

Comment from ACUS Senior Fellow Richard Pierce

Professor Pierce offers the following comment on the latest version of the draft statement on agency use of artificial intelligence:

I think the last paragraph in the section on transparency does not go far enough. I would like to add this sentence: "An agency should not enter into a contract to use a proprietary AI system unless it is confident that the people inside the agency and outside the agency who need access to information about the system have adequate access to that information." As the report recognizes in another section, the information that should be accessible to the public will vary depending on the use the agency makes of the system.

I have heard of many situations in which state agencies and courts use AI systems as the basis for important decisions like whether to release someone pending trial where even the judges who are told to use the system cannot obtain access to the information that would allow them to know how the system makes decisions.