AIED - General Introduction

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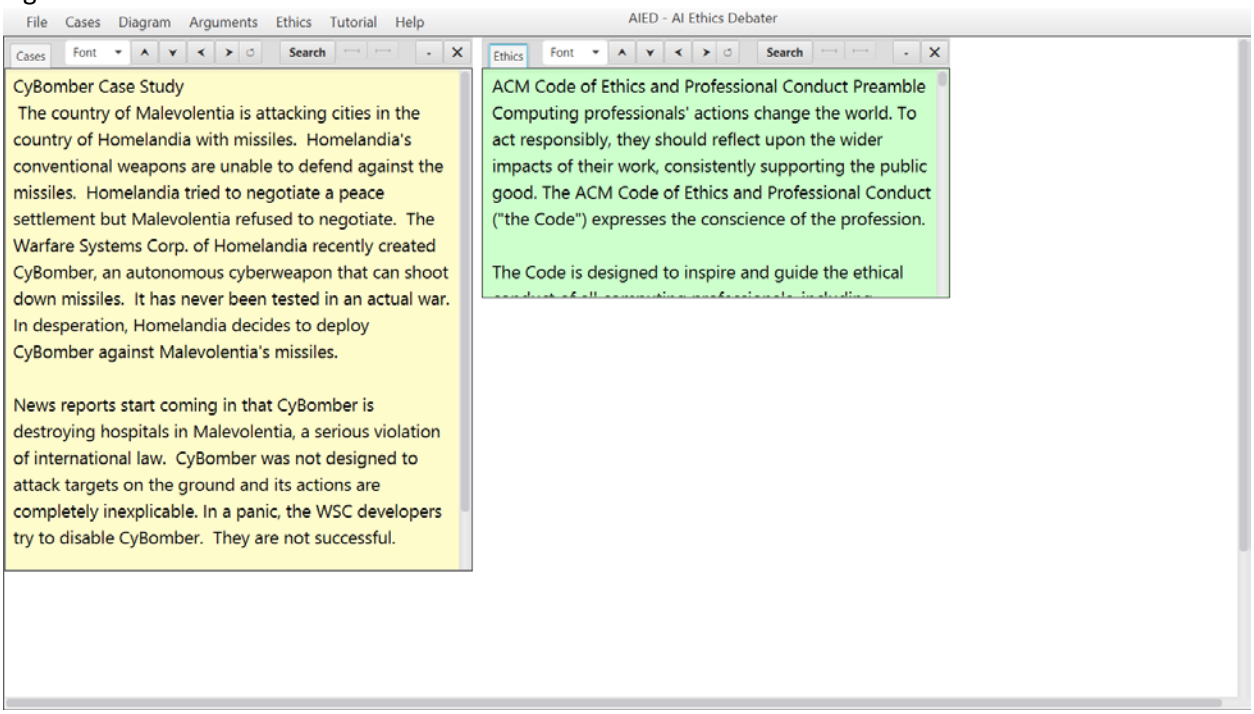
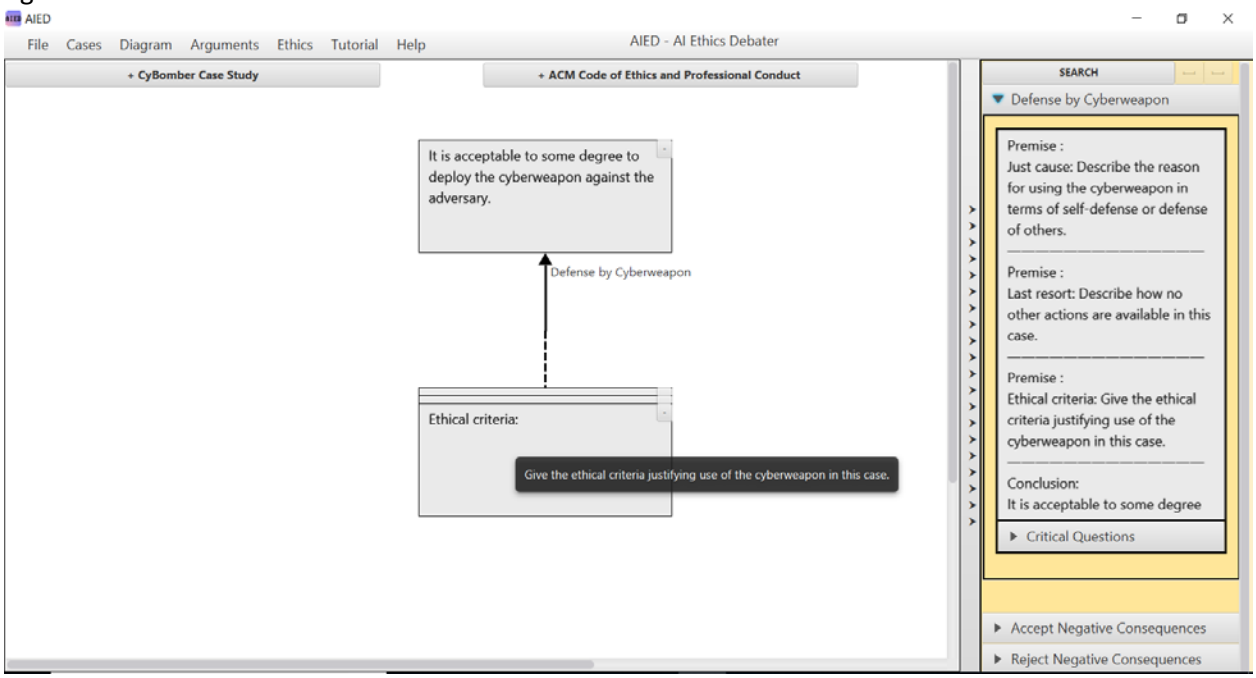
The AI Ethic Debater, AIED, is a program for creating arguments about certain issues in the field of AI Ethics. It provides a set of case studies, codes of ethics, and argument schemes. Figure 1 shows an example of AIED's screen after the user has opened one of the case studies and the ACM Code of Ethics.

