



Advancing a Comprehensive Framework and Toolkit to Support the Ethical Use of GenAI in Higher Education

ETHICAI Newsletter - June 2026

Our first quarter in motion.

As the use of Generative AI grows across higher education, ETHICAI helps universities navigate its opportunities and challenges through practical tools, competence frameworks, Learning Labs, and policy guidance.

Dear ETHICAI Community,

*Welcome to the June 2026 newsletter, bringing together updates from across the project. Here, you will find news from the different work areas, recent activities, and information about upcoming events and opportunities. We hope this newsletter helps you stay informed about the work and outcomes of **#ETHICAIEU** and encourage you to share relevant updates with colleagues and other contacts who may be interested.*

Happy reading!

Project Updates

ETHICAL Kick-off meetings: Online & In Person

The ETHICAL project officially began with two kick-off moments bringing the consortium together **online** and **in person**.

The first online kick-off meeting took place on 27 March 2026, marking the launch of *ETHICAL – Advancing a Comprehensive Framework and Toolkit to Support the Ethical Use of Generative AI in Higher Education*. Partners introduced the project's objectives, planned activities, and shared vision for supporting ethical, inclusive, and pedagogically sound GenAI integration in higher education.

The consortium then met in person on 27 May 2026 in Athens, Greece, creating an opportunity to further align on the project's work plan, strengthen collaboration, and discuss the next steps for the development of frameworks, tools, Learning Labs, microcredentials, and policy-related activities.

Together, these meetings set the foundation for a 36-month collaboration involving 13 partners from 9 countries, combining expertise in higher education, research, digital innovation, quality assurance, and policy.



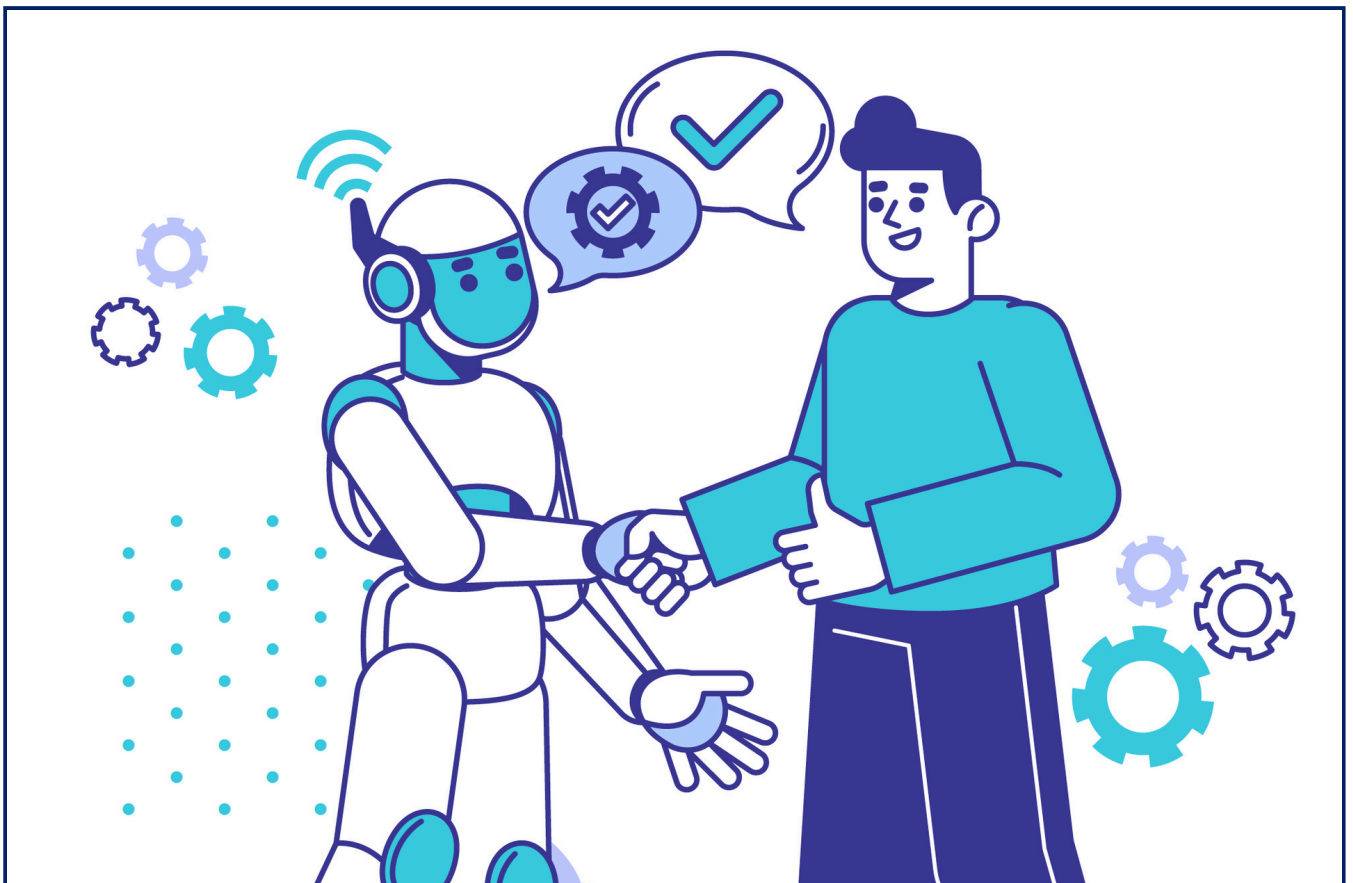
The ETHICAL team in Athens during the project's in-person kick-off meeting

