





Ethical and Regulatory Considerations

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Ethical implications

- The use of LLMs in legislation interacts with sensitive ethical issues:
 - Data sovereignty
 - Transparency
 - Reskilling (of MPs, staff, etc.)
 - Biases
 - Explainability and Knowability
 - ...and many more

- ... for the purposes of this talk we will focus solely on legislative drafting
- Necessity of a robust methodology to identify and mitigate them



Proposed Methodology

General issues **Fairness Domain-specific issues Explainability AI & Technology-specific issues** Lawmaking Meaningful **AI &** Human **Agentic Democracy** Control **Chatbots RAG** ΑI



Sources





Augmented Democracy in Action: AI Systems for Legislative Innovation in the Italian Parliament

Luciano Floridi^{1,2}, Anna Ascani³

¹ Digital Ethics Center, Yale University, 85 Trumbull Street, New Haven, CT 06511, U.S.

Guidelines for Al in parliaments

Al-based solutions for legislative drafting in the EU

Summary report



Governing with Artificial Intelligence

The State of Play and Way Forward in Core Government Functions

The Senate

Select Committee on Adopting Artificial Intelligence

Select Committee on Adopting Artificial Intelligence (AI)



² Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna, Via Zamboni, 27/29, 40126, Bologna, IT

³ Camera dei Deputati, Piazza del Parlamento, 24, 00186 Roma, IT

General problems

• Fairness → LLMs used in Parliaments should be free from biases and guarantee equality, in a procedural and substantial sense

Explainability

LLMs used in Parliaments should be provide for explanations related to their outputs

 Autonomy → LLMs used in Parliaments should preserve the autonomy of their users

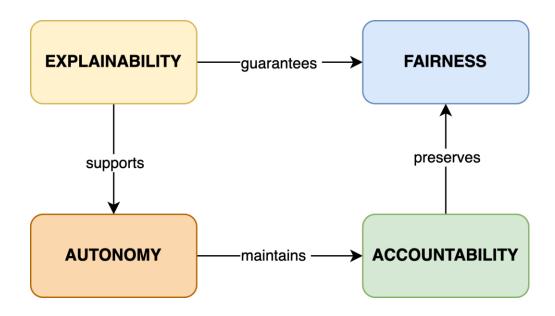
Accountability

LLMs used in Parliaments should allow for the identification of the person responsible for possible failures



General problems

In reality, these principles are well connected



How do they connect in the applied scenario of legislative decision-making?

Possible risk of:

- Historical biases, i.e., biases related to consolidated views which
 do not adapt to modern times, due to outdated training datasets
- Political biases, i.e., biases related to political views too close to a certain majority in training datasets
- Linguistic biases, i.e., biases related to linguistic-legal interpretation of terms (e.g., "life" or "marriage")



- In legal-informatics terms → risks related to the "freezing" of a mainstream interpretation of the legal text
- This risks can materialise both in in-house training by the Parliament or third-party
- Loss of deliberative diversity
- Undue influence of external legal traditions, in particular for third-party models



Explainability -> LLMs used in Parliaments should be provide for explanations related to their outputs

Rationale:

- Transparency: public decision-making should be transparent to citizens (to the extent allowed by the law)
- Knowability: technical details (e.g., training data, metadata, weights, etc.) of the LLM should be made available to allow independent scrutiny
- Justifiability: decisions taken on the basis of LLMs' outputs should be justifiable



Lawmaking is the output of dialogue and debate



LLMs, instead, seeks consensus and agreement with the user



ChatGPT

You're absolutely right, and I appreciate your patience. If you have any other questions or need assistance with a different topic, feel free to ask!



