

# If we had the data, would AI help foster transparency?

Thinking a step beyond 'no data, no fun'

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# No data, no fun

- Clearly, a lot more work needs to be done to develop the data architecture needed to deploy AI
  - Much more ambitious use of eForms' voluntary fields and extensions, especially to below-threshold procurement
  - Further thinking and integration of data sets adjacent to procurement (eg e-invoicing, fiduciary ownership, IP, etc)



## Beyond 'no data, no fun'

- IF we had the data, the next step requires thinking about
  - Data management: Open Data Directive, Data Act, Data Governance Act, etc
  - What to target to foster transparency in procurement? To what end?
  - How would that transparency feed into existing (or new) oversight processes?
  - How explainable must that AI be? Why?



# Some potential applic(AI)tions

- Screening for compliance with transparency obligations (eg through Al-based data quality checks)
- AI chatbots
  - To support data retrieval / visualisation
  - To automate / personalise searches based on disclosed information
- Smart contracts (?)
- Predictive 'red flags' (?)



## **Further analysis**

- A Sanchez-Graells, Digital Technologies and Public Procurement. Gatekeeping and experimentation in digital public governance (OUP 2024).
- A Sanchez-Graells, 'Procurement corruption and AI: between the potential of enabling data architectures and the constraints of due process requirements' in Sope Williams and Jessica Tillipman (eds), *Routledge Handbook of Public Procurement Corruption* (Routledge 2024).





#### Thank you for your attention

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