Session 3: Engaging in national AI policymaking
OVERVIEW

- Objectives
- How national policy relating to AI is developed
- Civil society engagement in national AI policy
OBJECTIVES

● A better understanding of how policy relating to AI is developed at the national level
● Increased knowledge of opportunities and challenges for civil society engagement in national AI policy
● Improved skills and strategies for engaging in national AI policymaking processes
HOW NATIONAL AI POLICY IS DEVELOPED
TYPES OF NATIONAL AI-RELATED POLICIES

- **Specific governmental strategies**, such as a National AI Strategy
- **Broader governmental strategies**, such as a National ICTs Strategy or National Data Strategy
- **AI-specific legislation** (e.g. the EU’s Artificial Intelligence Act)
- **Application-specific legislation** (e.g. regulation of facial recognition technology or autonomous vehicles)
- **Cross-cutting legislation**, e.g. on data protection, consumer protection, non-discrimination, corporate transparency
- **Internal rules and guidance**, e.g. government rules on the development, procurement or deployment of AI in the public sector, or guidance developed by a data protection authority
NATIONAL AI STRATEGIES, AGENDA AND PLANS
Four key characteristics that should underpin any multistakeholder policy development process:

- Open and accessible
- Inclusive
- Consensus-driven
- Transparent and accountable
CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT IN NATIONAL AI POLICY
WHY SHOULD CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGE?

- Providing expertise on the impacts that AI have on different parts of society, including human rights impacts
- Providing specific expertise on the application of human rights frameworks when governing AI
- Building relationships between civil society and government departments and other bodies
- Ensuring that the final policy is more workable and effective
- Facilitating the involvement of civil society in the implementation and review of the policy
OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

● Opportunities:
  ○ Governments are increasingly interested in AI as a subject and agreement on the need of some form of strategy, regulation or governance.
  ○ AI touches upon a number of broader policy areas, such as data protection, consumer protection and non-discrimination.

● Challenges:
  ○ A lack of transparency and openness in policymaking processes.
  ○ Hostility to human rights or an unawareness of their importance.
SKILLS AND STRATEGIES FOR ENGAGEMENT IN NATIONAL AI POLICYMAKING
HOW TO ENGAGE STRATEGICALLY

● Mapping the ecosystem
● Advocacy pathway
● Resources
● Review and evaluation
ENGAGEMENT SKILLS

- Legal analysis
- Using international human rights frameworks to develop advocacy arguments
- Text negotiation
- Issue framing (how to frame arguments for different stakeholders and audiences)
- Direct advocacy and lobbying of different actors
- Research / brief writing / evidence based arguments
- Campaign work and advocacy for concrete change
- Coalition building
DEVELOPING POSITIONS

- Framing, vision and objectives
- Research
- Talent
- Skills and the future of work
- AI in the private sector
- AI in the government
- Data
- Infrastructure and cybersecurity
- Ethics / human rights
- Inclusion
- Foreign policy and international cooperation
- Governance and stakeholder engagement
QUESTIONS