



Regulating AI-innovation in a turbulent geopolitical era

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Whilst the ink of the Artificial Intelligence Regulation (AI-act) of the European Union is still drying up, foreseen and unforeseen challenges for both innovators and consumers of AI-technology come to the fore already. From an internal AI-act perspective, one of the two envisaged cornerstones for enforcement of its rules has been removed from the regulatory agenda: the AI-liability Directive no longer has the priority of the Union legislators. Meanwhile, many of the norms and standards which are crucial to provide clarity to fill in the, often vague norms of the AI-act, are yet (to be) expected. As the AI Office and the national authorities are preparing to provide guidance regarding their strict public enforcement capabilities, the addressees of the AI Act, mainly innovators, are seeking how to comply in a viable way. From an external perspective, the geopolitical cards are being reshuffled. As it appears, regulation of AI no longer has priority in the United States, and uncertainty increases regarding the trustworthiness of US-based AI-providers in terms of availability and performance of (also) AI-related functionality, data analysing, -processing and -storage facilities, as well as related infrastructures, not to mention the envisaged uses of AI-related content, information and data. Against these backgrounds, the purpose of the Special Session is twofold. Firstly, we will investigate to what extent AI regulations such as the EU AI-act are still serving their purposes in terms of stimulating innovation on the one hand, and protecting citizens on the other hand. From an innovators perspective, regulatory factors can be assessed such as legal certainty, stringency of the rules in relation to their aims, and flexibility to both adapt norms to changing technological and societal circumstances, and to equip innovators to suit the rules to their specific businesses. From a consumers perspective, the rules can be evaluated in terms of which risks they either mitigate or implicate for citizens, and trust they may facilitate in terms of safety, ethics, protection and security, as well as human rights. Secondly, we seek to provide recommendations for AI-regulators to improve the regimes with a keen eye to protect citizens and stimulate AI-innovation at the same time.

Submissions:

We invite authors to submit papers that are up to 6 pages long, including figures, but excluding references, or a presentation of max. 10 sheets. All papers/presentations for the workshop must be submitted, in the same format as ICRES papers, <https://clawar.org/icres2025/instructions-to-authors/> - by **the 25th of April**, referring to the title of the workshop at the top. Notification of paper/presentation acceptance: **9th of May**. Submission of final version- **23rd of May**. At least one author of each accepted paper must attend the workshop.

Confirmed speakers:

Mr. dr. Lesley Broos (Twente University; Kienhuis Legal)
Mr. dr. Mindy Nunez Duffourc (Maastricht University)
Anne Huting LL.M & Nika Nazarian LL.M. (Kienhuis Legal)
Mr. dr. Roeland de Bruin (Utrecht University; Kienhuis Legal)

Organizers: Roeland de Bruin (assistant professor, PhD, LL.M.)

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