GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards 2025

Entry Form

To submit an entry to the GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards, please complete and email this form to secretariat@globalprivacyassembly.org **no later than 16 June 2025.**

Note: GPA member authorities can submit as many entries as they wish, but a separate form should be used for each different entry, submitted by the deadline above.

Languages: The GPA documentation Rule 6.2[1] applies.

1. CONTACT DETAILS FOR THIS ENTRY	
Privacy/Data Protection Authority:	Catalan Data Protection Authority (APDCAT)
Person completing this form:	Meritxell Borràs i Solé
	First name *Last name*
Job title:	Director
Email address:	direccio.apdcat@gencat.cat

2. ELIGIBILITY

By submitting this entry, I confirm that (*please tick all boxes to confirm*):

☒   The Authority is a member of the Global Privacy Assembly

☒   The initiative described in this entry was undertaken before 16 June 2025.

☒   I am aware that the information in the entry (other than the contact details in 1(a) above) will be publicised by the GPA Secretariat.

3. CATEGORIES

Please indicate which category you wish to enter.

*Please tick **one**; please use a separate form for each category you wish to enter:*

☐   Education and Public Awareness

☒   Accountability

☐   Dispute Resolution and Enforcement

☐   Innovation

☐   People's Choice

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[1] GPA Rules and Procedures, Rule 6.2 'Assembly documents':
Without prejudice to section 4.2, Assembly documents, including accreditation and observer applications may be submitted in English or in another language. In the latter case, the documents shall be accompanied by an English version. Members with the ability and the resources to do so are encouraged to translate proposed resolutions and other Assembly documents such as the Assembly Rules and Procedures.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE INITIATIVE

a. Please provide a brief summary of the initiative *(no more than 75 words)*

The Catalan FRIA Model is a groundbreaking tool for fundamental rights impact assessment of AI systems. It has been designed to comply with the AI Act; however, its focus on fundamental rights also makes it applicable in non-EU countries. Developed and tested within the Catalan DPO Network (*DPD en Xarxa*), under the leadership of the APDCAT and Professor Alessandro Mantelero, the model comprises (i) the FRIA methodology, (ii) a template, and (iii) four use cases.

b. Please provide a full description of the initiative *(no more than 350 words)*

The FRIA Model has been designed to fulfil the obligations set out in Article 27 of the EU Artificial Intelligence Act with regard to high-risk AI systems. However, it can be used by any organisation involved in designing, developing or deploying AI systems to enable them to identify and mitigate risks to fundamental rights and freedoms.

The FRIA tool is structured into two main parts:

1) The FRIA methodology and templates for conducting the Fundamental Rights Impact Assessments; and

2) Use cases where this methodology has been applied. These cases demonstrate how the FRIA Model can be used in real-life AI projects to comply with the AI Act by providing an effective risk analysis and management that protects fundamental rights, in particular the right to data protection.

Regarding the FRIA template, it consists of the three main building blocks:
(i) a planning and scoping phase;
(ii) a data collection and risk analysis phase; and
(iii) a risk management phase.

The use cases included in the FRIA tool relate to AI systems in key areas listed in Annex III of the AI Act: education, workers' management, access to healthcare and welfare services. This case-based empirical approach is crucial for testing the effectiveness of the proposed model in achieving the policy and design objectives of the FRIA, as set out by the EU legislator in the AI Act.

The design of the FRIA Model and the use case experience emphasise the importance of involving internal experts throughout the assessment process. They also show that the assessment should be conducted by multidisciplinary teams comprising different professional profiles relating to AI, fundamental rights and risk management.