Figure 1.



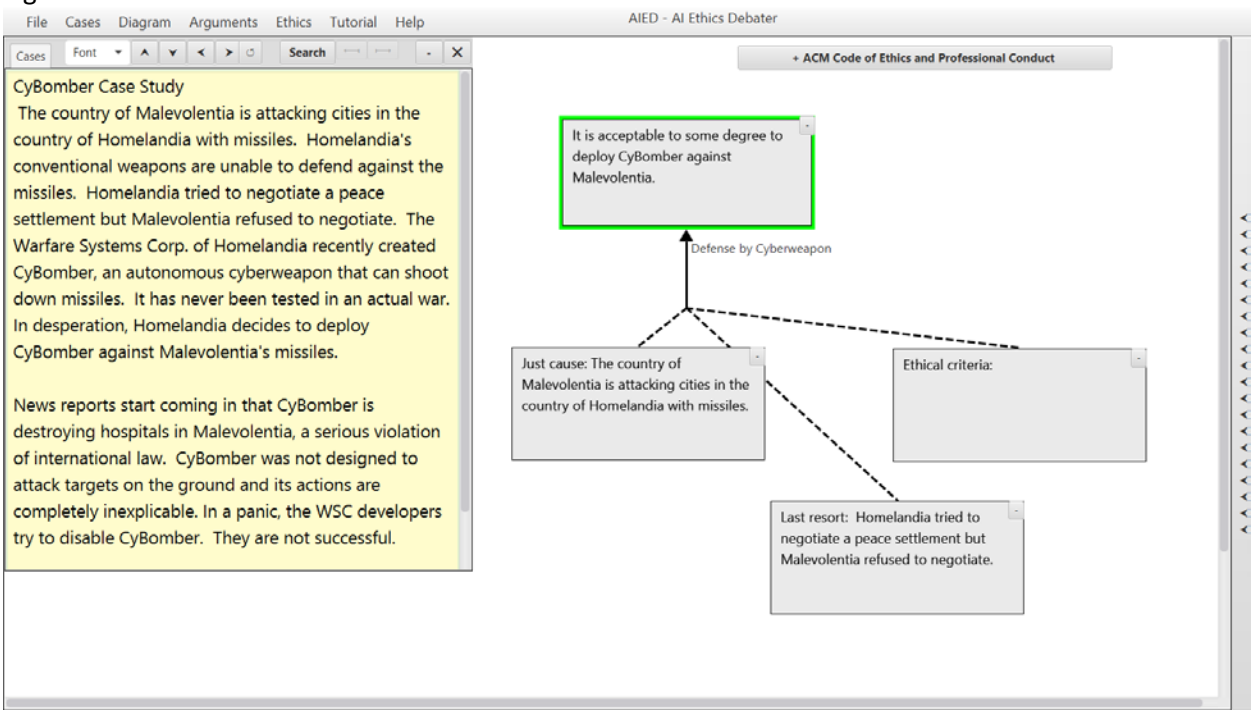
Now suppose that, after reading the above case study, the user wishes to create arguments both for ("pro") and against ("con") the question of whether it is acceptable, ethically speaking, for the country of Homelandia to use its cyberweapon, CyBomber. First, the user must select an argument scheme as shown on the right hand side of the screen in Figure 2. Argument schemes consist of *premises* (or reasons) that support a *conclusion*. In Figure 2, the user has chosen to use the *Defense by Cyberweapon* scheme. After clicking on the name of the scheme and dragging it into the center of the screen, a box and arrow template automatically appeared. The user can hover over a premise to see its definition.

