



**Debevoise  
& Plimpton**

# **Comparative Approaches to AI Transparency**

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**Lessons from Recent Regulatory  
Efforts**

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*FDA Virtual Public Workshop – Transparency of Artificial Intelligence/Machine  
Learning-Enabled Medical Devices*

October 14, 2021

# AI Regulatory Considerations

Data and  
Privacy Rights

Transparency  
and  
Explainability

Consumer  
Protection and  
Disclosures

Bias and  
Discrimination

Model Security  
and Resilience

Model Risk  
Management  
and Oversight

Board and  
Senior  
Management  
Supervision

Third-Party  
Oversight

Automated  
Decision-  
making

Validation and  
Testing

## Unacceptable Risk, *e.g.*:

- Real-time remote biometrics in public places for law enforcement
- Exploitative systems
- Social scoring

Prohibited

## High-Risk, *e.g.*:

- Consumer creditworthiness
- Recruiting and workplace management
- Biometric identification
- Education/vocational training

Conformity Assessment

## Limited Risk, *e.g.*:

- Emotion recognition or biometric characterization
- Chatbots and interactive AI
- Deepfakes

Heightened Transparency

## Minimal Risk

Codes of Conduct

## **Federal Trade Commission**

Blog post: “Using Artificial Intelligence and Algorithms”

“[W]hen using AI tools to interact with customers (think chatbots), be careful **not to mislead consumers about the nature of the interaction.**”

“If you **deny consumers something of value** based on algorithmic decision-making, **explain why.**”

“If you might change the terms of a deal based on automated tools, make sure to tell consumers.”

Blog post: “Aiming for truth, fairness, and equity in your company’s use of AI”

“[B]e careful **not to overpromise what your algorithm can deliver.**”

## **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau**

Innovation spotlight: “Providing adverse action notices when using AI/ML models”

“The existing regulatory framework has **built-in flexibility that can be compatible with AI algorithms.**”

## **Securities and Exchange Commission**

IM Guidance  
Update on Robo-Advisors

Robo-advisors should **disclose information regarding their business practices and related risks**, including:

- Use of an algorithm;
- Algorithm’s functions, assumptions, limitations, and risks
- Circumstances that might cause the robo-adviser to override the algorithm
- Third-party involvement
- Degree of human involvement
- Data used by the algorithm, and how to update or correct that data

## **Federal Reserve Board**

Speech: “Supporting Responsible Use of AI and Equitable Outcomes in Financial Services”

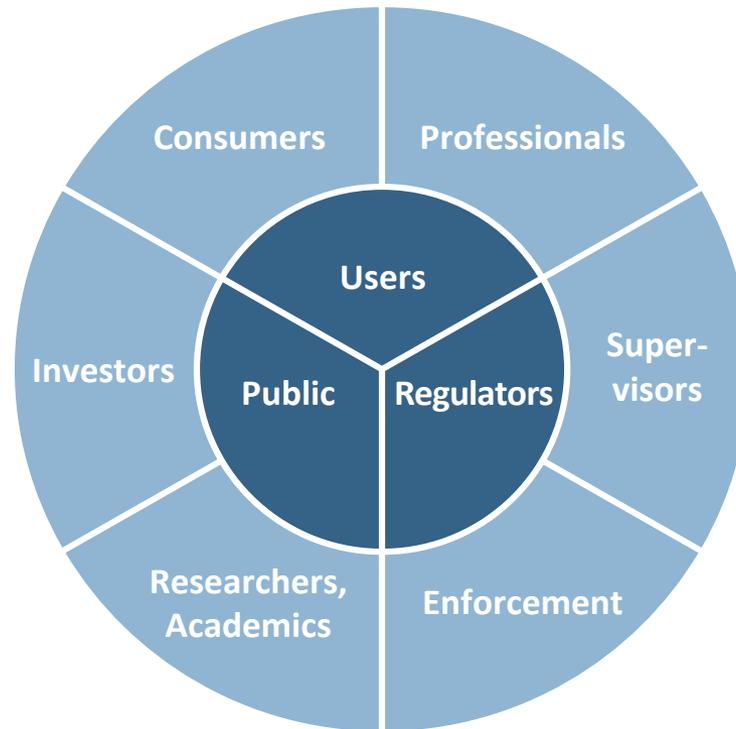
“[T]here **need not be a single principle or one-size-fits-all approach** for explaining machine learning models. Explanations serve a variety of purposes, and what makes a good explanation depends on the context. In particular, for an explanation to ‘solve’ the black box problem, **it must take into account who is asking the question and what the model is predicting.**”

# Towards a Transparency Taxonomy

Ability to Contest/Correct Decisions

Interaction or Use of AI

Decision Explanations,  
Consequences, and Risks



Material Business Risks  
or Conflicts of Interest

Model Characteristics,  
Capabilities & Limitations

List of Approved or  
Marketed Systems

Technical  
Documentation (Data,  
Testing, Validation, etc.)

Use of Standards  
and Certifications

Data or Model Logs;  
Compliance Records

# With You Today



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Anna R. Gressel is a senior associate in the firm's Data Strategy & Security Group. She actively advises clients on the legal and regulatory implications of artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies. Her practice includes not only representing companies in regulatory inquiries concerning AI, but also assisting companies in developing AI governance, compliance, and oversight mechanisms.

