



Ethical AI and Societal Well-Being Assessment

1. Purpose

This Ethical AI and Societal Well-being (EAISW) Assessment (EAISW) is intended to support implementation of funding schemes. EAISWA shall be completed by applicants requesting the increased AI threshold. It assesses whether the proposed AI project/system integrates adequate ethical, well-being and safety safeguards, aligned with Malta's National AI Strategy principles, the EU AI Act, the OECD AI principles, and UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence.

Applicants must demonstrate that their project has undergone a risk-assessment, as well as filling in the EAISW.

One year following project completion, beneficiaries shall an updated EAISW report, demonstrating that the actions have been implemented in line with the original assessment. The report shall be subject to verification by the Malta Digital Innovation Authority (MDIA)

Items which are marked with an * are mandatory to for all applicants to benefit from the increased AI threshold. Exceptions may be granted by the MDIA in justified cases where the requirement is deemed not relevant. It is recommended to reach out to the MDIA on ai.mdia@mdia.gov.mt with justification for exemption for specific requirements prior to project submission and attach proof of exemption by the MDIA with the application.

Items which are marked with an + are mandatory to for all applicants, only where the AI system is classified as High Risk as per EU AI Act, to benefit from the increased AI threshold.

It should be noted that this tool and any other tool mentioned in this document is intended to provide generic information and, or support to users and is not

an exhaustive compliance checklist. The tools provided are without prejudice to the MDIA's roles under the EU AI Act and other pertinent legislation and any action which may be deemed pertinent by competent authorities.

2. EU AI Act Risk Classification

Indicate the risk category of the AI system(s) in your project under the EU AI Act.¹

<input type="checkbox"/>	Minimal Risk	AI systems with no or minimal regulatory obligations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Risk	AI systems with transparency obligations (e.g., chatbots, deepfakes)
<input type="checkbox"/>	High Risk	AI systems listed in Annex I and III (e.g., biometrics, critical infrastructure, employment) considering Article 6 of the EU AI Act.

Note: Projects involving prohibited AI practices under Article 5 of the EU AI Act are not eligible for funding.

3. Ethical Safeguards Checklist

For each requirement below, indicate whether the safeguard is: Yes (fully addressed), Partial (partially addressed with a plan and timeline to complete), No (not addressed), or N/A (not applicable, with justification). Each section must be accompanied by a brief description of how the requirements are addressed and what evidence supports your responses.

3.1. Data Protection, Data Governance, and Fairness

Ref	Requirement	Yes	Partial	No	N/A
3.1.1	Training, validation, and testing data has been assessed for bias and representativeness, with respect to the intended deployment context of	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ It is suggested to utilise the Self-Assessment Tools provided by the Malta Digital Innovation Authority (MDIA), particularly the classification guide [available here](#).

	the system (such as geography, intended users, etc.).*				
3.1.2	Measures are in place to monitor and correct bias post-deployment. *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.3	A Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) ² will be conducted prior to deployment, where required. Where not required, the applicant's analysis in identifying that this is not required shall be presented and signed by the Data Protection Officer (DPO), where the controller or the processor is legally obliged to designate a DPO. In case the applicant is not obliged to appoint a DPO, the legal representative shall sign such analysis. *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.4	Personal data is processed lawfully, with a valid legal basis, and with appropriate consent where required. Where not required, the explanation must include the applicant's analysis in identifying that this is not applicable. *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.5	Data minimisation, purpose limitation, and storage limitation principles are applied. *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.6	Adequate cybersecurity measures protect the data processed by the AI system. *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 3.1 rationale: At application stage, briefly explain how you meet the requirements above and reference any supporting artefacts (e.g., DPIA, security controls, data governance policy). The updated EAISW report, one year following project completion, shall demonstrate that the actions have been implemented in line with the original assessment.

² [Data Protection Impact Assessment - IDPC](#)

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3.2. Accountability, Responsibility & Legal Liability

Ref	Requirement	Yes	Partial	No	N/A
3.2.1	A named person or team is responsible for AI governance within the project. *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.2	Clear records of decision-making processes and algorithmic operations will be maintained. *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.3	A plan for the project to comply with applicable Maltese and EU laws, including EU AI Act obligations for the relevant risk category at deployment stage. †	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.4	Deployers of high-risk AI systems perform a Fundamental Rights Impact Assessment (FRIA) in line with Article 27 of the EU AI Act, where applicable. †	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 3.2 rationale: At application stage, briefly explain governance/accountability arrangements (named owner, documentation, compliance approach) and reference supporting artefacts. The updated EAISW report, one year following project completion, shall demonstrate that the actions have been implemented in line with the original assessment.

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3.3. Transparency, Explainability, Human Agency & Oversight

Ref	Requirement	Yes	Partial	No	N/A
3.3.1	Users will be informed when they are interacting with an AI system or AI deep fake content ³ . *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3.2	The AI system's decisions or recommendations can be explained in understandable terms to users. *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3.3	Human oversight mechanisms are in place for decisions with significant impact on individuals. *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 3.3 rationale: At application stage, briefly describe transparency measures, explainability approach, human oversight, and redress/complaints handling, and reference supporting artefacts. The updated EAISW report, one year following project completion, shall demonstrate that the actions have been implemented in line with the original assessment.

³ Article 3(60) of the AI Act defines deep fake as 'AI-generated or manipulated image, audio or video content that resembles existing persons, objects, places, entities or events and would falsely appear to a person to be authentic or truthful'

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3.4. Risk-Assessment

Applicants shall * submit a basic risk-assessment pertaining to their project outlining the following:

What testing and validation procedures are in place before deployment and throughout the lifecycle of the AI System:

- Identifying potential harms to individuals and society, if any
- What measures exist to explain the AI system's intended purpose and prevent misuse beyond this intended purpose)
- Identifying any external/supply-chain risks such as dependencies on third-party vendors, codebases, datasets, external models, Application Programming Interfaces (APIs), etc.
- Explaining how the AI system is designed to be reliable, secure, and resilient against failures, such as service disruptions or malicious attacks

The updated EAISW report, one year following project completion, shall * provide an updated risk-assessment and how any potential risks have been mitigated.

4. Annex - Supporting Documentation

Applicants may submit any relevant documentation to support the information provided in this assessment.

Applicants shall * submit any relevant documentation to support the information provided in this assessment one year following project completion to benefit from the increased AI threshold.

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Authorized Representative Name

Applicant Name

Click or tap here to enter text.

Signature

Date



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1	16/06/2026	First issue.

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