

ELI Guiding Principles for Automated Decision-Making

Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballell

Professor of Commercial Law, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

teresa.rodriguezdelasheras@uc3m.es

INPUTS

human-based inputs, machine-generated data, or interactions with the environment



```
graph TD; A[INPUTS] --> B[PRE-DEFINED OBJECTIVES]; B --> C[TECHNIQUES]; C --> D[OUTPUTS];
```

PRE-DEFINED OBJECTIVES

TECHNIQUES

OUTPUTS

content moderation; rating, ranking, predictions or recommendations; online advertising; complaint handling and dispute resolution; tracing traders; algorithmic management in platforms; credit scoring; pricing, trading and investing, or compliance

zeit2017 (2260★)
99.6% positive feedback
[Save](#)

[Items for sale](#)
[Visit store](#)
[Contact](#)

Based in China, zeit2017 has been an eBay member since Nov 29, 2016

Feedback ratings

- ★★★★★ 250 Item as described
- ★★★★★ 250 Communication
- ★★★★★ 248 Shipping time
- ★★★★★ 262 Shipping charges

347 Positive
8 Neutral
1 Negative

Feedback from the last 12 months

See all feedback

Gerne wieder.....Dankeschön
Oct 26, 2020

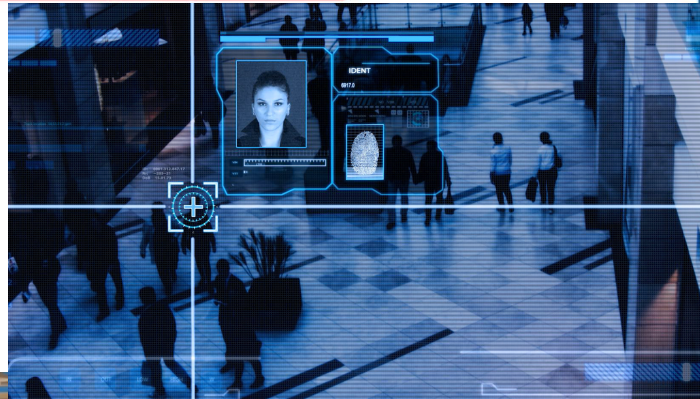
Detailed Feedback Ratings

Feedback ratings

James Moore
Giniindex
0.82
Status: Approved

0.25	Gender	Male
0.15	Date of Birth	13.10.1985
0.11	Marital status	Married
0.12	Type of work	Entrepreneur
0.1	Salary	\$110 000

Scoring details



@matthew.matrix.org
Power level
Admin (100)

USER OPTIONS
[Jump to read receipt](#)
[Share Link to User](#)
[Mention](#)
[Ignore](#)

ADMIN TOOLS
[Deactivate user](#)

