Explain the EU AI Act’s risk levels

Starter · 1–3 hours · Free · Step-by-step guide

Online version: https://ai-safety-sandbox.vercel.app/projects/eu-ai-act-risk-levels/

Summary

Summarise how the EU sorts AI systems by risk (banned, high-risk, transparency duties, minimal) with one everyday example for each level, plus what changes for general-purpose models.

Why it matters

The EU AI Act is the world’s first broad AI law and it affects companies everywhere. Clear explanations are in short supply.

What you will have at the end

A one-page explainer or diagram.

Steps (tick each box as you go)

- [ ] **1. Read the high-level summary (30 min)**
  Read the AI Act Explorer’s high-level summary. Write the four risk levels down in your own words.
- [ ] **2. Find one example per level (30 min)**
  Pick an everyday AI use for each level. Check each against the text so you are not guessing.
- [ ] **3. Add general-purpose AI (20 min)**
  Note the separate rules for general-purpose AI models, including the extra duties for the most capable ones.
- [ ] **4. Design the page (30 min)**
  Make a ladder, pyramid or table. Keep it short enough to read in two minutes.
- [ ] **5. Check and share (10 min)**
  Ask someone to read it and tell you which example confused them. Fix it and share.

What you need

- A web browser
- About two hours

What you will learn

- Risk-based AI regulation
- How the EU AI Act is structured
- Explaining law clearly

Key terms

EU AI Act
The European Union’s AI law. It sorts AI uses into risk levels, bans a few, and puts extra duties on high-risk uses and on general-purpose AI models.

Source and links

EU AI Act Explorer — high-level summary
https://artificialintelligenceact.eu/high-level-summary/

Official text (EUR-Lex)
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1689/oj

When you have finished

Write a few paragraphs on what you did, what you found and what you would try next, and share it with a friend, your society or online.

Try next: Map the AI rules where you live
https://ai-safety-sandbox.vercel.app/projects/map-ai-rules-where-you-live/

Try next: Write a two-page policy memo on one AI risk
https://ai-safety-sandbox.vercel.app/projects/policy-memo-on-one-risk/

Courses, mentors, small grants and communities:
https://ai-safety-sandbox.vercel.app/next-steps/

Questions? Ask in AI Safety Cardiff University (AISCU): https://aiscu.org/

Notes