27th November 2025

AI Guidance

Risks, Rules & Recommendations

EUROPEAN BRIEFING

For European Public Bodies Managing EU & National Funds

Professional Training Programme

Event Details

27th November 2025
Thursday

09:00 - 17:00 CET
Full-day intensive briefing

100% Online Format
Limited to 25 participants

Key Insights

- Navigate EU AI Act regulatory framework
- Strategic risk assessment for public fund management
- Implementation strategies for EU member states
- Reserved seating - Registration required

Register at: etcp.fr/register

About ETCP

Background & Core Values

Since 2005, ETCP has been delivering training and specific support for authorities in charge of planning, programming, implementing, monitoring and evaluating, certifying and auditing projects and programmes in the field of European funds implementation.

Our core values are related to integrity and effectiveness of management in line with the best international and European practices. We particularly emphasise sound risk management and sampling methods to gain reasonable assurance in an efficient manner (prevention, detection and correction of errors).

ETCP Areas of Expertise

ETCP trains public officers with direct effects on tools, processes and skills in the following fields:

Risk-based Verification Methodologies

Advanced techniques using risk assessment for effective control systems

Administrative and On-the-spot Checks

Documentary verifications and physical audits to ensure compliance

Management and Control Systems

Design and implementation of robust systems for sound financial management

SCOs, State Aid Rules and Financial Instruments

Simplified Cost Options, compliance with state aid regulations

Locations & Lecturer

- Headquarters in Paris
- Office in Zagreb
- Training in English
- AI Specialisation

FS

Franck SOTTOU

Franck SOTTOU will be the main lecturer for this AI training and will deliver the session in English. With extensive experience in European funds management and digital transformation, Franck brings practical expertise to ensure participants gain directly applicable skills.

Training Overview and Objectives

Context: Digitalisation and AI in Public Administration

Artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming how public bodies operate and manage European and national funds. This evolution is occurring within a context marked by:

Rapid 'non official' adoption

Accelerated digitalisation of public services and increasing integration of AI tools in fund management systems

Regulatory Framework

Implementation of the EU AI Act and new obligations for AI systems in public administration

Security Challenges

Need to balance innovation with data protection and regulatory compliance

Interactive Seminar Approach

This interactive Seminar will tackle the best practices of introduction dealing with:

Risks

To use, or not to use AI facing beneficiaries and applicants using it more and more

Rules

To set principles and limits and designate clear responsibilities

Recommendations

To think about transitions, human and technical consequences and success conditions

Training Objectives

Identify and Analyse

Understand the specific risks and opportunities of AI in public fund management

Master the Regulatory Framework

Integrate EU AI Act requirements and rules applicable to high-risk AI systems

Implement Best Practices

Distinguish effective and secure approaches for AI integration

Prepare for Transition

Develop a tailored action plan for progressive AI adoption in your organisation

Relevance for European and National Fund Managers

This training addresses the specific challenges faced by public bodies in using AI for fund management:

- **Balance between efficiency and compliance** in project evaluation
- **Detection and prevention** of misuse and fraud
- **Improved transparency** in automated decision-making
- **Protection of sensitive data** in accordance with GDPR and other regulations
- **Adaptation to increasing AI use** by fund beneficiaries

Training Agenda

09:00 - 09:30

Welcome & Context Setting

Welcome and participant introductions, interactive poll on current AI adoption levels, overview of the day's agenda

09:30 - 11:00

Session 1: AI Risks - Pros, Cons & Practical Reality

Theoretical foundations and practical applications, benefits (efficiency gains, error reduction), drawbacks (bias risks, hallucinations), interactive workshop with breakout groups

10:45 - 11:00

Morning Break

11:00 - 12:30

Session 2: EU AI Act & Regulatory Framework

EU AI Act overview (risk-based approach), high-risk systems in public administration, data protection (GDPR), national regulations, practical exercise and classification quiz

12:30 - 13:30

Lunch Break

13:30 - 15:00

Session 3: Good & Bad Practices + Efficient Implementation

Good practices (pilot projects, human-in-the-loop approach, regular audits), bad practices to avoid (black-box systems, lack of testing), case studies, progressive implementation roadmap

15:00 - 15:15

Afternoon Break

15:15 - 16:30

Session 4: Transition Management & Feedback Loops

Human and technical resources (skills gap analysis, staff training), feedback systems (user mechanisms, performance dashboards), AI limitations, continuous improvement