Everything is a Recommendation



Over 80% of what people watch comes from our recommendations

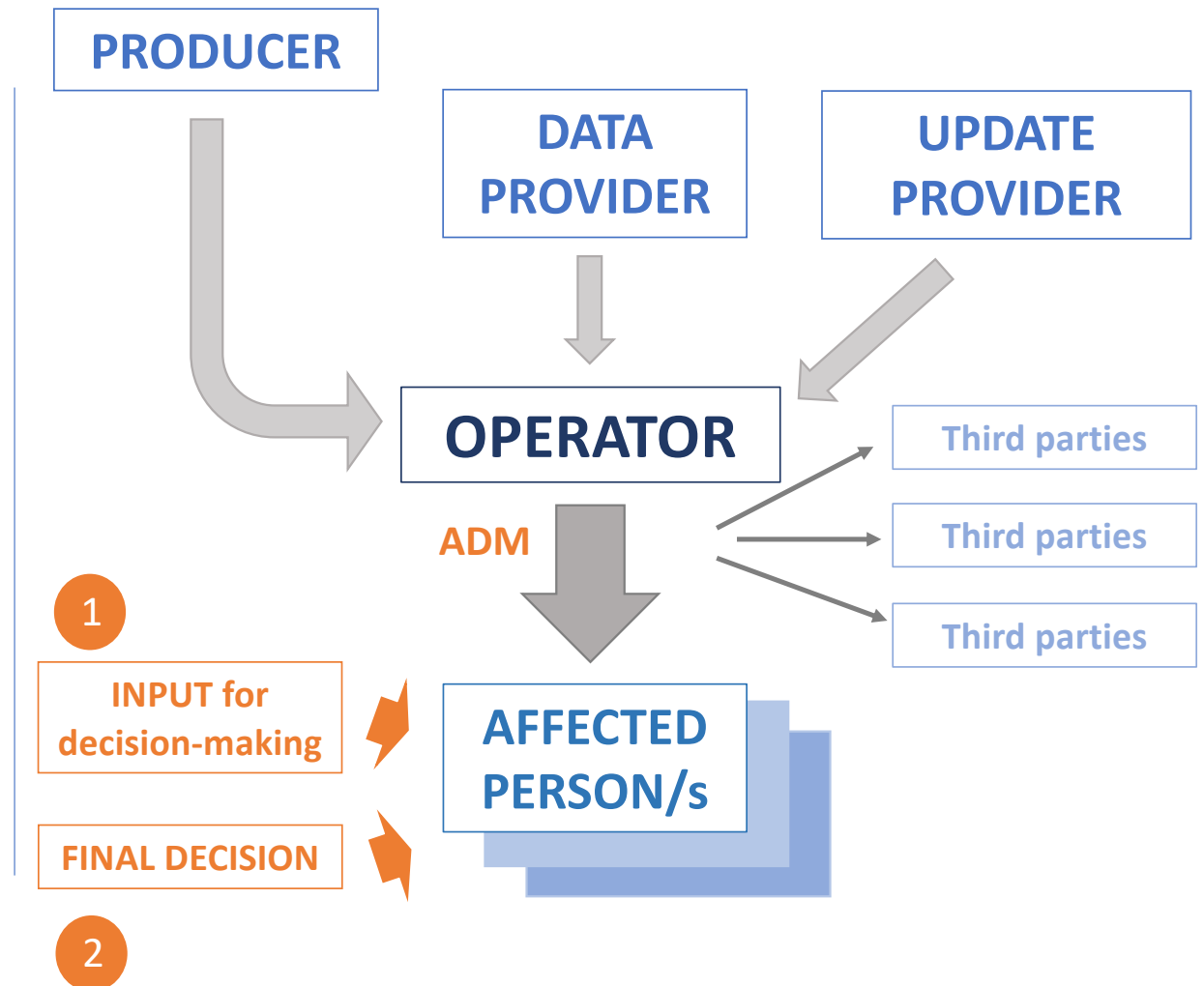
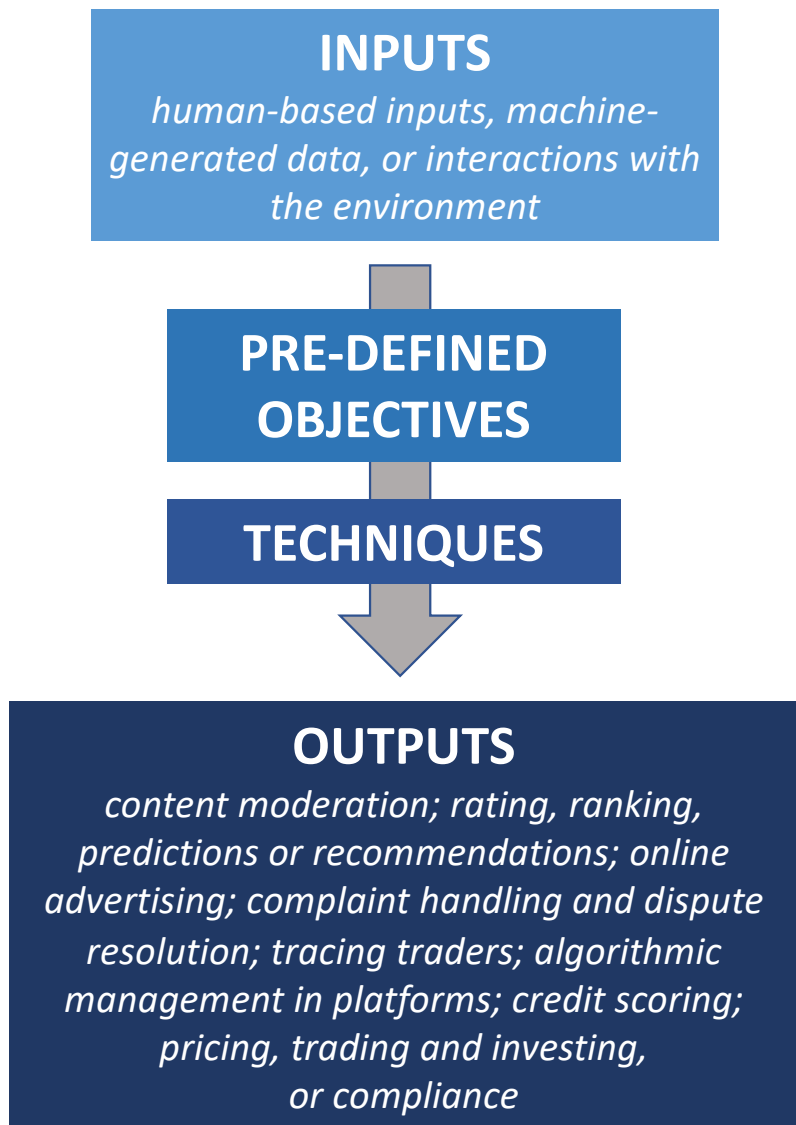
Recommendations are driven by **Machine Learning**