ETHICAL Learning Labs

The ETHICAL consortium will prepare **Learning Labs** where the project's pedagogical and ethical framework will be applied in real course settings by partner institutions.

Part of this work will be to support a shared implementation logic: partners will identify suitable host courses, configure existing learning environments, and apply common protocols for implementation, monitoring, data collection and ethical compliance. The goal is to help each institution pilot pedagogically meaningful and ethically governed GenAI practices while generating comparable evidence for refinement, evaluation and future adoption.

The consortium will also develop the capability-building layer needed to make the Learning Labs workable across partner institutions. This includes CPD resources for academic and support staff, together with AI literacy materials for students. These resources will help build capacity for ethical, pedagogically sound and inclusive GenAI use, while ensuring that the Learning Labs contribute interpretable evidence to the ETHICAL toolkit and wider project learning.





Freepik via Magnific

ETHICAI Project Video

Watch the new ETHICAI promotional video to discover how the project is supporting higher education institutions across Europe through pilot activities, practical tools, competence frameworks, and collaborative Learning Labs focused on trustworthy Generative AI integration.

Interested? Watch it [here!](#)

ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PI-FORWARD| Project ID: 101259799

AI is already in our classrooms. Are we ready?

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

AI LITERACY

INCLUSION

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



Co-funded by
the European Union

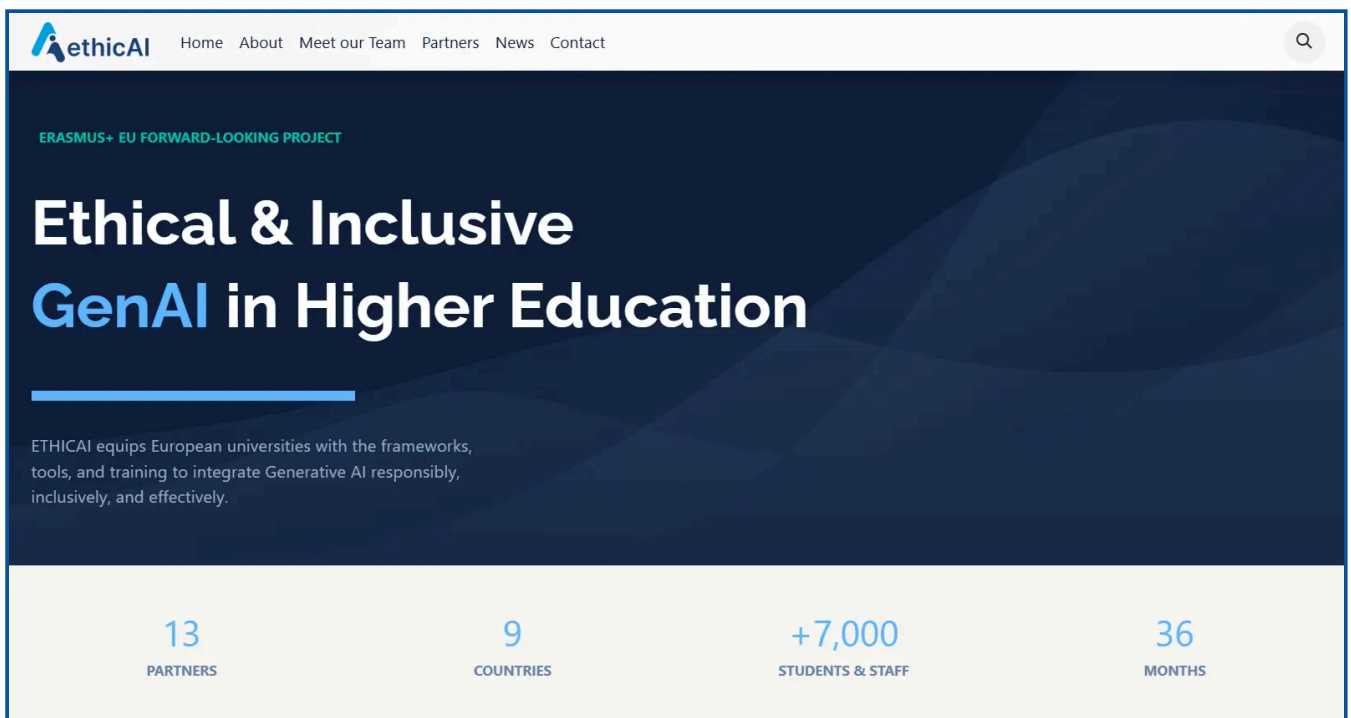
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[ETHICAI Project Video](#)

