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AROUND THE WORLD WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: A MAP OF LEGAL REGULATION

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The legal community continues to actively discuss approaches to regulating artificial intelligence (hereinafter "AI"): some jurisdictions are enacting specific laws, while others are revising or postponing legislative initiatives.

White Square experts have prepared an overview of the current status of AI regulation in developed jurisdictions, including key legislative initiatives and governments' approaches to the legal regulation of AI.

The analysis covers the following countries: the European Union (hereinafter "EU"), the United Kingdom, China, and the United States.

This material is based on information from public sources and is for reference purposes only. It does not constitute advice or a legal opinion. If you have any questions regarding this alert, please contact us at: info@whitesquarepartners.com.

1. EU

In 2024, the EU adopted the first comprehensive legislative act defining the legal regulation of AI: the European Union AI Act¹ (hereinafter “**EU AI Act**”).

The EU AI Act applies not only to EU companies but also to AI systems used in the EU market, regardless of the company’s location.

The EU AI Act establishes the framework for AI regulation in EU countries, while some member states are introducing additional national regulations (e.g., Italy’s AI Act)².

Key provisions of European legislation:

- 1) Classification of AI systems by risk level (unacceptable risk, high risk);
- 2) Establishment of specific requirements for certain categories of AI systems: General-Purpose AI models, certain AI systems;
- 3) "Opt-out" mechanism: permission for AI systems to be freely trained on materials from open sources, unless prohibited by the author³.

2. United Kingdom

The UK does not have a single law on artificial intelligence, but five overarching principles have been established and are applied by sectoral regulators: safety, transparency, fairness, accountability, and the ability to challenge AI decisions.

In 2025, the UK held a public consultation titled “Copyright and Artificial Intelligence,” during which the idea of legalizing an opt-out model was discussed. However, the initiative met with strong public opposition and was rejected.

The UK has a legal framework for protecting works created by computer that do not have a human author⁴. For such works, protection is granted

to the person who organized the creation of the work and lasts for 50 years from the date of creation.

3. United States

The U.S. lacks a federal law regulating matters in the field of AI. Regulation is state-specific: laws are enacted at the state level. For example, the Colorado Artificial Intelligence Act⁵ or the New York Artificial Intelligence Companion Models Act⁶.

On December 11, 2025, U.S. President Donald Trump signed an Executive Order on Ensuring a National AI Policy in the United States⁷, introducing a unified federal framework for AI regulation. Under the Order, U.S. states are required to review their existing laws for consistency with this federal framework and, where necessary, amend or replace them.

Currently, AI legislation in the U.S. is undergoing transformation: existing state laws are being amended, and the introduction of a unified federal law in the field of AI is under discussion.

4. China

In China, the legal regulation of AI is fragmented in nature.

There is no single comprehensive AI law; instead, separate regulations have been adopted for different technological use cases of AI systems, including recommendation algorithms, deepfakes, generative AI, bot identification (bot-ID), and the training of AI models on personal data. For example, the Regulation on Deep Synthesis⁸ or the Regulation on Generative Artificial Intelligence⁹.

These special laws do not duplicate general regulations, including those regarding the processing of personal data and cybersecurity, for which separate acts have been adopted.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (available via [the link](#))

² Law of 23 September 2025, No. 132, “Provisions and Delegations to the Government on Artificial Intelligence” (available via [the link](#))

³ Art. 4 of the Directive (EU) 2019/790 on copyright and related rights in the Digital Single Market (available via [the link](#))

⁴ Art. 178 of Great Britain Copyright, Designs and Patents Act (available via [the link](#))

⁵ Colorado Artificial Intelligence Consumer Protection Act SB 24-205 (available via [the link](#))

⁶ Artificial Intelligence Companion Models Act (available via [the link](#))

⁷ Executive Order 14365 of December 11, 2025 «Ensuring a National Policy Framework for Artificial Intelligence» (available via [the link](#))

⁸ Regulations on the Management of Deep Synthesis of Internet Information Services, approved on November 3, 2022 (available via [the link](#))

⁹ Interim Regulatory Methods for Generative Artificial Intelligence Service Systems (available via [the link](#))

5. Conclusion

Despite differences in how AI legislation is developed across jurisdictions, several common features can be identified:

- 1) Separation of AI liability regulation from copyright and data protection issues, alongside efforts to align dedicated AI legislation with general legal frameworks.
- 2) Differentiation of requirements for AI systems based on various factors, including risk level and intended purpose.
- 3) A trend toward the extraterritorial application of rules, whereby regulation extends to foreign market participants where there is an impact on the domestic market.

If you have questions regarding the legal regulation of AI, as well as other issues in the field of new technologies, the White Square team is ready to assist you both in an advisory capacity and in the implementation of specific tasks.

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