

## **A call to action on very powerful AI from the European Parliament**

Recent advances in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) have demonstrated that the speed of technological progress is faster and more unpredictable than policy-makers around the world have anticipated. We are moving very fast.

The European Parliament is working on the Artificial Intelligence Act, a regulation meant to support the development and uptake of trustworthy, human-centric AI in Europe while protecting the health, safety, and fundamental rights of people, in accordance with our European values.

As policy-makers we still have some negotiations to do, but we are aware this Regulation, covering the entire EU market, could serve as a blueprint for other regulatory initiatives in different regulatory traditions and environments around the world.

The recent advent of and widespread public access to powerful AI, alongside the exponential performance improvements over the last year of AI trained to generate complex content, has prompted us to pause and reflect on our work. The AI Act is a risk-based legislative tool, meant to cover specific high-risk use-cases of AI. However, we are of the conviction that **we also need a complementary set of preliminary rules for the development and deployment of powerful General Purpose AI systems** that can be easily adapted to a multitude of purposes.

In this spirit, we took note of the open letter initiated by the Future of Life Institute and co-signed by hundreds of academics, experts, and business leaders calling for a 6 months moratorium on the development of powerful artificial intelligence. We share some of the concerns expressed in this letter, even while we disagree with some of its more alarmist statements.

We are nevertheless in agreement with the letter's core message: **with the rapid evolution of powerful AI, we see the need for significant political attention.** Our actions and decisions can guide us into the world full of AI potentials, whereas inaction can widen the gap between the development of AI and our ability to steer it, leaving the door open for more challenging future scenarios.

**Therefore we, the undersigned, Members of the European Parliament:**

***Are determined to provide, within the framework of the AI Act, a set of rules specifically tailored to foundation models, with the goal of steering the development of very powerful artificial intelligence in a direction that is human-centric, safe, and trustworthy.***

***Call on European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and U.S. President Joe Biden to convene a high-level global Summit on Artificial Intelligence, with the view to agree on a preliminary set of governing principles for the development, control, and deployment of very powerful artificial intelligence.***

***Call on the principals of the Trade and Technology Council (TTC) to agree on a preliminary agenda for the aforementioned Summit on Artificial intelligence during the upcoming TTC meeting; underline that involving the European Parliament and U.S. Congress is critical for transposing governing principles into regulation.***

***Call on democratic countries to reflect on potential systems of governance, oversight, co-creation, and support for the development of very powerful artificial intelligence; invite other countries, including non-democratic ones, to exercise restraint and responsibility in their pursuit of very powerful artificial intelligence.***

***Call on companies and AI laboratories working on very powerful artificial intelligence to strive for an ever-increasing sense of responsibility, to substantially increase efforts to ensure their models are safe and trustworthy, to significantly increase transparency towards and dialogue with regulators, and to ensure that they maintain control over the evolution of the artificial intelligence they are building.***

Our message to industry, researchers, and decision-makers, in Europe and worldwide, is that the development of very powerful artificial intelligence demonstrates the need for attention and careful consideration. Together, we can steer history in the right direction.

**Ioan-Dragoş Tudorache**, Renew Europe and **Brando Benifei**, S&D, Co-rapporteurs AI Act

**Axel Voss**, EPP, Shadow rapporteur on the AI Act

**Deirdre Clune**, EPP, Shadow rapporteur on the AI Act

**Petar Vitanov**, S&D, Shadow rapporteur on the AI Act

**Svenja Hahn**, Renew Europe, Shadow rapporteur on the AI Act

**Sergey Lagodinsky**, The Greens/EFA, Shadow rapporteur on the AI Act

**Kim van Sparrentak**, The Greens/EFA, Shadow rapporteur on the AI Act

**Kosma Złotowski**, ECR, Shadow rapporteur on the AI Act

**Rob Rooken**, ECR, Shadow rapporteur on the AI Act

**Eva Maydell**, EPP, Rapporteur of the ITRE opinion on the AI Act

**Marcel Kolaja**, The Greens/EFA, Rapporteur of the CULT opinion on the AI Act