access to one of the largest teams of Data Protection Officers (DPOs) and AI governance specialists.

We bridge the skills gap many organisations now face by providing the expertise needed to interpret evolving AI regulation, strengthen governance, and apply best practice with confidence.

With offices in the UK, EU, Canada and the US, we deliver specialist guidance across multiple jurisdictions.

AI GOVERNANCE TAILORED TO YOUR ORGANISATION

We've supported over 1,000 organisations across Life Sciences, Finance, Tech, Healthcare, Education and the Public sector. We understand the pressures your industry faces: regulatory expectations, increased AI adoption, and limited internal capacity.

We provide the governance expertise to stay in control as AI evolves.



Integrated AI and data protection expertise



Tailored and scalable solutions



Multi-national support

Our AI Governance Services include:

- ✓ EU AI Act Readiness Assessment
- ✓ AI Impact Assessment
- ✓ AI Explainability Framework
- ✓ Outsourced AI Officers

OVERVIEW OF THE EU AI ACT

The EU AI Act came into force in 2024, with most of its provisions applying by August 2026.

Like the GDPR, the EU AI Act has extra-territorial reach. This means it applies to any organisation whose AI systems (or outputs) are used in the EU, regardless of where they are developed or deployed.

COMPLIANCE OBLIGATIONS

Compliance obligations for organisations are shaped by two factors:

1. The risk level of the AI system
2. The organisation's role in the supply chain

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR ORGANISATIONS

- Complex new compliance requirements
- Varying obligations depending on role and system risk
- Limited time before enforcement begins

For further information on timeline, high risk activities, and roles, explore our EU AI Act blog series



KEY ROLES IN THE AI SUPPLY CHAIN



Providers must build compliance into AI system design



Deployers must prove responsible oversight



Distributors must ensure systems meet EU standards

EU AI ACT READINESS ASSESSMENT



Understanding the scope of the EU AI Act is only the first step. The next important step is to evaluate how it applies to your organisation and identify any compliance gaps.

Our EU AI Readiness Assessment supports senior leaders and compliance teams by providing a clear view of where you stand and what you need to do next.

3-STEP PROCESS

DISCOVERY

We review your AI use cases, vendors, and organisational context

ASSESSMENT

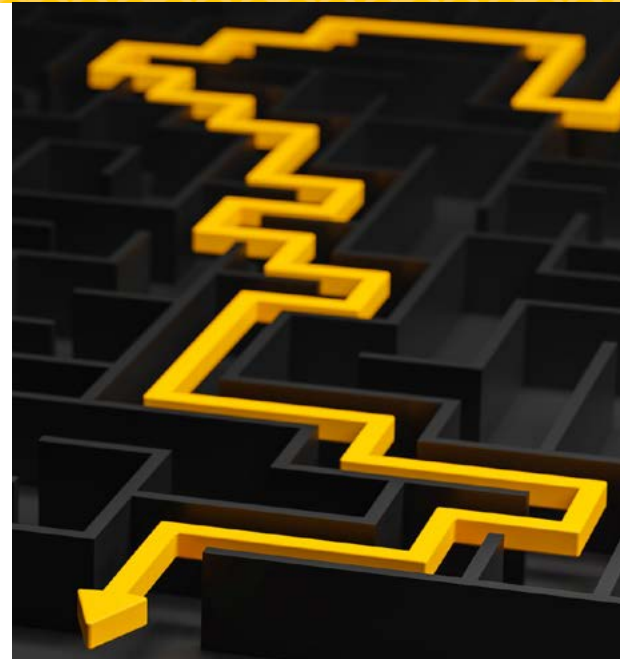
Your current position is benchmarked against EU AI Act provisions

ROADMAP

You receive a clear, prioritised action plan to address gaps and ensure compliance

Key benefits

- ✔ Spot compliance risks early to avoid costly redesigns, delays, or regulatory exposure
- ✔ Gain a clear, actionable plan so you can focus resources on what matters most
- ✔ Understand if you have any high-risk or general-purpose systems that require additional compliance activities



Readiness turns uncertainty into clarity

BUILDING AI GOVERNANCE **CAPABILITY**

AI governance doesn't end with a one-time assessment. It requires continuous oversight to manage risk, maintain compliance, and ensure responsible, scalable AI use.

What are the key foundations?

- Defined roles and accountability
- Documented risk and impact assessments
- Transparent data and model management
- Continuous monitoring and improvement

What's the challenge?

Compliance teams are already stretched. And while Data Protection Officers (DPOs) understand and interpret legislation, few have the specialist expertise to oversee AI.

Dedicated AI Officers and AI Managers fill that gap.

AI OFFICER & AI MANAGER

WHY CHOOSE THE DPO CENTRE?

Specialist AI governance support

The DPO Centre provides AI governance expertise most organisations don't yet have in-house.

Our outsourced AI Officers and AI Managers bring practical, sector-specific experience to give you the capacity to meet growing AI demands without the cost, risk, or delay of recruiting internally.



Fractional AI Officer

Senior-level, strategic guidance to design, maintain, and oversee AI governance frameworks, align AI adoption with risk, and anticipate future regulation and requirements.



Fractional AI Manager

Day-to-day support to monitor AI use, maintain governance records, prepare for audits, and help teams embed compliant and ethical practices.