16:30 - 17:00

Closing Session

Action planning (3 actions to implement in the next 90 days), peer sharing in small groups, Q&A session, key takeaways summary, certificate of completion

Session 1: AI Risks - Pros, Cons & Practical Reality

Real-World AI Applications in Public Funding Sector

- **Chatbots** - Automated assistance for applicants and beneficiaries
- **Project Assessment** - AI-driven eligibility and quality evaluation
- **Fraud Detection** - Pattern recognition in financial transactions
- **Eligibility Assessment** - Automated validation against criteria

Benefits of AI in Fund Management

- **Efficiency gains** - 75% reduction in processing times for standard applications
- **Error reduction** - Minimising human errors in repetitive tasks
- **24/7 availability** - Constant service provision to applicants
- **Data analysis capabilities** - Uncovering patterns across thousands of projects
- **Detection of abusive AI use** - Identifying AI-generated fraudulent submissions

Challenges & Risks of AI

- **Bias risks** - Potential discrimination in automated decisions
- **Hallucinations** - AI generating plausible but incorrect information
- **Transparency challenges** - "Black box" decision-making
- **Dependency issues** - Over-reliance on automated systems
- **Implementation costs** - Initial investment in tools and training

Interactive Workshop & Success Case Study

Breakout Rooms Activity (10:15 - 10:45)

Participants will be divided into small groups to:

- Identify 3 specific AI opportunities for your organisation
- Analyse 3 potential risks relevant to your context
- Share findings with the wider group for collaborative discussion

Success Story: EU Public Body Case Study

Practical example of a member state authority that successfully implemented AI for fund management, resulting in:

- 43% increase in application processing speed
- 68% reduction in errors during eligibility verification
- Key success factors and lessons learned

Session 2: EU AI Act & Regulatory Framework

EU AI Act Overview: Risk-Based Approach

The EU AI Act establishes the first comprehensive regulatory framework for artificial intelligence systems, classifying them by risk level and setting requirements accordingly:

Unacceptable Risk	High Risk	Limited Risk	Minimal Risk
AI systems posing clear threats to safety, livelihoods, or rights are prohibited (e.g., social scoring, manipulative systems)	Systems with significant potential harm require strict obligations (e.g., public services, critical infrastructure)	Systems with specific transparency requirements (e.g., chatbots, emotion recognition)	All other AI systems with voluntary codes of conduct and minimal oversight

High-Risk AI Systems in Public Administration: Include critical infrastructure management, allocation of public funds, credit scoring, emergency services dispatch, biometric identification.

GDPR Obligations: Data protection impact assessments, lawful bases for processing, transparency, rights of data subjects, data minimisation, accuracy requirements.

National AI Regulations: Key differences across member states vs. US/UK frameworks. EU prioritises rights and risk assessment; US favours market-driven approaches.

Book of Rules for Public Bodies

Transparency Requirements
Clear disclosure when AI makes or supports decisions, explanation of logic involved

Human Oversight Mandates
Humans must supervise AI systems and retain decision-making authority

Data Governance Standards
Requirements for data quality, representativeness, security and privacy protection

Accountability Frameworks
Impact assessments, continuous monitoring, post-deployment evaluation

Practical Exercise: Risk Classification

12:00-12:30 | Interactive Activity

Quiz: Classify these AI use cases by risk level according to the EU AI Act:

Project Eligibility Assessment
AI system automatically evaluates and ranks public funding applications

Information Chatbot
Public-facing system providing information about funding opportunities

Fraud Detection System
AI that flags suspicious patterns in expenditure declarations for human review

Project Submission using AI
Applicant using AI to design their projects and prepare funding applications

Discussion: How will these rules apply to your daily operations? What adaptations might be needed?

