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# Advisory Panel on the Question of Sustainable Development of Artificial Intelligence

**President** 

Phillip Wei

**Deputy President** 

Christina Chang

**Deputy President** 

Emily Hsu

Forum: Advisory Panel on the Question of Sustainable Development of

Artificial Intelligence

**Issue:** Regulating autonomous weapons systems

Chair: Christina Chang

### Introduction

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is progressing rapidly and is widely used in different areas including computers systems and machines. Al technologies in the form of Autonomous Weapon Systems (AWS) have been subjected to perform devastating tasks, including the use of micro-drones to target and kill the enemy. The use of these kinds of weapons has been constantly debated and is still a controversial topic today. There are ethical issues concerning the use of AWS, as the potential threat that it might bring to humanity is alarming. Human reasoning is used on the battlefield to determine moral concerns, set goals, and establish peace. The use of AWS would suggest the elimination of the human operator from the battlefield which poses capable threats for AWS to commit crimes against humanities. Furthermore, though AWS pose economic advantages such as the reduced of the cost of personnel during armed conflicts, security advantages, operational advantages, its lowering of the human cost in armed conflicts is capable of escalating and elongating them.

Industries have written the "open letter" in order to oppose the use of AWS, as such technology is capable of impacting severely on the human race. All is an important piece of technology that may assist the progress of humanity; however, having All technology installed and designed as weapons would weaken the trust of All technology to the public. Thus, by inducing the idea that weapons are capable of harming human beings, this raises the question of the regulation of autonomous weapon systems that are capable of killing without human interventions and consideration of human dignity.

# **Definition of Key Terms**

#### **Autonomous Weapon Systems (AWS)**

There is currently no internationally recognized definition of AWS. The US Department of Defense defines it as "a weapon system(s) that, once activated, can select and engage targets without further intervention by a human operator." These weapons, specifically Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS), are deadly and potentially unethical: By killing without any human intervention, many innocent

civilians may become targets, thus threatening the principle of human dignity and the fundamental human right to life. Therefore, AWS introduce the question of the standards of the international humanitarian law.

#### Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Artificial Intelligence is the simulation of human intelligence that is processed by machines, or the creation of computer systems that are capable of performing tasks normally completed by a human. This kind of technology involves the processes of learning (acquiring information), reasoning (the use of rules and information to reach approximate or definite conclusions), and self-correlation. Speech recognition, decision making, and translation are all tasks that are commonly performed using AI technology.

#### **General Overview**

#### **Concerns about Autonomous Weapon Systems (AWS)**

While AWS may be advantageous to the military, they are extremely dangerous, and they cause potential threats to international security. Both ethical and legal issues should be discussed when regulating these weapon systems. Regulations are crucial to prevent the inappropriate use or development of these weapons, which can escalate war or start new arms races. Therefore, regulations are necessary and should be implemented into current war conventions and weapon conventions.

#### **Ethical Concerns**

In the military aspect, AWS is actually a potentially more ethical approach when executing dirty or dull missions as AWS would be more suited for this task, acting as a force multiplier or processing information and data more effectively. However, there is indeed a remarkable number of ethical issues that is and has been questioned, such as the fact that AWS are capable of committing mass murder without human intervention. Moreover, AWS raise the question of whether machines should be allowed to decide or make decisions about life or death. Disregarding the importance of a person's life would mean disregarding mortality and human dignity; thus, these decisions should not be reduced to an algorithm.

In addition, the development of such technology is capable of inducing a new international arms race which would threaten peace and security internationally, thus allowing state actors or non-state actors to point these newly developed weapons at each other. Since these weapons are fully autonomous, the killings and atrocities committed by these machines are not delegated to humans. Thus, laws cannot threaten and punish these machines. Therefore, as these machines are effective in causing violent atrocities and catastrophes, they are also prone to rapidly escalating conflicts as they act in a speedy manner.

#### Legality

Autonomous weapons do not meet the standards of international humanitarian laws, as the rules stated in the international humanitarian laws apply and address only to those who plan, decide upon, and carry out the attack. Because, a machine does not delegate the responsibility of attacks, in fact, these laws do not act upon them. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) states that compliance to these laws would require a human operator deciding, and that these legal obligations and responsibilities should not to be held by a machine and cannot be transferred to a machine. A human operator would be required to intervene on the battlefield to fully comply with international humanitarian laws, as to retain a minimum human control of the use of such weapons and decisions to attack.