Launch of the ETHICAI Website

The ETHICAI project website is now live! The website serves as the project's central hub, providing information about its objectives, activities, partners, and latest developments. Visitors can learn more about ETHICAI's mission to promote the ethical and responsible use of artificial intelligence in education, explore project news, and stay informed about upcoming events and results. As the project progresses, the website will be regularly updated with resources, publications, and opportunities to engage with the ETHICAI community.

Visit our website [here!](#)



[ETHICAI Website](#)

ETHICAI at International Events

ETHICAI at Learning More Festival 2026

Right from the start, ETHICAI was introduced to the educational innovation community during the **Learning More Festival 2026**, held in Modena, Italy, from 20–22 February and organised by Future Education Modena.

The festival brought together educators, researchers, policymakers, and innovators to explore emerging trends and challenges in education. During the event, the ETHICAI team presented the project's aims, objectives, and planned activities, highlighting its commitment to supporting the ethical and responsible integration of artificial intelligence in education.

Participation in the festival provided an excellent opportunity to engage with a broad audience interested in the future of learning and to raise awareness of the project's vision and expected impact.

Find out more about the festival [here](#)!



[Learning More Festival 2026](#)

ETHICAI at the 14th Regional Growth Conference

On 20 May, ETHICAI was presented in Patras, Greece, during the 14th Regional Growth

Conference, as part of the **GenAISA workshop “From Artificial Intelligence to the Skills of the Future”**.

The workshop brought together almost 100 participants, including academics, students, researchers and innovation stakeholders, to discuss the role of Generative AI in education, employment and social innovation.

During the event, ETHICAI introduced its aims, objectives and planned activities, highlighting its contribution to fostering ethical, trustworthy and responsible approaches to AI in education. The presentation complemented discussions on emerging AI-related skills, AI ethics and regulation, educational innovation, and the future of work in an AI-driven society.

The event provided an excellent opportunity to connect ETHICAI with ongoing European initiatives and debates on generative AI literacy, future skills and human-centred AI in teaching and learning.

Read more about the workshop [here](#).



[ETHICAI at the GenAISA workshop](#)

ETHICAI Related News

From AI Literacy to Responsible AI in

Higher Education

The European Commission and the OECD have recently launched the **AI Literacy Framework** (AIIit), a shared reference for teaching AI in primary and secondary education. The framework describes what young learners should know and be able to do across four key areas: engaging with AI, creating with AI, managing AI, and shaping AI.

For the **ETHICAI project**, this is an important milestone. While AIIit provides a strong foundation for school education, the need for AI literacy does not end when students enter university. Higher education brings new opportunities and challenges, as students, educators and institutions increasingly use generative AI in teaching, learning and assessment.

ETHICAI builds on this foundation by developing a comprehensive competence framework, self-assessment tools, a digital toolkit, and micro-credentials that help higher education institutions adopt Generative AI in ways that are ethical, inclusive and pedagogically meaningful. In this way, ETHICAI contributes to a continuous European approach to AI literacy—from school to university and lifelong learning

Read more about AIIit [here](#).



