# The European regulation on AI

## Opportunities, risks and future scenarios with a metropolitan perspective

**September 19, 2024**
Jordi Maragall Room, CIDOB. Elisabets 12, 08001, Barcelona
*Organised by: CIDOB with the support of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB)*

Social and technological innovation is crucial to respond to people's needs and move towards more inclusive and equitable local governments. Disruptive technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) open up new opportunities to improve the delivery of public services and the management of some of the most urgent urban challenges: sustainable mobility, energy transition, responsible use of water, or pollution reduction, among others. In the coming years, the growing adoption of AI will lead to a transformation of public administrations, which must be prepared to face the new challenges and risks associated with the extensive use of algorithmic systems. It is also necessary to take into account the double responsibility of local governments as "consumers" of technological solutions and "regulators" who must guarantee the appropriate framework for the development of ethical, safe AI that respects current legislation, is compatible with our social and cultural norms, and puts people at the center.

In this sense, the AMB's Municipal Action Programme 2024-2027 identifies AI as one of the main focuses of the metropolitan policies of the future. Metropolitan cities must be prepared to adopt algorithm-based solutions and manage the risks that may arise from them, but they must also promote political measures that allow them to compete, attract and retain talent, in order to advance in the consolidation of the AMB as a digital metropolis. And all this must be done taking into account the regulatory environment in which they operate, which in the future will be conditioned by the recently approved EU AI Act, but also geopolitical trends on a global scale.

This seminar seeks to contribute to this effort to prepare metropolitan cities and the AMB to successfully face the challenges associated with the adoption of AI through a double perspective. On the one hand, the implications of European regulation of AI for local governments and metropolitan areas will be analysed. On the other hand, a foresight exercise will be carried out where some scenarios will be identified that contemplate possible future impacts of AI in the medium and long term, from global prosperity to the catastrophic and existential risk of algorithmic systems. The aim is to reflect on how it could be ensured that the strategies and policy frameworks established today by the AMB are resilient and adaptive to the different potential directions that digital transformation could take.

*In collaboration with:*

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**Programme**

09.0 – 09.15     **Welcome and introduction**
**Antoni Segura,** President, CIDOB (Barcelona Center for International Affairs)
**Oriol Illa,** Director of the International and Digital Metropolis Area, Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB)

09.15 – 10.15     **European regulation of AI: context, opportunities, and challenges for local governments**

**Kinga Schumacher,** Deputy Research Group Leader, German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence
**Albert Sabater,** Director of the Observatory of Ethics in Artificial Intelligence of Catalonia (OEIAC)

*Moderate:*     **Belén Arribas,** Lawyer and Technological Environments Auditor; President, ENATIC

10.15 – 10.30     **Coffee break**

10.30 – 12.00     **Trends and future scenarios on AI governance with a metropolitan perspective**

**Martine Delannoy,** Smart Cities and Communities Advisor, Digitaal Vlaanderen
**Sara Suárez-Gonzalo,** Lecturer at Faculty of Information and Communication Sciences, Researcher at CNSC-IN3, Open University of Catalonia (UOC)
**Miquel Estapé,** Deputy Director of Innovation and Data, Open Administration Consortium of Catalonia
**Ramon Pruneda,** CTO, AMB Informació i Serveis

*Moderate:*     **Marta Galceran**, Research Fellow, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB

**Participants**

1. **Álvarez, Tanya,** Researcher, Digital Future Society, Mobile World Capital Foundation
2. **Arribas, Belén** Lawyer and Technological Environments Auditor; President, ENATIC
3. **Bajo Erro, Carlos,** Rights in the digital sphere, Oxfam
4. **Batlle, Joan,** Project coordinator, International Relations Department, Barcelona City Council
5. **Borràs, Javier,** Researcher, CIDOB
6. **Canyamares, Joan,** Head of Strategic Projects, OTG
7. **Colombo, Clelia,** Head of the Foresight and Strategy Service, International and Digital Metropolis Area, Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB)
8. **Colomina, Carme,** Senior researcher and Editor, CIDOB
9. **De la Morena, Carlos,** Head of ICT Service, AMB
10. **De la Varga, Octavi,** Advisor for strategic international projects, Barcelona Provincial Council
11. **Delannoy, Martine,** Smart Cities and Communities Advisor, Digitaal Vlaanderen

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12. **Eguiluz, Josuan**, legal counsel, Adevinta, and invited professor ESADE (course on legal aspects of AI)
13. **Estapé, Miquel,** Deputy director of Innovation and Data, Open Administration Consortium of Catalonia
14. **Fernández de Losada, Agustí,** Director and Senior Researcher, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB
15. **Galceran, Marta,** Research Fellow, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB
16. **González Moro, Marina,** Lawyer of the International Relations and Digital Metropolis Area, AMB
17. **Guijarro, Eva,** Head of Digital Transformation and Technologies Area, Localret
18. **Illa, Oriol,** Director of the International and Digital Metropolis Area, Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB)
19. **Levi, Simona,** Director, Xnet
20. **Lovermann, Solanyi,** Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany Barcelona
21. **Parés Scheele, Stefanie,** Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany Barcelona
22. **Pruneda, Ramon,** CTO, AMB Informació i Serveis
23. **Rosés, Carlota,** Head of International Relations Service, AMB
24. **Ramirez, Guillem,** Advisor, Eurocities
25. **Sabater, Albert,** Director of the Observatory of Ethics in Artificial Intelligence of Catalonia (OEIAC)
26. **Schumacher, Kinga,** Deputy Research Group Leader, German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence
27. **Segura, Antoni,** President, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
28. **Suárez-Gonzalo, Sara,** Lecturer at Faculty of Information and Communication Sciences, Researcher at CNSC-IN3, Open University of Catalonia (UOC)
29. **Tiana, Xavier,** Head of Coordination of the Management Office, Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB)
30. **Vendrell, Jordi**, Head of Legal Services, AMB
31. **Vidal, Alexandra,** Researcher and Project manager, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB

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