HANDOUT · CHECKED 13 NOVEMBER 2026

The AI rulebook, *in date order*

EU and Irish AI laws, directives and standards: when each one applies, who it is for, and what it means. Full version with more detail: readyforai.ie/ai-rulebook

APPLIES FROM	WHAT	TYPE	IN ONE LINE
25 May 2018	**GDPR**	EU LAW	Applies whenever AI touches personal data; limits machine-only decisions.
Oct 2022	**ISO/IEC 27001:2022**	STANDARD	Information security management. Certifiable.
Jan 2023	**NIST AI Risk Management Framework (US)**	TREATY / FRAMEWORK	Free, practical AI risk method: govern, map, measure, manage.
Feb 2023	**ISO/IEC 23894**	STANDARD	Guidance on AI risk management.
Dec 2023	**ISO/IEC 42001**	STANDARD	AI management system. The certifiable AI standard.
17 Feb 2024	**Digital Services Act**	EU LAW	Platforms explain and risk-assess their recommendation algorithms.
1 Aug 2024	**EU AI Act enters into force**	EU LAW	The core AI law, sorting AI by risk. Duties phase in below.
Oct 2024	**NIS2 (cyber security)**	EU LAW	Cyber duties, boards accountable. Irish law not yet passed.
17 Jan 2025	**DORA**	EU LAW	Financial firms manage risk from tech and AI suppliers.
2 Feb 2025	**AI Act: banned practices and AI literacy**	EU LAW	Some AI uses banned; support AI literacy for staff.
Feb 2025	**AI Liability Directive**	WITHDRAWN	Withdrawn. Claims now run through product liability.
2025	**ISO/IEC 42005 and 42006**	STANDARD	AI impact assessment; rules for 42001 certifiers.
2 Aug 2025	**AI Act: general-purpose AI models**	EU LAW	Model makers: documentation, copyright, training-data summary.
12 Sep 2025	**Data Act**	EU LAW	Rights to your product data; freedom to switch cloud.
May 2026	**Council of Europe AI Convention**	TREATY / FRAMEWORK	First binding AI treaty. Ratified by the EU, not yet in force.
Jul 2026	**EN 18286 (AI quality management)**	STANDARD	First European standard for showing AI Act compliance.
21 Jul 2026	**Regulation of Artificial Intelligence Act 2026 (Ireland)**	IRISH LAW	Sector regulators enforce, coordinated by the AI Office of Ireland.
2 Aug 2026	**AI Act: transparency**	EU LAW	Say when it's AI; label deepfakes; mark AI content.
11 Sep 2026	**Cyber Resilience Act: reporting**	EU LAW	Report exploited vulnerabilities and incidents within 24 hours.
Oct 2026	**ISO/IEC 27090**	STANDARD	AI security threats: data poisoning, prompt injection, model theft.
2 Dec 2026	**AI Act: new bans and older-system labelling**	EU LAW	Ban on AI abuse and intimate imagery; older generative systems mark output.
9 Dec 2026	**Product Liability Directive**	EU LAW	Software and AI count as products; people harmed can claim.
12 Jan 2027	**Data Act: no more switching charges**	EU LAW	No charges for moving your data to another cloud.
2 Dec 2027	**AI Act: high-risk systems**	EU LAW	Hiring, credit, education and more: oversight, documentation, registration.
11 Dec 2027	**Cyber Resilience Act: full application**	EU LAW	Secure by design, security updates, SBOM, CE marking.
2 Aug 2028	**AI Act: AI inside regulated products**	EU LAW	High-risk rules for AI in products like medical devices.

Guidance only, not legal advice. Standards are voluntary; only ISO/IEC 42001 and ISO/IEC 27001 can be certified. Questions: hello@readyforai.ie · readyforai.ie