Sessions 3 & 4: Good Practices & Transition Management

Good & Bad Practices

Learning from real-world AI implementations in public administration:

Start Small with Pilot Projects
Begin with limited scope pilots before full-scale implementation

Black-box Decision Systems
Avoid systems without explainability or transparency

Human-in-the-loop Decision-making
Maintain human oversight and final approval authority

Insufficient Bias Testing
Never implement without thorough fairness and bias auditing

Comprehensive Documentation
Maintain detailed records of training data, decisions, and outcomes

No Fallback Procedures
Always establish contingency plans for system failures

Progressive Implementation Roadmap

1. **Assessment** — Readiness evaluation & requirements mapping
2. **Pilot Testing** — Small-scale controlled implementation
3. **Gradual Scaling** — Phased expansion with checkpoint reviews
4. **Monitoring** — Continuous evaluation & feedback loops

Transition Management & Feedback Loops

Skills gap analysis, change management, and continuous improvement systems:

Human Resources
Skills gap analysis, training programmes, new roles (AI coordinators, ethics officers)

Feedback Systems
User feedback mechanisms, performance monitoring dashboards, appeal procedures

Understanding Limits
Identifying when AI cannot replace traditional processes, ethical boundaries

Continuous Improvement
Iterative refinement cycles, learning from incidents, regulatory compliance

Your Expert Lecturers

FS

Franck Sottou

Key International Expert

Franck brings over two decades of experience in EU fund management, digital transformation, and control systems. As a lead trainer, he specializes in developing practical approaches to complex regulatory frameworks.

- Management and control systems
- Indicators and performance measurement
- Design of Apps and web-solutions
- Calculation and implementation of SCOs

Experience: Former Head of TA Team • Programming and negotiations with EC • Trainer for European Institutions and Managing Authorities • Technical assistance for Member States

TY

Tytti Yli-Viikari

Senior Public Financial Management Expert

With extensive experience in public finance and audit systems, Tytti specializes in integrating AI solutions into control frameworks while maintaining compliance with international standards.

- Public Financial Management Frameworks
- Risk Management and Automated Controls
- Financial data quality and monitoring
- Integrating AI tools in control systems

Experience: Former Auditor General of Finland • Ex-ante and ex-post Financial control • International accounting standards • Professional training for public financial managers • Researcher on Digitalization in Public Administration

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

Explain EU AI Act

Articulate the implications of the EU AI Act for public fund management and its risk-based classification system

Identify & Assess AI Risks

Recognize potential risks and opportunities of AI implementation within your specific organizational context

Distinguish Good & Bad Practices

Differentiate between effective AI governance approaches and problematic implementation patterns

Design Implementation Strategy

Create a phased AI implementation roadmap tailored to public administration requirements

Establish Governance Mechanisms

Develop appropriate feedback loops, oversight structures and accountability frameworks

Plan Resource Transitions

Prepare for human and technical resource needs during AI adoption phases, including skill development

What's Included & Who Should Attend

Complete Training Package

Before Training

EU AI Act Summary
Comprehensive overview of the regulatory framework and key requirements

Glossary of Terms
Essential AI terminology and definitions for common understanding

Background Reading
Selected articles and case studies to prepare for the training

During Training

Interactive Presentations
Engaging content with polls, Q&A, and multimedia elements

Breakout Workshops
Small group sessions for peer learning and practical application

Templates & Checklists
Ready-to-use tools for AI implementation and assessment

Case Studies
Real-world examples from multiple EU countries and public bodies

After Training

Implementation Toolkit
Digital resources and reference guides

Certificate of Completion
Professional certification for your career

Who Should Attend

This training is specifically designed for professionals in public bodies managing EU & national funds who need to understand and implement AI systems responsibly:

- Fund Managers & Administrators
- IT & Digital Transformation Leaders
- Compliance & Legal Officers
- Senior Management
- Project Managers
- Certifying & Managing Authorities

Delivery Methodology

Platform Requirements

Microsoft Teams Environment

Our online training utilises Microsoft Teams with enhanced breakout room capabilities, shared document repository on ETCP platform, and integrated polling features. All participants will receive access instructions prior to the training.

Engagement Strategies

Focused Learning Blocks

Maximum 20-minute lecture segments to maintain engagement and optimise knowledge retention

Peer Learning Sessions

Breakout rooms for small-group discussions and collaborative problem-solving

Mixed Format Delivery

Balance of presentations, interactive discussions, and hands-on exercises

Real-Time Applications

Practical exercises using AI tools and frameworks directly applicable to your organisation

Investment & Pricing

Secure your professional development

Standard Rate

€970

per participant

Register Now

SAVE 10%

Group Discount

€873

per person for groups of 2+

Request Group Pricing

For special prices or group requests
Please contact us at: **contact@etcp.fr**

Thank You for Your Interest

We look forward to welcoming you to our AI Guidance training programme. Join us on 27th November 2025 for an interactive, informative session that will help you navigate the complexities of AI in public fund management.