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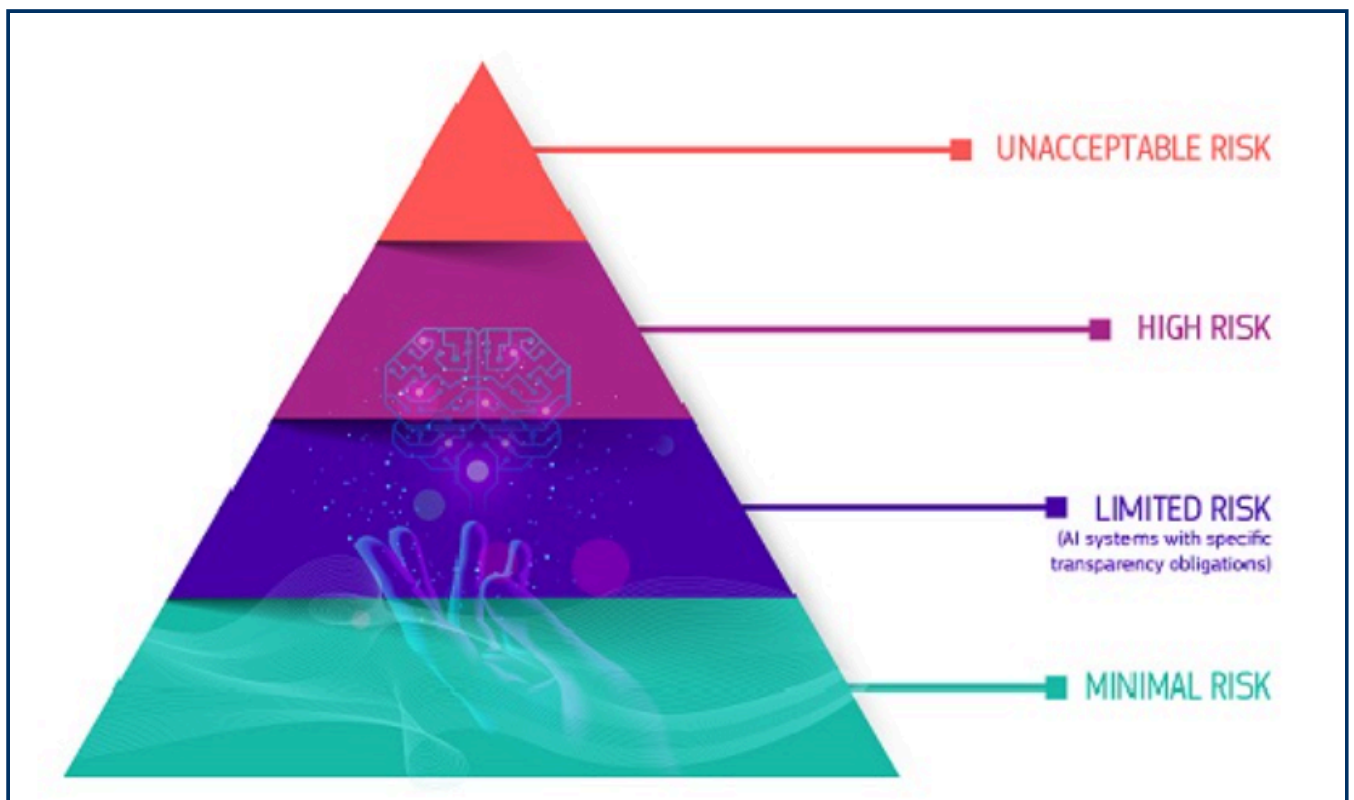
Preparing for the EU AI Act in Higher Education

The EU AI Act is progressively becoming applicable across Europe. The Act entered into force on 1 August 2024, with AI literacy obligations and prohibited AI practices applying since February 2025. The next major milestone is **2 August 2026**, when most of the Act's provisions will start to apply, while certain high-risk AI rules will follow later.

For higher education institutions, this timeline reinforces the importance of responsible AI governance. As Generative AI becomes part of teaching, learning and assessment, universities are increasingly expected to address issues such as AI literacy, transparency, human oversight and ethical use.

This is where ETHICAI comes in. The project supports higher education institutions in translating these principles into everyday educational practice through its competence framework, Learning Labs, digital toolkit, CPD resources and AI literacy materials. Rather than focusing solely on compliance, ETHICAI aims to help universities integrate Generative AI in ways that are ethical, inclusive and pedagogically sound.

Read more about the EU AI Act [here](#).



[The EU AI Act's Risk-Based Approach](#)



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