

Machine-Learning Declassification Review — The U.S. State Department's AI Triage of Diplomatic Cables

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 73/100

Evidence strength: Descriptive / self-reported

Summary

Facing a mandatory 25-year declassification deadline and a year of manual review per annual cohort, the U.S. State Department trained an ML model that confidently decided over 60% of 121,536 diplomatic cables in minutes, matching human reviewers 97-99% of the time.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	3/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-12

[U.S. Department of State — Office of Information Programs and Services \(Declassification Division\) / Center for Analytics](#) — accessed 2026-08-12

[State Dept FOIA Advisory Committee Presentation](#) — accessed 2026-08-12

[American Historical Association](#) — accessed 2026-08-12

[State Dept 2023 Chief FOIA Officer Report](#) — accessed 2026-08-12

Cite this — Evidoria. *Machine-Learning Declassification Review — The U.S. State Department's AI Triage of Diplomatic Cables*. Persistent ID: aace2acc-e0ac-4df1-ba05-0ac5b668bd66.