#### **Security and Governance**

Security is another key issue that should be accounted for, as the credibility and accountability of such machines are questionable. These machines are unpredictable considering that they are merely simulations of human intelligence into computer systems that are designed into weapon systems. Additionally, the deployment of fully autonomous weapon systems is likely going to lower the threshold to declare war and initiate conflict, as it reduces casualties of one's own army and also incentives to compromise and find solutions to end the war. The absence of an internationally recognized definition of AWS leads to the danger of developing these weapon systems. The development of AWS is capable of causing an arms race which countries are likely going to spend massive amounts of money to develop these technology. Drawing the lines to the development and usage of AWS is crucial as the overuse and develop of these weapons can threaten humanity. Meaningful human control over critical functions and decisions to murder is extremely important to prevent the disregard of human dignity and mortality.

#### **Timeline of Events**

Date	Description of event
2012	The Human Rights Watch (HRW) calls to establish policies and implement regulations on the use and deployment of AWS.
2013	More than 19 countries call on complete ban on such weapon systems
20.0	including Mexico, Chile, Ecuador, and Cuba.

The Open Letter was publicly announced on IJCIA, which the Open Letter is a letter that encourages the convention to establish regulations on such weapon systems, in fact many famous CEOs are signatories to the letter including Elon.

July 28, 2015

## **UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events**

The United Nations has been planning on fully banning both the development and the use of such threatening weapons as they not only pose threats to human rights and human dignity, but also undermine mortality and induce security issues globally. Although the United Nations has been committed in establishing definitions and frameworks for such weapons, they have not yet accomplished much. Therefore, there is not yet a clear definition of "autonomous weapon systems" that had been recognized by the international community. Certainly, the deployment of such weapon systems does not meet the standards of international humanitarian laws.

- framework of the 1980 United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)
- Protocol I restricts weapons with non-detectable fragments.
- Protocol II restricts landmines, booby traps.
- Protocol III restricts incendiary weapons.
- Protocol IV restricts blinding laser weapons (adopted on October 13, 1995, in Vienna)

#### **Possible Solutions**

AWS are extremely dangerous weapons. Hence, regulations and limitations are needed in order to prevent the abuse and overuse of such weapons and the undermining of human dignity. An establishment of an internationally recognized definition and framework of the use of these weapon systems is crucial. Nations have been reluctant on banning these autonomous weapon systems as they benefit their military. The question of regulating autonomous weapon systems is not very well known to the public and these technologies are fairly new to the world. Raising awareness is another approach when thinking of solutions to the issues. The public's understanding of such technologies and weapon systems is limited, likewise, the public does not realize the potential danger of such weapons systems. Having to work with industries is another possible solution to this issue, as this is another medium to raise awareness and encourage governments to ban the use and development of such technologies. Limiting the development of such technologies can be essential as they can restrict inventors from inventing weapons that cause mass destruction.

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Forum: Advisory Panel on the Question of Sustainable Development of

Artificial Intelligence

**Issue:** Addressing the economic implications of weak Artificial Intelligence

Chair: Phillip Wei

### Introduction

From history, we know about the Agricultural and Industrial Revolution from late 17th century to 19th century and its vast influence on global economy. What influenced global economy during both time periods was the advancement of technology. Similarly, today in the 21st century, the development of new technology with artificial intelligence is affecting global economy. Since the development of digital computers (1940s), computers could be programmed to perform complex tasks like discovering proofs for mathematical theorems or play chess with great proficiency. Today, many companies utilize AI in their products to increase their efficiency of accomplishing tasks for both corporate and personal use. However, experts have raised concern that AI may have negative economic implications such as mass replacement of jobs that will cause negative consequences. In other words, despite its obvious benefits for the world, it may actually cause more harm than good if not carefully controlled by governments.