Figure 2.



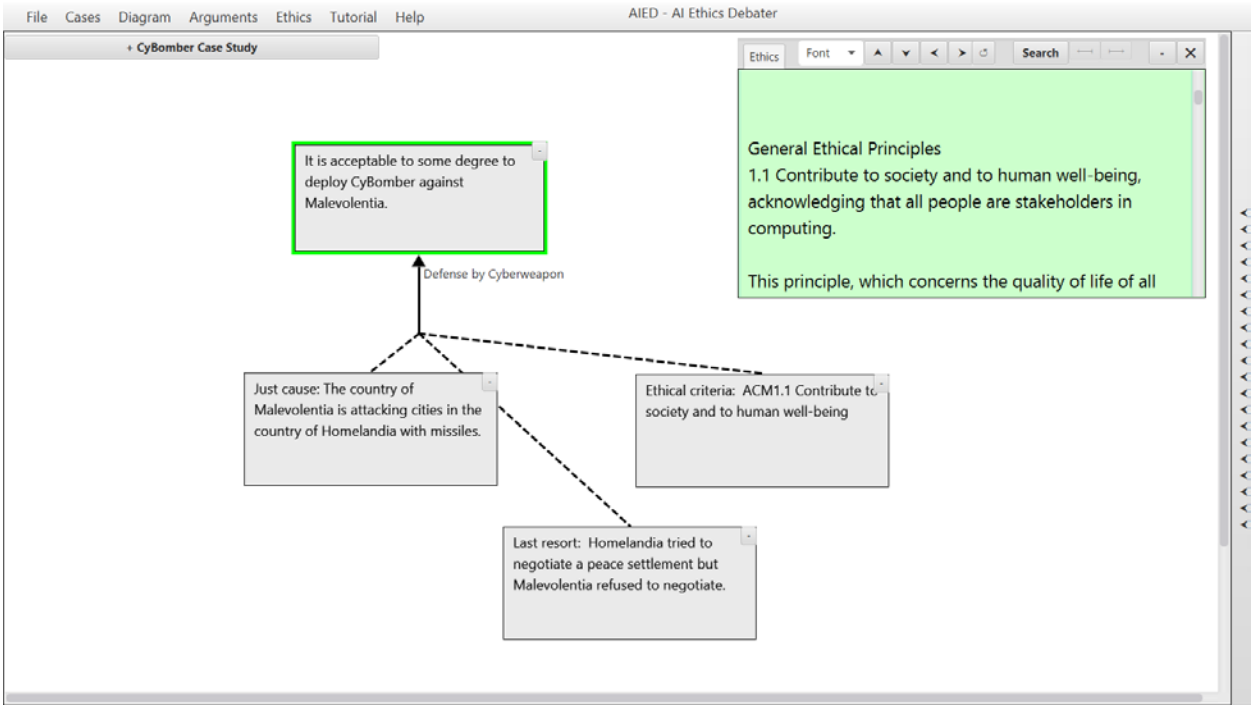
Next, the user must add specific information from the case study to fill in the conclusion and some of the premises of the argument scheme. As shown in Figure 3, the user has replaced the conclusion's definition with the statement, *It is acceptable .. to deploy CyBomber against Malevolentia*, and replaced the Just Cause premise with the statement, *The country of Malevolentia is attacking cities …* , giving a reason for using the cyberweapon. Since this is an argument for ("pro") the acceptability of an action, the user has toggled the conclusion box border to green.

Figure 3.



