EAA e-Conference on
Data Science & Data Ethics
16 May 2023 | online

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Title

Non-regulatory Approaches to AI Governance: Spotlight on AI Assurance Techniques and Standards

Speaker/Company

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Abstract

There is growing evidence that non-regulatory approaches to AI governance which can build trust and demonstrate compliance with governance principles and requirements, will play a critical role in enabling the adoption of responsible AI. In the long-term, these non-regulatory approaches may include certification, which will further communicate where trust in an AI system is justified.

In this talk, Nuala Polo will introduce the idea of non-regulatory approaches to AI governance, and provide a deep dive into two such tools: AI assurance techniques, and SDO-developed standards. This talk aims to demonstrate how non-regulatory approaches to AI governance can support more formal regulatory frameworks, and provides insight into current engagement with and adoption of these tools in a UK context.

Agenda
- Overview of AI governance landscape (e.g., EU AI Act, UK Whitepaper)
- Introduce non-regulatory governance approaches
- Deep dive: AI Assurance techniques
- Deep dive: Standards
- State of play - results from CDEI industry engagement on current levels of adoption
- Next steps

Biography

Nuala Polo is a Policy Advisor at the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation (CDEI) working in the AI Assurance team. Her work focuses on exploring the role of AI assurance techniques and standards as non-regulatory tools for operationalising and implementing the UK's AI governance strategy. She was the lead author of the CDEI's Industry Temperature Check: Barriers and Enablers to AI Assurance report, which identified industry barriers to engaging with AI assurance across sectors.
Nuala holds an MSc Cognition in Science and Society from the University of Edinburgh, with a focus on AI Ethics, and BA Combined Honours in History of Science & Technology and Philosophy with a minor in Mathematics from the University of King's College. Prior to her role at CDEI, Nuala worked as a consultant for an AI Ethics consultancy firm, and led dissemination and communication activities for Horizon-2020 funded research projects focused on the ethical implications of disruptive and emerging technologies, including SHERPA and TECHETHOS.