# Introduction

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is often described as one of the most powerful and important technologies. It is expected to contribute over USD 13 trillion to the global economy by 2030, creating more industries and opportunities [1]. Although the development of AI is beneficial for us, it also brings serious risks, including biased algorithms that discriminate against minority groups as well as generative ability, which can be misused to produce deepfakes and harmful and misleading content [1]. Researchers such as Burton et al. [2] have also emphasised that these risks are wide-ranging, it should not only focus on current concerns like fairness, accountability, and privacy, but also on longer-term challenges, including autonomy, the misuse of general-purpose systems and even the possibility of superintelligence. These show that the risks surrounding AI are not merely technical but also social, ethical and political issues. As a result, governments worldwide are under increasing pressure to establish principles and guardrails that can ensure AI is developed and used correctly.

According to the paper published by the Australian Government, Department of Industry, Science and Resources in 2024 [3], Australia has responded to the AI risk challenge by setting out six proposed principles (PPs) to guide the designation of AI systems as "high-risk" [3]. These principles mainly focus on risks to human rights, physical and mental health, legal status, cultural and collective rights, broader societal and environmental impacts and the overall severity of such harms. The intention is to ensure that AI systems with the potential to cause serious harm are placed under stricter control. In contrast, Malaysia has also developed its own National Guidelines on AI Governance and Ethics (AIGE) with the support of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to address AI risk challenges with a different emphasis. The guidelines outline seven core principles, which are fairness, reliability and safety, privacy and security, inclusiveness, transparency, accountability, as well as the pursuit of human benefit and happiness [1]. Malaysia's approach is distinct from Australia's because it highlights inclusiveness and human well-being, expressed through the theme "AI for Malaysia, AI for All", which shows that, in addition to aligning with international standards, the guidelines also reflect Malaysia's own culture and society, where AI is meant to support different communities fairly.

As mentioned above, Malaysia’s approach to addressing AI risk places a stronger emphasis on inclusiveness and human well-being, whereas Australia’s proposed principles take a more regulatory and compliance-focused direction. This contrast highlights how different countries have adopted different approaches to AI governance, shaped by their own cultural, social, and political contexts. While Australia’s six proposed principles provide a useful starting point, some of them are very broad and can be difficult to interpret with precision. At the same time, they do not explicitly reflect values such as inclusiveness and human well-being, which play a central role in Malaysia’s framework. For this reason, this report will further evaluate the adequacy of Australia’s proposed principles, compare them with Malaysia’s guidelines, and explore whether the existing principles should remain unchanged, be revised, removed, or whether new principles should be introduced.

# Reference

[1] Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), The National Guidelines on AI Governance & Ethics. Putrajaya, Malaysia: MASTIC, 2024.

[2] E. Burton, J. Goldsmith, S. Koenig, B. Kuipers, N. Mattei, and T. Walsh, “Ethical considerations in artificial intelligence courses,” AI Magazine, vol. 38, no. 2, pp. 22–34, 2017.

[3] Department of Industry, Science and Resources, Safe and Responsible AI in Australia: Proposals Paper for Introducing Mandatory Guardrails for AI in High-Risk Settings. Canberra, Australia: Commonwealth of Australia, 2024.