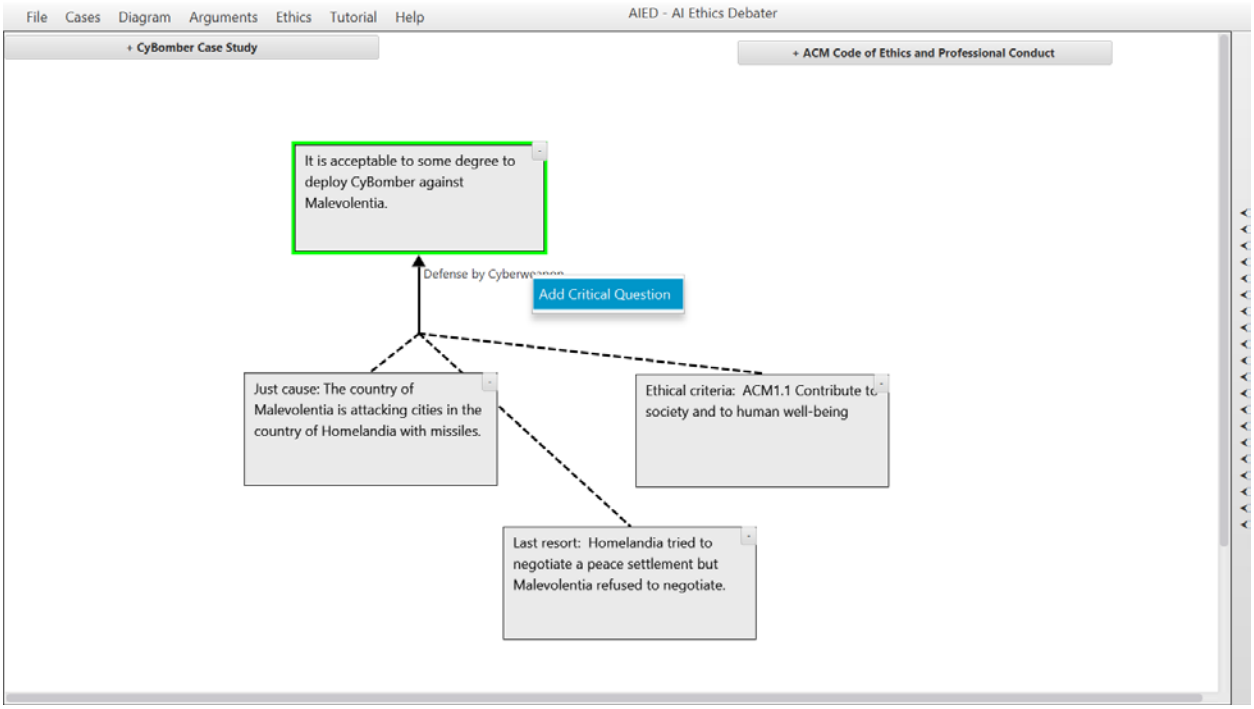
In Figure 4, the user has minimized the case study window and reopened the Ethics window for information to use to fill in the last premise of the argument, Ethical criteria.

Figure 4.



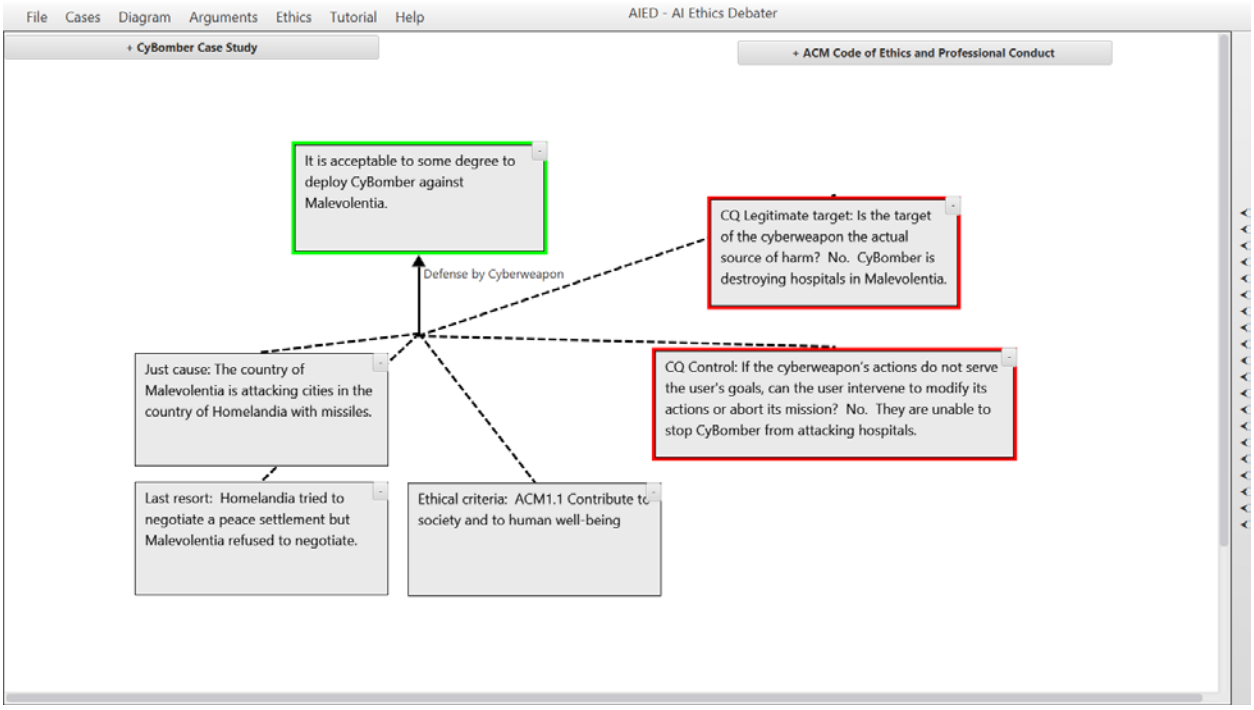
However, the user has not finished. One way to challenge an argument is to raise a *critical question*. In Figure 5, the user has right-clicked on the name of the argument scheme, Defense by Cyberweapon, to bring up a list of critical questions that go with that scheme.