# **Definition of Key Terms**

#### **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is defined as the ability of a digital computer or computer-controlled robot to perform tasks commonly associated with human beings. Basically, it applies to developing systems provided with the intellectual processes characteristic of humans, which are ability to reason, discover meaning, generalize, or learn from past experience. AI can cover many technological possibilities – anything from machines and robots to pure software programs. At first glance, it may seem that AI is something like those portrayed in Hollywood movies such as the Terminator or Ironman. In reality, AI is deeply incorporated in our everyday surroundings, ranging from smart refrigerators to Apple's SIRI.

#### Narrow & General Al

In the technological world, AI is currently defined as either narrow or general. Narrow (or weak) AI is only designed to perform one single task. For example, facial recognition software or internet search

engines all employ weak AI configured only to specialize in their respective tasks. General (or strong) AI, as opposed to narrow AI, is technology that would be able to perform *multiple* tasks with skills beyond what a normal human being could have.

#### **Luddite Fallacy**

The Luddite fallacy states that new technology does not lead to higher overall unemployment in the country. In other words, new technology doesn't destroy jobs - it merely changes the nature of jobs in the economy. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, new automated looms meant that clothing could be produced with fewer lower-skilled workers. As a result, a group of English textile workers known as the Luddites violently destroyed the machines, fearing that eventually the machines will force all workers out of jobs. It is a fallacy because those who believe it are neglecting the fact that technology not leading to higher unemployment now doesn't mean that it won't occur 40 or 50 years later.

#### **Automation**

Automation is the making and application of technology to supervise and regulate the production and delivery of products and services. It can be applied to a vast variety of professional and consumer products ranging from cardiac monitors to smart refrigerators.

#### **Machine Learning**

Machine learning is "a method of data analysis that automates analytical model building." In other words, it is a branch of artificial intelligence based on the idea that machines should be able to learn and adapt through experience. As a result of this learning, these machines will improve at their tasks and gain more experience and learn even more along the way. Despite this positive aspect, machines improving at their tasks could indicate the possibility that they will eventually get better than humans at the same task, meaning that the chances of AI replacing us will increase.

#### **General Overview**

#### **Background Information**

In 1951 the first AI programs, specifically checkers-playing programs, were created by Christopher Strachey and Dietrich Prinz. Ever since then, AI has been designed and improved for purposes other than entertainment because of the world's changing environment and other technological advances. Scientists today have determined three eras of automation that help classify the types of AI that they predict will be created. The first era occurred during the 19<sup>th</sup> century: the Industrial Revolution. During this time, machines

were introduced that decreased the amount of laborers needed to continue producing products. As people performed more research, more advanced machinery were produced and the idea of having less work became more plausible, which began the second era during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. With this idea also came the fear that robots will eventually replace humans in the workplace. Some economists like John Maynard Keynes viewed this positively when they predict that "technological progress might allow a 15-hour workweek, and abundance leisure, by 2030". Obviously others believe that in an era of technological unemployment, "computer scientists and software engineers will invent us out of work" and the total number of jobs will decline steadily and permanently. In the case that Al does replace things like intelligent systems such as airfare pricing to IBM's Watson, then the third era will occur sometime during the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Luckily, this idea of all jobs disappearing will not occur immediately within the next decade; this end-of-work argument is often dismissed as the "Luddite fallacy". From all that has been said so far, it seems that the most that we can talk about for Al's economic influence is machines in the job industry. However, this idea cannot explain the entire situation about Al as Al revolves around a much broader concept; any computer-based robot or device that can <u>perform actions that we consider "smart"</u> are all considered Al.

#### **Current situation**

Although it is not the main aspect on weak Al's economic implications, we cannot dismiss the fact that robots and machines do have economic consequences, both positive and negative. There are three legitimate reasons to why economists are now becoming more worried about the prospect of robots taking over human jobs: loss of labor, spread of non-working men and underemployed youth, and the flexibility of implementing technology. Again, like previously stated, robots' complete takeover of human jobs will not occur anytime soon, but these reasons should be warning signals to governments about its possibility

#### Loss of human labor

One thing that we can expect to see during a period of technological advancement is the decrease of human labor as the main driving force of a country's economy. There is evidence that indicates such phenomenon is occurring. For example, in the United States a portion of its economic output that is paid out in wages fell steadily since the 1980s and accelerated even more after the Great Recession. There has been many theories trying to explain this phenomenon, but Loukas Karabarbounis and Brent Neiman, economists at the University of Chicago, have estimated that half of the decline is because businesses replaced workers with computers and software: "In 1964, the nation's most valuable company, AT&T, was worth \$267 billion in today's dollars and employed 758,611 people. Today's telecommunications giant, Google, is worth \$370 billion but has only about 55,000 employees—less than a tenth the size of AT&T's workforce in its heyday."

