European Parliament

Democracy, Innovation, and the AI Act: An Inter-parliamentary Exchange

European Parliament | 8 December 2025

Draft Programme

Event Duration and Structure

Event Date: 8 December 2025
Total Duration: 3 hours (main programme + cocktail reception)

Important Remarks Regarding the Format

- In person for Members of National Parliaments (MPs)
- In person or on-line for stakeholders invited
- In camera, Chatham Rules[1]
- Working language is English by default

[1] "When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed".

European Parliament

Detailed Agenda

14:30 – 14:45 | Opening Session

Welcome remarks:
– Anna Cavazzini, Chair of the IMCO Committee
– Javier Zarzalejos, Chair of the LIBE Committee

Introductory remarks:
– Brando Benifei, Co-Chair of the AI Act Working Group (IMCO)
– Michael McNamara, Co-Chair of the AI Act Working Group (LIBE)

14:45 – 15:30 | Panel 1 – The AI Continent Action Plan

Presentation by the European Commission
– **Mr Roberto Viola:** Director-General, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (**DG CONNECT**)

Moderated discussion and Q&A with MPs and MEPs

Focus:
– EU strategic autonomy and global leadership in AI
– Innovation ecosystems and competitiveness
– The role of Parliament in long-term governance and oversight

15:30 – 15:40 | Break

15:40 – 16:25 | Panel 2 – AI, Democracy and the Rule of Law

Presentation by the Council of Europe
– **Ms Albina Ovcearenco:** Head of the Digital Development Unit and Secretary to the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI), Council of Europe.
– **Mr Kristian Bartholin:** Head of the Digital Development Unit and Secretary to the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI), Council of Europe.

Moderated discussion and Q&A with MPs and MEPs

Focus:
– AI's impact on democratic processes and public discourse
– Algorithmic transparency and media pluralism
– Human rights safeguards and democratic accountability

16:25 – 16:35 | Break

16:35 – 17:20 | Panel 3 – Implementation and Enforcement of the AI Act

Presentation by the AI Act Board

– **Ms Jean Carberry:** Assistant Secretary of the Digital, EU and Climate Programme Division (Ireland), representing Ireland in the AI Act Board
Observations by the Danish Presidency
– **Ms Katinka Clausdatter Worsøe**, Attaché/Counsellor for Digitalisation & Telecommunications at the Danish Permanent Representation and Chair of the Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society (Council of the EU) during the Danish Presidency.

Moderated discussion and Q&A with MPs and MEPs

Focus:
– National enforcement and coordination mechanisms
– Institutional preparedness and capacity building
– Parliamentary oversight and transparency
– Best practices from national implementation

17:20 – 17:30 | Conclusion and Next Steps

Reflections by the Co-Chairs of the AI Act Working Group

17:30 – 19:00 | Cocktail Reception