



JOHNS HOPKINS

WHITING SCHOOL
of ENGINEERING

Policy and Regulation: Research Codes of Ethics

10/12/2026

Today's Class

- 9-9:15: Reflection on Value Sensitive Design
- 9:15-9:50: Discussion on Value Sensitive Design
- 9:50-10:00: Discussion Recap
- 10:00-10:20: Reflection on Participatory Design / Break
- 10:20-11:00: Discussion on Participatory Design
- 11:00-11:10: Discussion Recap
- 11:10-11:30: Introduction to Policy Readings

Value Sensitive Design: Discussion Recap

- What values do you think are currently upheld in commercial AI development?
- Think about projects you are proposing for this class:
 - What values does your project aim to **promote**?
 - What values does your project **uphold**?
- Full step-by-step process may not be conducted in every project, but centering values and explicitly thinking through them can be

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Participatory Design: Discussion Recap

- What could participatory design look like in modern AI development?
 - “This framing allows for understanding participatory design as a necessarily situated and context-dependent endeavor which is at odds with industrial prerogatives of extraction and context-independent scalability”
- What other “design fixes” have we considered in the class?
 - Informed consent, Human-in-the-loop, value sensitive design, etc.
- There is no “checklist” or “quick fixes” we can follow for responsible AI

Readings

□ Topic 1: EU AI Act

1. High-level summary of the EU AI Act: <https://artificialintelligenceact.eu/high-level-summary/>
2. Try out the compliance checker: <https://artificialintelligenceact.eu/assessment/eu-ai-act-compliance-checker/>
3. Anthropic Statement on watermark implementation
<https://www.anthropic.com/news/claude-text-watermark>

Background on the EU AI Act

- April 2021: European Commission published a proposal to regulate AI in the EU
 - Solicited [public consultation](#)
 - Published initial drafts, conducted studies
- 2022:
 - Continued discussions, drafts, amendments, formal opinions
- December 2023: Council and Parliament reach a provisional agreement
- May 2024: EU AI act is formally adopted by European Council
- 2024-2031:
 - Slow rollout of implementation [companies have time to become compliant]

Notes about the EU AI Act

- Detailed and comprehensive
- Very prescriptive, Specific technology that is outright prohibited
 - [with exceptions outlined]
- Other technology is permitted under increased scrutiny, oversight, and reporting requirements
- Pay attention to these details: what is banned and what is regulated? How do you think lawmakers reached these decisions? Did they reach the right decisions?

National AI policy in other countries: China

- 2022: Rules on recommendation systems that protect personal information, give users certain controls etc.
- Jan 2023: “Deep synthesis provisions”: AI companies must authorize users, identify synthetic content that could be mistaken for authentic, etc.
- August 2023: “Interim Measures” for generative AI involve legality and quality of training data, use of personal information, discrimination base on protected attributes
- September 2025: AI safety governance framework 2.0
 - Autonomous systems, chemical/biological uses, grades of risk and mitigation
- September 2026: AI safety governance framework 3.0

Principles for AI Safety Governance in China's 2026 framework

1. Be inclusive and prudent to ensure safety
2. Risk-oriented and agile governance
3. Integrating technology and management for coordinated response
4. Promoting openness and cooperation for joint governance and shared benefits
5. Ensuring trustworthy application and preventing loss of control

National AI policy in other countries: US



Executive: President

- Implements and enforces laws passed by Congress
- Appoints heads of federal agencies



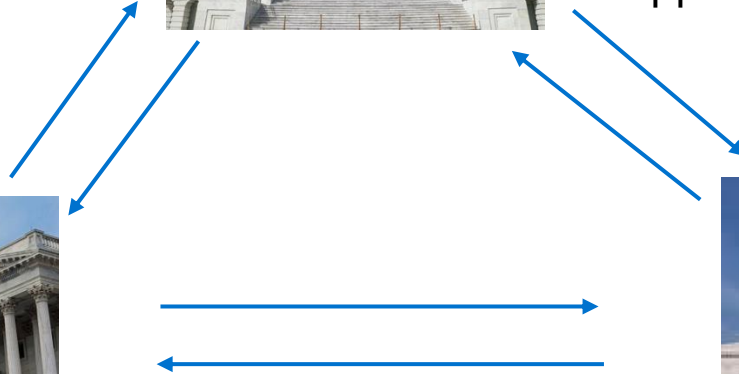
Legislative: Congress [House of Representatives and Senate]

- Makes laws



Judicial: [Supreme] Court

- "interpret the law, determine the constitutionality of the law, and apply it to individual cases."



BILL

1. [H.R.6088](#) — 118th Congress (2023-2024)

Ensuring Safe and Ethical **AI** Development Through SAFE **AI** Research Grants

Sponsor: [Kiley, Kevin](#) [[Rep.-R-CA-3](#)] (Introduced 10/26/2023) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology

Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. ([All Actions](#))

Tracker: **Introduced** > Passed House > Passed Senate > To President > Became Law

“To require the National Academy of Sciences to establish a grant program to develop safe AI models and safe AI research, and for other purposes.”