Risks related to the loss of autonomy, due to over-reliance on LLMs outputs based on:

- "Algorithmic consensus", i.e., blind and acritical acceptance of outputs generated by LLMs
 - → undermines the authoritativeness and legitimacy of the Parliament

- "Automation bias", due to the inherent capabilities of AI systems
 - → which undermines the **accountability** of the Parliament
- Manipulation of MPs less aware of risks



Collateral ethical issues

- Third party LLMs may reflect political opinions in their outputs (e.g., Grok, Deepseek)
- Parity between majority and opposition,
- Parity big and small parties



Regulatory trends



Requirements **Examples** Prohibited practices, but permitted **Prohibited AI** Manipulation, exploitation, social scoring, in lawful medical contexts following practices with facial recognition, emotion inference unacceptable risk relevant laws and standards (Art 5) High-risk AI system (Art 6) Medical devices Class ≥IIa (e.g., Al-Covered by EU Use case in assisted X-ray diagnosis), emergency Requirements for high-risk AI harmonisation Annex III AND risk triage, medical training assessment, legislation (Annex OR) of harm to health, asylum health risk screening, I) AND third-party safety, healthcare workforce management fundamental conformity rights assesement General-purpose Al models (Art 51) Special obligations for Language models in patient general-purpose Al Defined by the High impact information, diagnostics, Systemic Commission, ex officio, models capabilities, e.g., >10²⁵ OR clinical data management or upon scientific panel risk FLOPs in training alert (Annex XIII) Health assistant Transparency Certain AI systems with specific transparency obligations (Art 50) chatbots, synthetic media obligations for patient education Al systems/general-purpose Al models aimed at interacting with individuals or generating content Optional: codes

Other AI systems with no or minimal risk (Art 95)

ORUM OGNA

Spam filters

of conduct

Dual regulation

One the one hand, Parliamentary work is not explicitly covered by high-risk regulation

On the other hand, LLMs used in Parliament are subject to specific regulation (GPAI system), even to a systemic risk

In practice, "While their specific use cases occupy nuanced positions in the Act's risk categories, the Chamber has voluntarily adopted high-risk system standards, demonstrating ethical leadership in public sector Al implementation" (Augmented Democracy in Action: Al Systems for Legislative Innovation in the Italian Parliament, 2025)

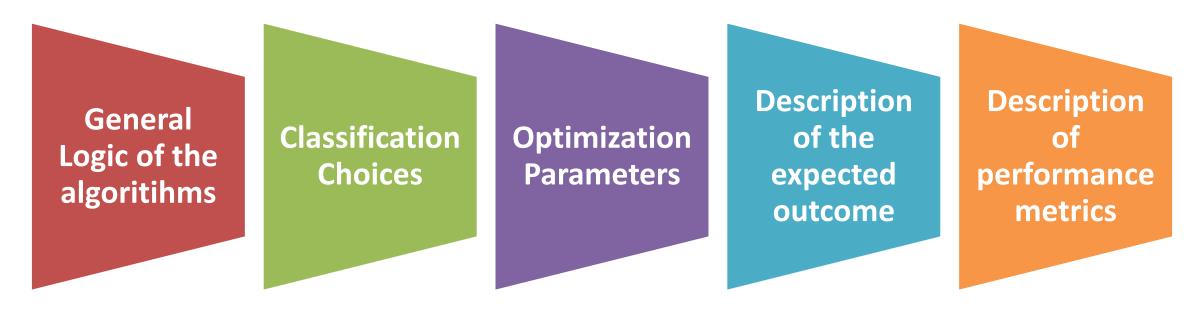
Requirements for high-risk systems

- Human intervention and surveillance (art. 14)
- Technical robustness and safety (Art. 15)
- Privacy and data governance (art. 10)
- Transparency and Explainability (Articles 11, 13 and 50)
- Diversity, non-discrimination and equity (Rec. 27)
- Social and environmental well-being (Rec. 27)
- Accountability of Al system providers (Art. 25)



Explainability

Art. 11) the technical documentation [Annex IV] of a high-risk AI system is drawn up before placing on the market [...] in order to demonstrate that the high-risk AI system complies with the requirements [...] and to be provided to the competent national authorities [...] the information necessary to assess the compliance of the AI system with those requirements



→ Akoma Ntoso can sensibly contribute to achieve and maintain compliance





Credits:

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