The FRIA Model has been adopted by the Government of Catalonia (Generalitat de Catalunya), various Catalan institutions, the Croatian Personal Data Protection Authority, and the Basque Data Protection Authority.
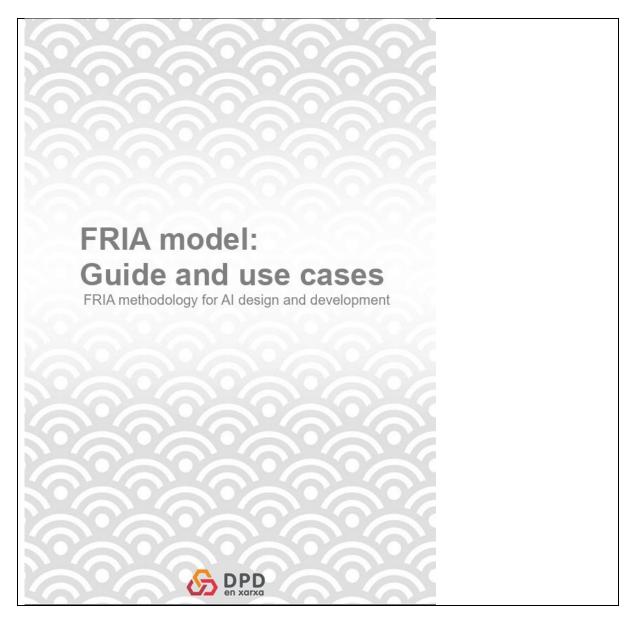
c. Please explain why you think the initiative deserves to be recognised by an award *(no more than 200 words)*

The Catalan FRIA Model is a practical tool, based on previous scientific studies on FRIA, that demonstrates through real-world cases how to do assess and mitigate the impact of AI on fundamental rights. It helps AI operators identify risks and implement measures to prevent/mitigate them, while ensuring accountability based on a clearly explicable model. To achieve these goals, the model operationalises abstract principles and translates them into variables and indices in order to address concrete case applications.

This is a key element in building and consolidating knowledge and expertise in the field of artificial intelligence, enabling organisations to respond more effectively to the rapid evolution of AI systems.

Finally, the model assists both AI providers and deployers in complying with regulatory requirements by promoting innovation while safeguarding individuals' rights and freedoms.

d. Please include a photograph or image, if you wish *(This will be published with your entry on the GPA website. The image can be pasted into the box below, be sent as an attachment or a link may be provided)*

FRIA model:
Guide and use cases
FRIA methodology for AI design and development

DPD en xarxa

e. **Please provide the most relevant link on the authority's website to the initiative, if applicable** *(The website content does not need to be in English)*

https://www.dpdenxarxa.cat/pluginfile.php/2468/mod_folder/content/0/FRIA_en_def.pdf

f. **Please provide any other relevant links that help explain the initiative or its impact or success** *(e.g. links to news reports or articles):*

https://apdcat.gencat.cat/ca/sala_de_premsa/notes_premsa/noticia/Model-RIA
https://apdcat.gencat.cat/ca/sala_de_premsa/agenda/activitatagenda/Foro-Privacidad
https://apdcat.gencat.cat/ca/sala_de_premsa/agenda/activitatagenda/Agenda-FRIA-Tori
https://apdcat.gencat.cat/ca/sala_de_premsa/agenda/activitatagenda/Model-FRIA-catala

https://apdcat.gencat.cat/ca/sala_de_premsa/agenda/activitatagenda/Presentacio-FRIA-al-CNIS

https://apdcat.gencat.cat/ca/sala_de_premsa/notes_premsa/noticia/Presentacio-FRIA-Brasil

https://apdcat.gencat.cat/ca/sala_de_premsa/notes_premsa/noticia/Spring-conference-2025

https://apdcat.gencat.cat/ca/sala_de_premsa/agenda/activitatagenda/ADPCAT-participa-al-congres-internacional-de-privacitat-de-lAPEP

https://apdcat.gencat.cat/ca/sala_de_premsa/notes_premsa/noticia/Ripd25

https://www.avpd.eus/contenidos/noticia/20250605/es_def/adjuntos/20250605_NP-es.pdf

https://azop.hr/metodologija-za-provedbu-procjene-ucinka-na-ljudska-prava-fria/