



TOPICS:

Technology

SOURCE:

EU Council & EU Parliament

EU Council and Parliament Agree to Simplify and Streamline Artificial Intelligence Rules

- The Council of the European Union and the European Parliament reached a provisional agreement on amendments to the **EU Artificial Intelligence Act** aimed at **simplifying and streamlining implementation requirements** while maintaining core safeguards. The proposal forms part of the EU's "Omnibus VII" simplification package, which seeks **to reduce administrative burdens and improve regulatory coherence** for businesses operating within the Union.
- A central element of the agreement concerns **the timeline for high-risk AI obligations**. The application of rules for stand-alone high-risk AI systems has been postponed to 2 December 2027, while requirements for high-risk AI embedded within regulated products will apply from 2 August 2028. The delay is intended to allow sufficient time for the development of technical standards, compliance tools, and implementation guidance.
- The agreement also **broadens certain regulatory relief measures** initially designed for SMEs to include small mid-cap companies. In parallel, it reduces compliance obligations in limited circumstances

and introduces mechanisms to **minimize overlaps** between the AI Act and sector-specific legislation, particularly in industries such as medical devices, machinery, toys, lifts, and watercraft. The European Commission will be empowered to issue implementing and delegated acts to clarify these interactions and reduce duplicative requirements.

- Importantly, the co-legislators **strengthened several safeguards**. A new prohibition has been introduced targeting AI systems used to generate non-consensual intimate material or child sexual abuse material. The agreement also reinstates strict necessity standards for processing sensitive personal data in bias detection and correction activities and restores obligations for providers to register exempted high-risk systems in the EU database.
- **Additional measures** include postponing the establishment deadline for national AI regulatory sandboxes until August 2027 and shortening the implementation period for transparency obligations related to AI-generated content from six months to three months.

