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COMMUNICATION TO THE COMMISSION

Approval of the content of the draft Communication from the Commission – Guidelines on the scope of the obligations for general-purpose AI models established by Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 (AI Act)

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Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence and amending certain regulations ('AI Act') entered into force on 1 August 2024. Its aim is to promote innovation in and uptake of artificial intelligence ('AI') in the Union, while ensuring a high level of protection of health, safety and fundamental rights, including democracy and the rule of law.

Chapter V of the AI Act lays down obligations for the providers of general-purpose AI systems, divided into two categories: general-purpose AI model with and without systemic risk.

Pursuant to Article 96(1) of the AI Act, the Commission shall develop guidelines on the practical implementation of the AI Act. The draft Guidelines annexed to this Communication aim to increase legal clarity and to provide insights into the Commission's interpretation of the provisions regarding general-purpose AI systems, in light of their imminent entry into application on from 2 August 2025.

The draft Guidelines on general-purpose AI aim to clarify key concepts of the AI Act, such as what is a 'general-purpose AI model', a 'provider of a general-purpose AI model', a 'placing on the market of a general-purpose AI model', and how to estimate the computational resources used for training a general-purpose AI model. Beyond these conceptual clarifications, the draft Guidelines aim to clarify how the AI Office will support and work with providers who must comply with the general-purpose AI rules. In all above-mentioned cases, the proposed approach is pragmatic and practical.

The draft Guidelines are also part of the package that prepares the entry of application of the rules for providers of general-purpose AI models. The package will contain these draft Guidelines, the General-Purpose AI Code of Practice and the adequacy assessment by the Commission and the AI Board, the Template for transparency on training data, and further elements like a template for notifications that providers of general-purpose AI models with systemic risk to submit to the AI Office.

Such clarity is essential for providers of general-purpose AI models, since the obligations are directly applicable as from 2 August 2025. In view of this imminent entry into application and the time necessary for the translation of the guidelines into all languages, the Commission is called upon to approve the content of draft Communication from the Commission on Guidelines on the scope of the obligations for general-purpose AI models established by Regulation (EU) 2024/1689.

The Guidelines will be formally adopted by the Commission at a later date, when all language versions are available. It is only from that moment that these Guidelines will be applicable.

The text of the draft Guidelines is enclosed as an Annex to this Communication.