Key benefits

- ✓ AI expertise supported by one of the largest expert teams available
- ✓ Clear, practical guidance drawn from sector-specialised experience
- ✓ Proven outsourced model trusted by regulated organisations
- ✓ Solutions shaped by real-world AI governance challenges, not theory
- ✓ Tailored support that scales with your AI use
- ✓ Reduced compliance risk and improved audit readiness
- ✓ More time for internal teams to focus on innovation and delivery

AI IMPACT ASSESSMENT

AI Impact Assessments (AIAs) evaluate the risks AI systems pose to individuals and society. They support organisations in deploying technology responsibly and in compliance with applicable laws. In several jurisdictions AIAs are mandatory for high-risk AI systems and fast becoming a best practice standard.

GLOBAL REQUIREMENTS AT A GLANCE



European Union

- Under the EU AI Act, Providers must complete a Conformity Assessment; Deployers in certain sectors must conduct a Fundamental Rights Impact assessment (FIRA)
- An AIIA supports both by identifying and documenting system-specific risks



United Kingdom

- Under the UK GDPR and Data Use and Access Act 2025, Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs) are mandatory for high-risk AI systems
- AIAs complement DPIAs, providing AI-specific risks and accountability



United States

- Under some state privacy laws (e.g. California), AI or automated impact assessments are required for systems that make significant decisions about individuals
- AIAs support evolving frameworks and help evidence responsible AI governance

Key benefits

- ✓ Protect your organisation by uncovering ethical, legal and operational risks
- ✓ Build trust and confidence with regulators, investors and customers
- ✓ Enable smarter, safer AI adoption

CASE STUDY

Supporting the growth of an AI solutions company

Faculty is a fast-growing AI company that builds and deploys advanced AI platforms for clients across public and private sectors.

To support its continued growth and work in sensitive, high-profile environments, Faculty engaged The DPO Centre to strengthen its compliance framework and provide ongoing support.

PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS



AI Impact Assessment



Data protection audit and expert oversight

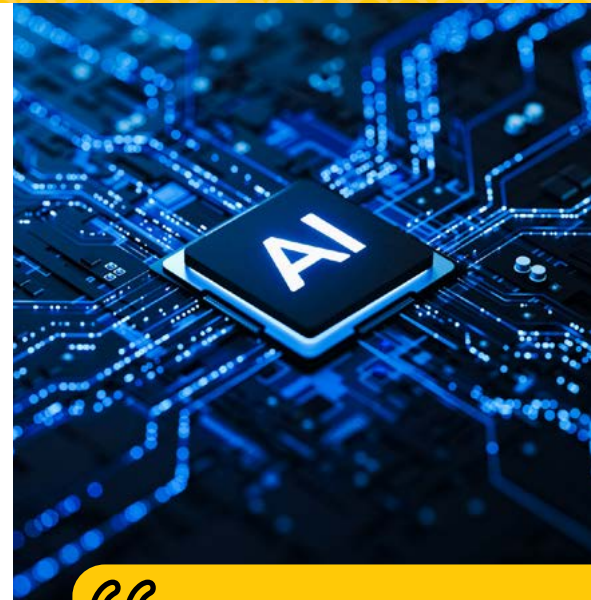


Training and operational support to embed privacy by design



Ongoing strategic support

faculty



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‘The DPO Centre’s advice and insight have helped upskill our key staff and strengthen our DPIA process. We look forward to ongoing work with them.’

Rupert Edwards, Legal Director of Faculty

WHO WE'VE WORKED WITH

We've delivered consultancy, interim support, and ongoing Data Protection Officer and AI governance services to over 1,000 organisations across a wide range of industry sectors since 2017.



Medical and Healthcare



Software and Technology



Retail and eCommerce



Finance and Insurance



Education, Schools and Colleges



Charities and Not-for-profit



CHECKLIST FOR GETTING STARTED

General AI Governance

- Map how AI is being developed, deployed or procured in your organisation
- Assign clear responsibility for AI oversight (AI Officer/Manager)
- Processes in place to monitor and review AI risks
- Ensure your data is accurate, representative, and managed with integrity throughout the AI lifecycle
- Ensure you can explain how your AI systems work to customers, regulators and stakeholders

EU AI Act Readiness & Compliance

- Identify which systems may fall under the EU AI Act
- Conduct a gap analysis against the Act's provisions
- For high-risk systems, plan or perform an AI Impact Assessment (AIIA)
- Implement processes to demonstrate compliance during an audit

CONTACT US



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About The DPO Centre

The DPO Centre is a leading provider of fractional Data Protection Officer and AI governance services for organisations operating in UK and EU markets. With offices in London, Toronto, New York, Dublin, Amsterdam, and a network of representation establishments across all 27 EU Member States, the company is uniquely positioned to support organisations across multiple jurisdictions.

The DPO Centre provides access to one of the largest teams of experienced and permanently employed DPOs and AI compliance specialists. Since 2017, the company has worked with over 1,000 clients across a wide range of industry sectors, including Finance, Tech, Life Sciences, and Retail.

The DPO Centre is part of Axiom GRC, a global governance, risk and compliance platform, serving over 40,000 clients and 2 million users globally.

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