

ANR Charter “For the Responsible Use of AI”

for individuals submitting a project or participating in an evaluation process as committee members or as external experts

Preamble

Generative artificial intelligence platforms and tools, referred to as “GAI,” are developing rapidly and are now widely accessible, requiring no specific technical expertise. Their widespread adoption is gradually transforming professional practices, particularly for routine administrative tasks, but also for more complex tasks such as document summarization, information extraction, the preparation of state-of-the-art reviews, and content production.

These tools are profoundly changing work methods and research practices. Their use opens up new possibilities but also raises major ethical, legal, and scientific challenges. In particular, it entails risks related to the production of inaccurate or fabricated content, the reproduction or amplification of biases, plagiarism, and the unintentional disclosure of sensitive or confidential data.

These issues are of particular importance in the context of preparing and evaluating research projects, and this charter aims to:

- provide a clear and shared framework to support both those submitting a project and those participating in the evaluation process, whether as part of a committee or through an external review;
- promote responsible and transparent practices, ensuring data integrity, the quality of research outputs, an understanding of the actual contributions of AI, and the appropriateness of its use in light of its environmental impact.

General Recommendations

The use of generative AI is based on key principles: accountability, transparency, data security, critical mindset, and moderation. In accordance with these principles, using generative AI—whether “public” or “trusted”—requires:

- not knowingly using “public” or “trusted” generative AI to reproduce or distribute copyrighted content;
- exercising critical thinking and verifying the information generated by any GAI—whether “public” or “trusted”—before using or sharing it, thereby avoiding the creation or dissemination of misleading or harmful information;
- adopting a measured and reasoned approach to the use of generative AI.

We distinguish between:

- “public” AI systems (Copilot, ChatGPT, Gemini, Perplexity, Claude, Le Chat, etc.), which are becoming increasingly powerful but offer no guarantees regarding data protection, the sources used, or algorithmic transparency;

- “trusted” and sovereign generative AI, which are increasingly being made available in the public sector in France (such as Emmy at the CNRS and the AI Assistant of the Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs (DINUM)).

A “trusted” GAI is defined by its lawfulness, robustness, and ethical standards. This translates into compliance with European standards (GDPR, AI Act) and aims to guarantee security, transparency, and control over data: no transfer of data outside Europe, no reuse of data, “neutral” language models integrating ethical principles such as respect for human autonomy, the prevention of harm, fairness, and explainability.

Specific guidelines for applicants

- Applicants are responsible for the content of their scientific proposals and must be aware of the limitations of the GAI, such as the risks of bias in the models used, plagiarism, or erroneous content.

The GAI cannot be considered an author or co-author. Applicants must verify the accuracy and integrity of their proposal's content, regardless of how it was produced.

- When submitting their application, applicants must be transparent and specify whether an GAI was used, distinguishing between the following cases:
 - Assistance with drafting (including translation, rephrasing, etc.)
 - Compilation or analysis of the state of the art
 - Ideation

This information will not be disclosed for the evaluation of projects but may be used by the ANR for the purposes of analyzing and monitoring practices.

Specific guidelines for individuals participating in an evaluation process as committee members or as external experts

In the context of an evaluation or expert assessment assignment, the use of AI is based on two principles:

1. Respect for personal data and confidentiality

In the context of the assignments entrusted to them by the ANR, and to ensure that data security and confidentiality are upheld, individuals participating in an evaluation process—whether as committee members or as external experts—agree not to upload confidential data to “public” GAI tools (scientific proposals, evaluation reports, personal data, non-public data, etc.).

Furthermore, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) applies to personal data contained in GAI results, even if such data has been publicly accessible on the Internet. In particular, it stipulates that such data must be processed lawfully, fairly, and transparently. This involves upholding the broader principle of using AI in a manner that respects human dignity, individual freedom, democracy, justice, the rule of law, equality, and the rights of citizens.

2. Non-Delegation of the Evaluation Task

The evaluation must be the result of a personal analysis based on the scientific proposal and the submitted documents. An AI assistant must not be used to:

- summarize the scientific proposal without having read it thoroughly;
- evaluate all or part of the scientific proposal.

However, a “trusted” and “sovereign” AI assistant, such as the AI Assistant of the Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs (DINUM) in France, may be used for tasks such as translation, drafting assistance, and searching information on scientific content (bibliographic references, theoretical framework, methods, etc.).

This charter is intended to evolve in line with technological advances in AI, changes in the legislative framework, and feedback on the use of AI in the context of ANR calls for proposals.

Reference Documents

- [ANR - “Ethics and Scientific Integrity Charter”](#)
- [ANR – “ANR Policies on Ethic, Scientific Integrity and Deontology - OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES”](#)
- [General Data Protection Regulation \(GDPR\)](#)
- [AI Act](#)