Since 2000, the amount of prime-age Americans (25-54 years old) in the workforce has declined, which means that the number of Americans that have a suitable working age either are not working or cannot find a job. A possible explanation for why this is occurring is because technology is reducing the amount of jobs that are best suited for these prime-age Americans (such as manufacturing jobs). Young people just joining the labor force are also having a difficulty finding jobs. For instance, many recent college graduates are "underemployed", meaning that they are employed in jobs that historically do not require a college degree. In other words, most of these people are trying to get higher-paying jobs but supply of those jobs are decreasing and most young people have to resort to those low-paying jobs such as baristas or waiters.

#### Flexibility of implementing technology

What this idea means is that technology can be easily implemented to replace human workers in times of emergency. This may seem like an objection to the idea that technology will permanently replace huge numbers of workers because new devices, like self-service kiosks, have failed to fully displace their human counterparts, like cashiers. However, when the appropriate time comes, these new machines will be able to quickly replace their human counterparts. For example, in the 1960s and 70s the robotic revolution began, but manufacturing employment kept increasing until 1980 during the economic recessions. Similarly, the personal computer existed in the 1980s but it did not have any effect on office jobs until the 1990s after another economic recession. This comes to further emphasize that it is a possibility that technology will replace human jobs.



Caption #1: what a stapler could mean to humans in the future

#### Other implications

There are also other economic implications when we talk about other types of AI instead of just robots and machines. Many of them have to do with the investment that countries and individuals put into R&D for AI and also the development of AI itself. More specifically, researchers have found that private R&D, venture capital, and public R&D all have strong overall effects on economic growth.

#### **Private industry investment**

Private investment in AI has been growing rapidly recently and researchers have collected data that such investment provides an increase in income. For instance, in the paper Global Economic Impacts Associated with Artificial Intelligence, the authors state that "the marginal impact of one dollar invested in business R&D is a \$1.99 increase in output". Using the same logic, the paper also illustrates that if private investment continues to grow at a linear rate, it will lead to approximately \$657.7 billion in economic growth over the next ten years. Thus, this just further emphasizes the potential for AI to have a positive economic effect on the world market in the future.

#### **Venture capital investment**

Researchers have discovered that venture capital investment would have the strongest economic effect out of the three types of investment as mentioned. Statistics show that for every input of one dollar of business R&D, venture capital, and public R&D, the effect on their outputs are to be \$1.99, \$3.33, and \$2.69, respectively. Additionally, venture capital investment can also indirectly effect economic growth in many ways such as inspiring innovation, alleviate capital constraints, and encourage further entrepreneurship. For instance, in a study of the 329 metropolitan statistical areas in the US, two economists Samila and Sorenson found that doubling the number of companies receiving venture capital funding "increased the number of firms by between 0.48% and 2.21%, increased the number of jobs by up to 1.24%, and increased aggregate income by between 0.48% and 3.78% five years following the investment". This emphasizes that such investments may even prevent problems such as the permanent losing of jobs that others may worry about.

#### **Timeline of Events**

Date	Description of event
November 1951	The first AI program for checkers-playing was designed
1956	The term Artificial Intelligence is first coined by John McCarthy

1956	Taipei American School Model United Nations, Taipei 2018   IX Annual Session The first summer AI conference was arranged by the Dartmouth College
1956	The first demonstration of Logic Theorist (another AI program) written by professors from the Carnegie Institute of Technology
June 7-9, 2017	Al for Good Global Summit took place in Geneva, Switzerland
October 11 2017	Joint meeting of ECOSOC and the Second Committee on "The Future of Everything – Sustainable Development in the Age of Rapid Technological Change"