Deactivate user?

Deactivating this user will log them out and prevent them from logging back in. Additionally, they will leave all the rooms they are in. This action cannot be reversed. Are you sure you want to deactivate this user?

[Cancel](#)
[Deactivate user](#)





**Vendor /
lessor**



**Algorithmic
Agent /Delegate**



**Sellers – contracting
parties**

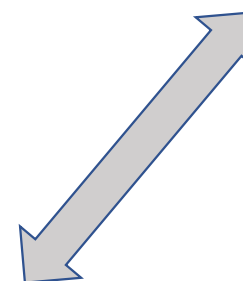
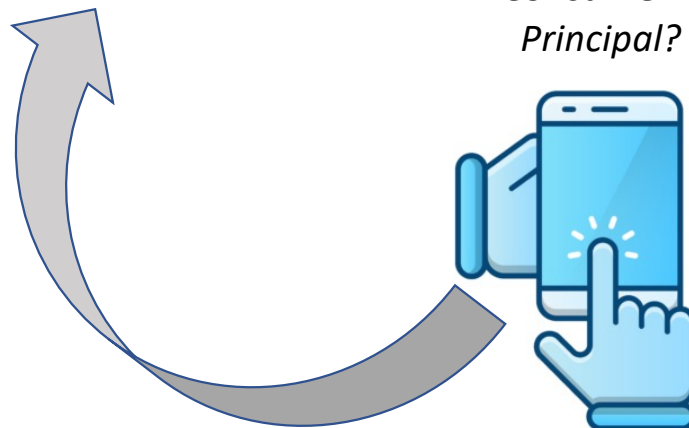


Provider



Operator

**Consumer –
*Principal?***



12 Guiding Principles

Title

Principle

Explanation

Illustration

.

GDPR

P2B
Regulation

...

DSA

DMA

AI Act

Proposal of
Directive on
platform
work

Guiding Principle 1: Law-compliant ADM.

Guiding Principle 2: Non-discrimination against ADM.

Guiding Principle 3: Attribution of decisions adopted by ADM

Guiding Principle 4: Disclosure that the decision-making is automated.

Guiding Principle 5: Traceable decisions.

Guiding Principle 6: Reasoned decisions

Guiding Principle 7: Allocation of risks to the operator

Guiding Principle 8: No limitations to the exercise of rights and access to justice

Guiding Principle 9: Human oversight/action

Guiding principles 10: Human review of significant decisions

Guiding Principle 11: Responsible ADM

Guiding Principle 12: Risk-based approach for ADM

Are the decisions adopted by ADM or with the support of ADM valid and enforceable?