BILL

2. [S.1356](#) — 118th Congress (2023-2024)

ASSESS **AI** Act

Sponsor: [Bennet, Michael F.](#) [[Sen.-D-CO](#)] (Introduced 04/27/2023) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 04/27/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. ([All Actions](#))

Tracker: **Introduced** > Passed Senate > Passed House > To President > Became Law

“directs the President to appoint a task force to assess the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties implications of artificial intelligence”

BILL

3. [S.2770](#) — 118th Congress (2023-2024)

Protect Elections from Deceptive **AI** Act

Sponsor: [Klobuchar, Amy](#) [[Sen.-D-MN](#)] (Introduced 09/12/2023) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Rules and Administration

Latest Action: Senate - 05/15/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 388. ([All Actions](#))

Tracker: **Introduced** > Passed Senate > Passed House > To President > Became Law

“This bill prohibits the distribution of materially deceptive audio or visual media that is generated by artificial intelligence (AI) relating to federal candidates.”



Legislative: Congress

<https://www.congress.gov/>

AI LEGISLATION TRACKER

AAF's Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy Tracker is a tool to help navigate federal AI legislation. The tracker divides bills into five categories based on their intent and provides a short summary of each bill, detailing how it will be implemented, mechanisms to enforce the law, and notes on the bill's construction and potential impact if enacted. This tracker is updated bi-weekly based on information available on Congress.gov.

10 ▾

Show entries

Search:

Bill Name ▲	Classifi
A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the secretary of Health and Human Services to establish drug adherence guidelines, and for other purposes.	Enablin
Advanced AI Security Readiness Act	Governi
Advanced Weather Model Computing Development Act	Governi
AI Accountability Act	Mitigati
AI for America Act	Enablin
AI for Secure Networks Act	Mitigati
AI Grand Challenges Act of 2026	Researc
AI Incident Reporting Act	Mitigati
AI Labeling Act of 2026	Mitigati
AI Training Extension Act	Workfor

Showing 1 to 10 of 99 entries

« < 1 2 3 4 5 ... 10 > »

Executive: President

- Implements and enforces laws passed by Congress
- Appoints heads of federal agencies
- Cabinet:
 - Department of Agriculture
 - Department of Commerce
 - National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
 - Department of Energy
 - Department of Homeland Security
 - Department of Health and Human Services
 - Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
 - ...
- Other executive offices
 - Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)



What agencies may already be able to do things about AI without new laws?

- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
 - Not a regulatory agency (e.g. cannot enforce standards) but can define standards
 - E.g. conducts regular audit of Facial Recognition Systems [[link](#)]

- Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
 - “The FDA is providing this list of AI/ML-enabled medical devices marketed in the United States as a resource to the public about these devices and the FDA’s work in this area.” [[link](#)]

- Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)
 - “broad mandate to advise the President and others within the Executive Office of the President on the effects of science and technology on domestic and international affairs” [[link](#)]

Past notable federal-level AI discussions

- [AI Bill of Rights](#), Released in October 2022 by OSTP

- 2023 [White House Executive Order on AI](#)
 - “An executive order is a signed, written, and published directive from the President of the United States that manages operations of the federal government”
 - “Instant laws”
 - Released in October 2023
 - Provides actual directives to various agencies on steps to take to address AI

- These were issue under the Biden administration. They did not persist under Trump

What is the current federal government saying about AI?



- "The executive branch shall use the terms "Super Intelligence" and "SI" in place of "Artificial Intelligence" and "AI" and will not acknowledge the usage of "Artificial Intelligence" and "AI" in any applicable setting."

U.S.: State Laws

- 10th amendment in the U.S. Bill of Rights: Any power not delegated to the federal government by the Constitution—and not prohibited to the states—belongs to the individual states or the people
- [California AI Transparency Act](#)
- [Colorado: Consumer Protections for Artificial Intelligence](#)
- Example we've seen: lawsuits over “Diversity in Faces” dataset in Illinois
- Maryland
 - [Enacted] Maryland law, [HB 1202](#), **prohibits an employer from using a facial recognition service for the purpose of creating a facial template during an applicant's pre-employment interview**, unless the applicant consents by signing a specified waiver. This workplace AI law went into force on October 1, 2020.
 - [“Died in Committee”] Introduced March 11, 2024, [HB 1255](#) would **restrict an employer from using an automated employment decision tool to make certain employment decisions**; requiring an employer, under certain circumstances, to notify an applicant for employment of the employer's use of an automated employment decision tool within a certain time period; and generally relating to automated employment decision tools.

Next week's readings

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<https://www.anthropic.com/news/claude-text-watermark>

□ Topic 2: AI policy in Maryland

- Summary of AI policy from the Governor's Office
<https://governor.maryland.gov/official-actions/ai-principles>
- Maryland Senate Bill 818
<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2024RS/bills/sb/sb0818E.pdf> [Passed in 2024]
 - Don't need to read as closely, purpose is to look at an actual bill

Next classes

- Group 1: choose discussion leaders for next week
- October 26 (Monday): Proposal presentations
- October 30 (Friday): Written project proposal due