## **UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events**

 UN DESA Frontier Issues Series: <u>The Impact of the Technological Revolution on Labour Markets and</u> Income Distribution

This document talks about, as its title suggests, the impact that artificial intelligence can bring to labor markets and income distribution. More specifically, it addresses both positive and negative effects of AI on a country's economy and possible scenarios for the coming decade

#### Al for Good Global Summit

This summit is organized by International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the XPRIZE Foundation as a way for UN and countries to work together to develop solutions that use AI to address specific global challenges related to poverty, hunger, health, education, the environment, and others. Just like other types of summits, this one serves as a communication platform for government officials, UN agencies, NGOs, industry leaders, and AI experts to strengthen dialogue in support of AI invention.

Joint Meeting of ECOSOC and the Second Committee on "The Future of Everything – Sustainable
 Development in the Age of Rapid Technological Change"

In a quick summary, this event is one of the meetings that brings awareness to the topic of AI as a whole. Most importantly, however, is that policy-makers will be focusing on solutions that harness the benefits of AI to the international world while minimizing their unintended, negative consequences, which connects to a crucial concept that is mentioned in the next section.

The National Artificial Intelligence Research and Development Strategic Plan

This plan was submitted by US's National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) and the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Subcommittee. It talks about how governments will be able identify scientific and technological needs in AI, and to track the progress and maximize the effect of Research & Development (R&D) investments to accomplish those needs. Most importantly, it focuses on both positive and negative long-term economic impacts of AI on society and on the world.

#### **Possible Solutions**

One important aspect that delegates need to be aware of is that the influence of technology on economies is not predetermined, but can be controlled by policies at the local, national, and global levels. Thus, governments should be more proactive in their actions towards artificial intelligence and their general policy stance should be to embrace and guide these new technologies instead of trying to block them out due to fear of disruption. In addition, these policies also need to be ensured that the benefits are broadly shared and that workers who might be harmed by it will receive any kinds of support. Essentially, countries should take advantage of all that AI has to offer but also make sure that current labor forces are compensated if unexpected things occur. Moreover, governments' and organizations' perspective on Al should also be something similar to this question: "What new feats might people achieve if they had better thinking machines to assist them?" Bear in mind, though, that this thought process already exists within the UN but the majority of the world that may not have easy access to information could still possibly be trapped in the conventional wisdom that AI will eventually force all human beings out of high-paying and low-paying jobs. Finally, in comparison to other global issues, AI is one of those that is lacking deserved attention because of its capability for influential consequences on the global market. Therefore, another solution that delegates could bring up in their operative clauses could be one that requests the UN to put more emphasis and resources in guiding positive AI development. Obviously, one could simply raise awareness, but it will be much more effective if the UN, international organizations, and countries themselves actually begin physical efforts in this positive guidance in ways such as implementing new policies in their legislature

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Forum: Advisory Panel on the Question of Sustainable Development of

Artificial Intelligence

**Issue:** Methods to foster global coordination on Artificial Intelligence research

and development

Chair: Emily Hsu

#### Introduction

As technological developments in the 21st century are quickly advancing, people have begun to gain a better understanding of the risks and benefits that come with these new discoveries. Artificial intelligence (AI) is a very special field of technology as machines are starting to "think" for themselves, which opens up numerous opportunities, but also contains many dangers. AI is a force that can affect all aspects of human life, from the economy to healthcare, education, transportation and the military, contributing to a transformation of society similar in magnitude to that of the Industrial Revolution. One parallel that can be drawn between the current tech revolution and the Industrial Revolution are the skills valued in the workforce. Advances in automation and machinery in the 18th to 19th century caused many workers assigned to simple, repetitive tasks to lose their jobs seeing as machines could do their jobs much more efficiently and accurately. Thus, one needed higher education and more unique skills to find a job. Likewise, as AI mechanisms begin to enter the workforce a heavier emphasis will be placed on critical thinking and interpersonal skills. This would result in major adjustments to areas such education and hiring processes. Due to the drastic societal changes AI can case, countries must cooperate in order to capitalize on the positive outcomes of AI and work to prevent undesirable repercussions.