Are the decisions and actions made by ADM equivalent to human decisions and actions?

Can we simply apply the functional equivalence to declarations, agreements, performance actions, remedies, actions, settlements? Even if there is no human intervention in each and every action of the ADM?

...

Are the decisions adopted by ADM or with the support of ADM valid and enforceable?

Are the decisions and actions made by ADM equivalent to human decisions and actions?

Can we simply apply the functional equivalence to declarations, agreements, performance actions, remedies, actions, settlements? Even if there is no human intervention in each and every action of the ADM?

...

To whom to attribute the legal effects

To whom to allocate liable for the damages caused

Are ADM-specific rules needed?

Legal/regulatory requirements: impact on private law

Guiding Principle 1: Law-compliant ADM.

An operator that decides to use ADM for a particular purpose shall ensure that the design and the operation of the ADM are compliant with the laws applicable to an equivalent non-automated decision-making system

Guiding Principle 2: Non-discrimination against ADM.

As a general rule, ADM shall not be denied legal effect, validity or enforceability solely on the grounds that it is automated.

Guiding Principle 11: Responsible ADM

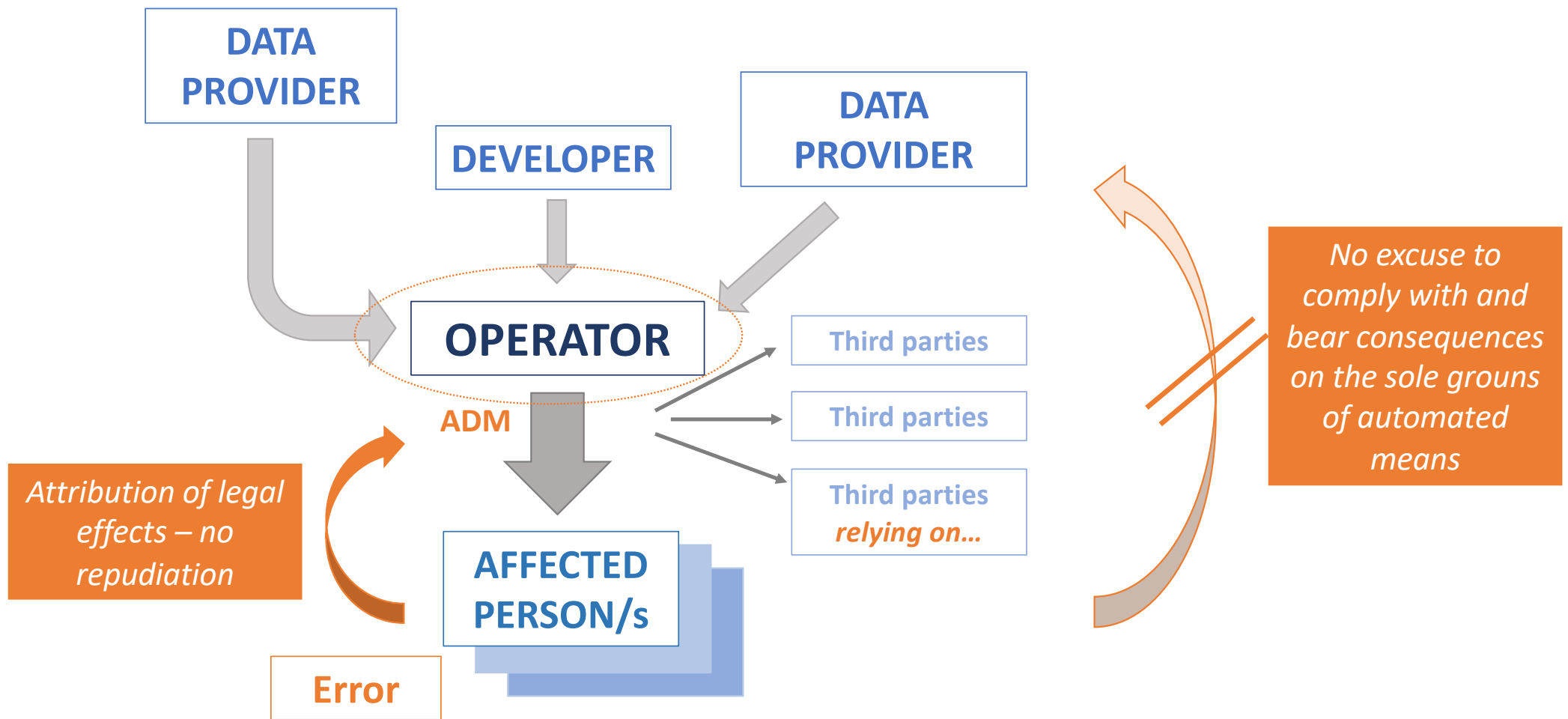
Operators should acknowledge the potential impact of the ADMs they employ on the socioeconomic context (democratic values, fundamental rights and liberties, human dignity, social cohesion, etc), and ensure that they use ADMs responsibly.