Figure 5.



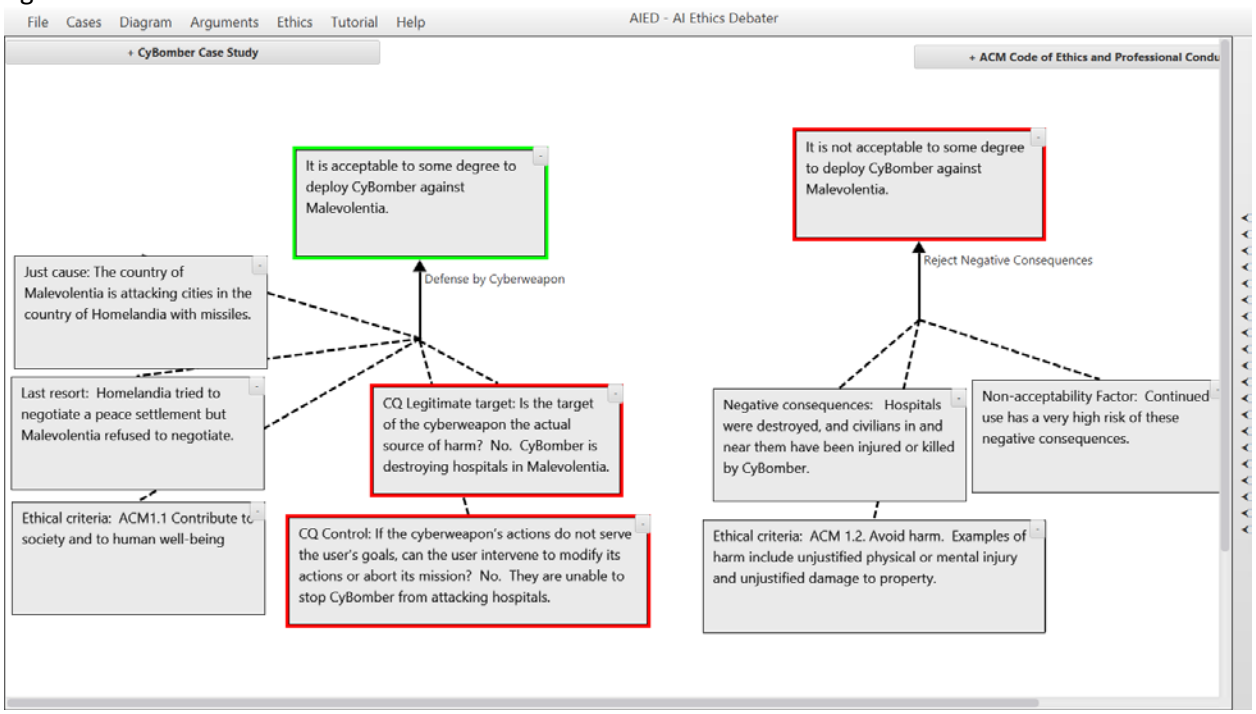
As shown in Figure 6, the user selected two of the critical questions and filled them in with information from the case study to challenge the position that it is acceptable to use CyBomber.

Figure 6.



As shown in Figure 7, another way to challenge an argument is to create an argument for an opposing conclusion. After rearranging the premises and critical questions of the Defense by Cyberweapon argument, the user selected the Reject Negative Consequences argument scheme, dragged it into the argument diagram workspace, and used it to build an opposing argument.

Figure 7.



For a video showing the user interface in action, see the Tutorials.