DECLARATION ON DATA ETHICS

INTRODUCTION

The considerable increase in the volume of the data generated within and without public administrations poses a challenge to organisations. The Government of Navarra is working on the development of new management mechanisms that make data intelligent while offering citizens sufficient guarantees.

In order the face the new challenges posed by data processing and artificial intelligence (AI), the Government of Navarra has drafted this Declaration, stating all the principles underlying the Government's data management policies.

Getting ready for the transformations triggered by mass data processing and AI requires an ethical framework in accordance with the values of sustainability, equality, innovation and good governance.

Declaration scope and structure

This Declaration sets forth the guiding principles in personal and public data management, as well as in the use of AI algorithms.

Said guiding principles are:

1. Data protection
2. Data sharing and reuse
3. Data governance
4. AI for citizens and for social and environmental wellbeing
5. Promoting innovation with data and AI
6. Accountability of AI systems

The Declaration includes three types of content:

1. Obligations of the Government of Navarra
2. Rights of citizens and organisations
3. Commitments to action for progress

DECLARATION ON DATA USE AND ALGORITHMS ETHICS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NAVARRA

1. Data protection

[OBLIGATIONS] The Government of Navarra undertakes to actively comply with the General Rules for Data Protection. In so doing, it shall:

- Protect the security, integrity and confidentiality of personal data.

- Assess the risks in advance and activate the privacy requirements at an early stage when designing new products and services.

- Collect personal data only when this is necessary for adequate functioning of services, for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes, and only for as long as it takes to process them for the stated purpose.

[RIGHTS] The Government of Navarra will see to citizens' data rights. In addition to complying with the requirements in the regulations in force, it shall defend:

- The right to get a response from the party responsible for data processing regarding the processing of one's personal data and, this being the case, the right to access personal data and the relevant information about their processing.

- The right to get the party responsible for data processing to change or delete inaccurate personal data without undue delay.

- The right to object to the processing of one's personal data on grounds relating to one's personal situation.

2. Data sharing and reuse

[OBLIGATIONS] The Government of Navarra undertakes to actively comply with Regional Law 5/2018, of 17 May, on Transparency, Access to Public Information, and Good Governance. In so doing, it shall:

- Order the sharing of public information to be reused by society.

- Publish all the freely accessible data in its possession and take measures to make this known to citizens.

- Promote the knowledge of the means and results of public actions, creating social value and strengthening responsible and democratic practices.

[RIGHTS] The Government of Navarra shall make available to citizens and organisations the necessary means to exercise their rights in the use of public information. Said rights include:

- The right to access existing public information and request yet unpublished data, in accordance with the right to access public information.

- The right to make a responsible contribution to the public administration by supervising its functioning, based on the accountability data of projects and services.

[COMMITMENT] The Government of Navarra shall encourage the reuse of public information for social and business innovation. To this effect, it shall:

- Share public information to promote its being reused, enabling the creation of social and economic value while strengthening the business fabric, job creation and inclusive development.

- Guide data use promoting actions towards the development of a reuse environment based on trust, where citizens can feel safe when exercising their rights and companies can design services on the basis of accessible, persistent, reliable data.

3. Data governance

[OBLIGATIONS] The Government of Navarra guarantees the quality of the data in its possession, in an effort to ground decision making on quality data. To this effect, it shall:

- Ensure the public ownership of the data generated in the provision of public services and the development of public policies.

- Implement systems to ensure the data are accurate, full, up-to-date and persistent.

- Implement the appropriate means to minimise data security risks, taking proportionate defence measures against cyberattacks.

[COMMITMENT] The Government of Navarra shall strive to achieve good data governance, promoting data quality, system sustainability and support to innovation. To this effect, it shall:

- Establish an agency in charge of data governance, allocating resources to it and defining its processes and goals.

- Implement procedures to automate and standardise data management.

4. AI for citizens and for social and environmental wellbeing

[OBLIGATIONS] The Government of Navarra shall undertake to prevent risks and protect from them in algorithm application, thus creating a reliable environment, based on damage prevention. In so doing, it shall:

- Assess the potential risks of algorithms for privacy, equality and security, in an effort to reduce the probability of adverse effects.

- Limit the uses of AI to those that do not go against the established system of values or may harm the individuals or the environment.

[RIGHTS] Navarra shall defend the rights to the highest attainable standards of living and to increase the common goods through innovation.

- Citizens have the right to pursue wellness and independence through the application of innovation.

- Present and future generations have a right to a sustainable planet and to AI projects aimed at improving sustainable development indicators.

[COMMITMENT] The Government of Navarra shall strive to ensure equality and sustainability in IA, setting verifiable standards in this regard:

- Analysing algorithms to prevent unfair bias that may result in any form of discrimination.

- Promoting a framework of rights for Navarra's citizens in line with the highest international standards.

- Making sure that AI projects contribute to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

5. Promoting innovation with data and AI

[OBLIGATIONS] The Government of Navarra shall play an active role in the promotion of innovation as a tool to improve its services and achieve its goals.

- Government spending in AI will go to projects that contribute to enhance the common good. Innovation policies shall be in line with the public administration goals set.

[COMMITMENT] The Government of Navarra shall promote a reliable, knowledgeable AI environment that places Navarra at the forefront of innovation and talent and investment attraction. To this effect, it shall:

- Support the use of AI as leverage for decent employment policies for all, contributing solutions to the problem of job destruction.

- Participate and promote cooperation with other actors in innovation networks.

- Be part of the innovation system only in an ancillary capacity, without being a competitor to private actors in areas beyond its jurisdiction.

- Disseminate the principles and rules within the Government of Navarra and among other actors as well, in an effort to create a shared-vision space where developments occur within a logic of freedom.

6. Accountability of AI systems

[OBLIGATIONS] The Government of Navarra shall have a transparent, open data innovation policy. In this regard, it shall:

- Record the use of algorithms, formally approve their use and publish this information.

- Offer guarantees of proper function by means of control mechanisms and declarations of conformity for algorithms.

[RIGHTS] Citizens have a right to play an active role in the system.

- Mechanisms will be implemented for citizen participation, enquiries, suggestions and complaints.

[COMMITMENT] The Government of Navarra shall promote accountability in AI, as well as shared learning with the collaboration of third parties. To this effect, it shall:

- Implement a legal compliance assurance system that contributes to boost confidence in AI.

- Analyse AI systems in terms of economic, social and environmental costs.

- Take empirical evidence as a mechanism for algorithm accountability and to measure their benefits and impact in order to justify the decisions made.

- To allocate high-level responsibility for AI policy, with competencies to account for the system as a whole.