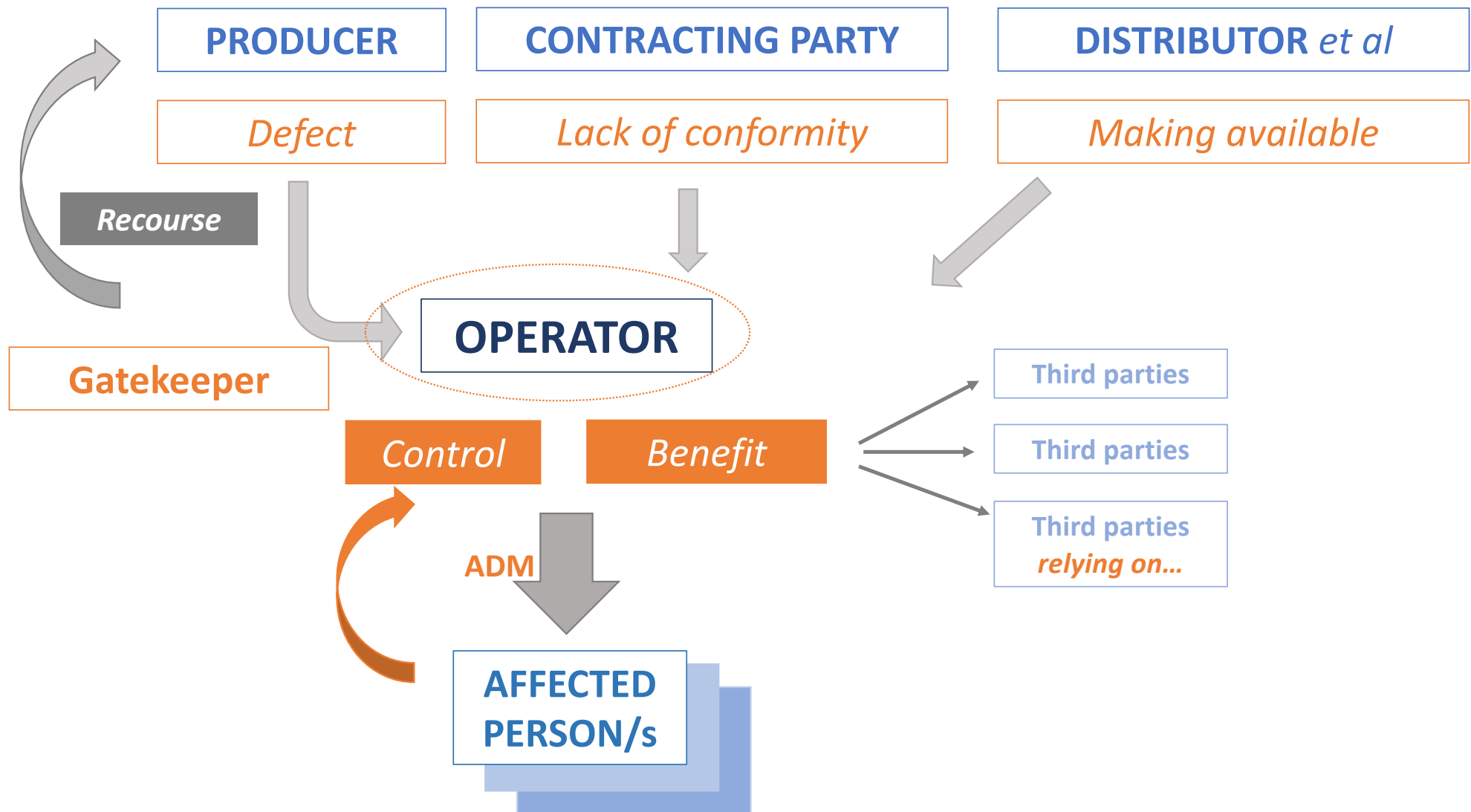
Guiding Principle 3: Attribution of decisions adopted by ADM

