

GAFAIG Human Governance Standard v1.0

This public standard defines the minimum requirements for Human Governance within AI-impacted organizations. It establishes expectations for transparency, accountability, and human oversight.

1. Purpose

This standard defines the minimum requirements for Human Governance within AI-impacted organizations. It establishes expectations for transparency, accountability, and human oversight.

2. Scope

This standard applies to corporations, governments, non-profits, technology providers, AI system operators, and digital platforms seeking GAFAIG certification or verification.

3. Definitions

Human Governance: Structured systems where humans retain final authority.

AI-Driven Governance: Governance primarily directed by AI without human ratification.

4. Principles

Organizations implementing this standard should follow these principles:

- Human accountability for AI outcomes and decisions.
- Transparency of decision processes, controls, and evidence.
- Traceability of changes, approvals, and incidents.
- Proportionality: controls scaled to risk and impact.
- Continuous improvement through monitoring and review.

5. Governance Structure

Organizations must define a governance structure that can make binding decisions related to AI systems and their impacts, including escalation authority and enforcement mechanisms.

6. Roles & Responsibilities

At minimum, the following roles (or equivalent) must be identified and documented:

- Governing body (board/committee) with oversight authority
- Responsible executive owner
- Risk and compliance owner
- Technical/system owner(s)

- Incident response lead
- Roles must be attributable in decision and audit records.

7. Core Requirements

Organizations must document decision processes, maintain audit trails, ensure human accountability, and establish escalation paths for AI decisions. Controls must cover governance authority, risk management, monitoring and incidents, access and change control, and third-party dependencies.

8. Evidence & Audit Requirements

Applicants must provide evidence sufficient to support an audit. Evidence must be internally consistent, time-stamped where applicable, and attributable to responsible roles.

Control Area	Evidence Examples	Minimum Retention
Governance & authority	Board or committee charters; decision logs; approval records	24 months
Risk management	Risk register; model cards; evaluation reports; mitigation plans	24 months
Monitoring & incidents	Alerting rules; incident tickets; postmortems; user reports	36 months
Access & change control	Access logs; change requests; code review records; release notes	24 months
Third-party dependencies	Vendor due diligence; contracts; assessment results	24 months

9. Compliance

This standard requires demonstrable processes rather than self-asserted claims. GAFAIG reserves the right to request additional evidence at any time.

10. Governance Review Cycle

Certified entities must undergo annual review and attest to continued alignment with the Human Governance Standard.

11. Version control

The following table tracks published versions of this standard.

Version	Date	Change summary	Approved by
v1.0	2026-02-08	Initial publication of Human Governance Standard. Establishes definitions, requirements, and evidence expectations.	GAFAIG Standards Committee

12. Approval

Approved by the GAFAIG Standards Committee