AI Sandboxes: striking a balance between regulation and innovation

Side event of the Sixth Plenary of the Committee on Artificial Intelligence

List of speakers

Moderator:

Mr Patrick PENNINCKX has spent the last 30 years at the Council of Europe, focusing on transformation processes in the organisation, developing partnerships with other international organisations and national partners. Currently heading the Information Society Department under the Directorate General Human Rights and the Rule of Law, Mr Penninckx coordinates standard-setting and co-operation activities in the fields of media, internet governance, data protection and cybercrime. He is also responsible for projects related to public-private partnerships and cooperation with business partners.

Mr Penninckx led the Information Society Department in a large number of studies on most contemporary topics, such as filtering and blocking of illicit content on the internet, self-censorship of media and journalists and chilling factors to freedom of expression, disinformation, the role of the media in times of crisis, quality journalism and investigative journalism, as well as media literacy. His professional focus encompasses areas such as freedom of expression, the safety of journalists, sound internet governance, international standards in data protection, action against cybercrime and the impact of AI on human rights.

Panelists (in alphabetical order):

Mr Alberto GAGO FERNANDEZ, specialised in European Affairs and Data Economy, holds Master's Degree in European Legal Studies from the Université de Lorraine and Master's Degree in International Relations from the University of Birmingham. He was a Policy Officer in the Data Policy and Innovation Department of the European Commission. Currently, he is a member of Cabinet of the Secretary of State of Digitalization and AI in Spain and a member of the Presidency Board of European Startup Nations Alliance.

Ms Laura GALINDO-ROMERO is AI Policy and Governance Program Manager at Meta. She leads Open Loop, a global program supported by Meta, that connects policymakers and technology companies to help develop effective and evidence-based policies around AI and other emerging technologies. Laura had previously worked at the OECD in Paris as AI Policy Analyst, Economist for three years, overseeing the implementation of national AI strategies by governments. She is a lawyer by training (J.S.M. Stanford, LL.B Universidad de Los Andes) with a background in Business, Policy and Economics (Ignite, Stanford Business School, Georgetown and American University - WCL).

Mr Eirik GULBRANDSEN has been attached to the Norwegian Sandbox for responsible artificial intelligence since the start in 2020 and is a senior engineer in the Norwegian Data Protection Authority's Technology, Analysis and Security Department. He works, among other

things, to identify and analyze key technology trends including artificial intelligence and their significance for privacy, in addition to work with supervisory and non-compliance cases, with a special focus on law, police and defense.

Mr Raphael VON THIESSEN leads strategic projects in technology and innovation. He holds Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Zurich and Master's Degree in Business Administration from the ESCP in Paris. In his current role as a project lead of the Innovation-Sandbox for Artificial Intelligence, he enables the Canton of Zurich to develop competencies in regulation, data management and innovation. As an editor for the think tank W.I.R.E., he published multiple books, such as Decoding Artificial Intelligence (NZZ Libro 2020). He is Co-Founder of Momentum Collaboration - a company with the mission to make public and private organisations future-proof.