The decision adopted by ADM shall be attributed to the operator. The operator shall not deny the attribution of a decision solely on the grounds that it has been adopted by automated means.

Guiding Principle 7: Allocation of risks to the operator

The risks that the ADM may cause any harm or damage shall be allocated on the operator.





Guiding Principle 4: Disclosure that the decision-making is automated.

Unless it is obvious or unnecessary from the circumstances and the context of use or exempted by the law, it shall be disclosed that the decision is being adopted by automated means.

How the information is effectively disclosed depends upon the context of use and the circumstances surrounding the operation of the ADM.

- continuous and recurrent use of ADM throughout the contractual relationship cycle
- in other situations, the information needs to be disclosed at the moment that the affected person begins to interact with (or be affected by) the ADM if there was no prior contact between the parties or a long-term relationship that may render a previous disclosure feasible

Guiding Principle 5: Traceable decisions.

Prerequisite

Technical possibility

ADM shall be designed and operate in a manner that enables the traceability of any decision.

Traceability is a decision-specific exercise, upon request or under certain circumstances

Guiding Principle 6: Reasoned decisions

The complexity, the opacity or the unpredictability of ADM is not a valid ground for rendering an unreasoned, unfounded or arbitrary decision.

Beyond transparency

Reasonable: decisions, interests and rights, costs



Guiding Principle 8: No limitations to the exercise of rights and access to justice

Automation shall not prevent, hamper, or render unfeasible the exercise of rights and the access to justice by the affected persons. An alternative human-based route to exercise the rights should be available

Group of cases 1

the affected person can only exercise a right by resorting to an algorithmic process

Group of cases 2

the affected person is deprived of the possibility of exercising a right or access to justice solely on the grounds that the contested decision was made by ADM

Guiding Principle 9: Human oversight/action

The operator shall ensure reasonable and proportionate human oversight over the operation of ADM taking into consideration the risks involved and the rights and legitimate interests potentially affected by the decision.

Guiding principles 10: Human review of significant decisions

Human review of selected significant decisions on the grounds of the relevance of the legal effects, the irreversibility of their consequences, or the seriousness of the impact on rights and legitimate interests shall be made available by the operator.

<i>(beyond)</i> GDPR	DSA	Directive on Platform Work
Articles 13(2)(f), 14(2)(g) and 15(1)(h) GDPR	Statement of reasons	Written statement of reasons for significant decisions
<i>‘meaningful information about the logic’ involved in ADM, and ‘the significance and envisaged consequences of such’ automated processing</i>	<i>‘as precise and specific as reasonably possible’ ...And necessary</i>	<i>decisions likely to significantly affect a person’s legal or contractual status, to impact their rights, or restrict, suspend or terminate the affected person’s account –limitation or the termination of the exercise of rights – should be reasoned.</i>

Future work

International Principles for ADM in international trade

Algorithmic Contracts

ADM-readiness test in consumer contracts

Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballell
Professor of Commercial Law, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
teresa.rodriiguezdelasheras@uc3m.es