


Meeting between Werner Stengg and Microsoft

2 March 2023, Brussels

Participants: Werner Stengg (Cabinet of EVP Vestager),     
  (Microsoft)

Microsoft initiated the meeting to discuss the Artificial Intelligence Act proposed by the Commission.

Microsoft welcomed the Commission's intention to create a future-proof regulation on a risk-based approach, focussing on the risk of applications and not on the technology. They argued that the discussions around ChatGPT shows that the structure of the Commission proposal is robust.

Microsoft emphasised that model suppliers should provide good information on the model to the application developers. Such information should cover how the model was trained (e.g. through a summary of the training data), what are the results of probing the capabilities and limitations of the model (red teaming exercise), and what safety protections have been already integrated in the model (e.g. by reinforcement learning through human feedback technique). Microsoft noted that a summary of such information is mostly sufficient, in particular for SMEs.

Microsoft explained that exchange of information between model developers and application developers is important, for example to allow the model supplier to develop new versions addressing identified problems (e.g. hallucinations).

Microsoft noted that is difficult to identify the proper requirements open-source model suppliers should be subject to. They emphasised that sharing models through APIs would allow cutting access to users with nefarious purposes.

Microsoft explained that while additional transparency-related measures could help users understand better how they can trust the output of AI-system, there is no specific message that would be valid across all different uses. Microsoft added that some of the AI-related obligations are better handled in the framework of the Digital Services Act.

Mr Stengg took good note of Microsoft's points.

(Report prepared by   SG.D1)