# **Definition of Key Terms**

#### **Artificial Intelligence**

According to Encyclopedia Britannica, artificial intelligence is "the ability of a digital computer or computer-controlled robot to perform tasks commonly associated with intelligent beings." This includes tasks such as visual perception, speech recognition, decision-making, and translation between languages.

#### **Machine Learning**

According to the Expert System, machine learning is "an application of artificial intelligence (AI) that provides systems the ability to automatically learn and improve from experience without being explicitly programmed." The implications of this causes many to fear that machines will start replacing humans in the workforce seeing as they now have the ability to "learn" on their own.

#### **Global Value Chain (GVC)**

The global value chain refers to the network created among different worldwide companies producing, handling, and distributing specific products. GVCs have helped to spur trade and employment in several developing countries by integrating them into global trade and increasing productivity in the nation.

#### **Lethal Autonomous Weapons System (LAWS)**

LAWS are a type of autonomous military robot designed to identify and attack military targets without intervention by a human operator. This holds very serious implications seeing as major countries such as China and Russia are currently developing such weapons and escalating the AI arms race.

#### **General Overview**

## **Challenges to Global Cooperation**

#### **Global Inequality**

The advancement of AI will inevitably lead to the destruction of current jobs and the creation of new jobs. The jobs at risk to being automated vary widely and estimates have reached over 80% of all jobs. Most analyses show that AI and other new technologies will continue to benefit higher-skilled workers with high flexibility, creativity, and strong problem-solving and interpersonal skills. Low- and medium-skilled workers are expected to face increased pressure from the development of more capable machines and AI software. This could exacerbate the decline of middle-skilled jobs and rising inequality, particularly in many developing nations. However, job destruction and creation are not only determined by technological advancements, but also by economic, regulatory and socio-political factors. In fact, most developing countries with abundant cheap labour have so far not been visibly affected by automation due to low wages.

Furthermore, many LEDCs do not possess the required skills, energy infrastructure, broadband or transport networks to take advantage of the new production techniques. Thus, one of the biggest risks and international challenges is that the integration of AI into society will cause gains from manufacturing and participation in GVCs to become even more concentrated, leaving behind countries that do not have the capacity to integrate automation into their workforce. This could potentially lead to a greater imbalance in global power dynamics between the developed and developing nations, and increased economic disparity between the wealthy and the poor.

#### Global Al Race

Major countries such as the United States, China and Russia are currently caught in an Al arms race. Both China and Russia have recently highlighted the importance of artificial intelligence to the future of the global economy and military power. Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke to students during a national "open lesson" in September, where he emphasized the importance of being the global leader in the sphere of computer-based Al. "Artificial intelligence is the future not only of Russia but of all of mankind," said Putin. According to state media, the Russian military is developing robots, anti-drone systems, and cruise missiles that would be able to analyze radars and make decisions on the altitude, speed and direction of their flight.

Furthermore, in July, the Chinese government published a detailed road map outlining a national plan to prioritize the development and application of AI. "The major developed countries in the world regard the development of artificial intelligence as a major strategy to enhance their national competitiveness and safeguard their national security," a Chinese government publication said. China's AI startups took 48% of all dollars going to AI startups globally in 2017, surpassing the United States for the first time for global deal share. Now, the US must determine the extent to which it will increase research and development in AI technologies in order to stay on an equal playing field with China and Russia.

Global cooperation will help decrease rising tensions and foster a more collaborative mindset among countries in this competitive environment. This could occur in forms such as maintaining multilateral dialogue to prevent misunderstanding among countries and to reaffirm the common goal of global peace. Seeing past the AI arms race, countries must also work to control the proliferation of LAWs so that these dangerous weapons do not fall into the hands of rogue nations and violent extremist groups. This is similar to regulations on the proliferation of nuclear weapons; if these violent actors - who generally do not adhere to international law or ethical norms - obtain LAWs, they could use the technology to achieve their own goals, which places many innocent lives at risk seeing as their methods are often indiscriminate and inhumane.

#### **Roles of Key Actors**

#### **Companies and Institutions**

Companies and institutions are the driving force of AI development; they are the ones who produce as well as integrate AI into society and they are the first to be affected by new technological developments. A danger related to companies producing AI software and mechanisms is that technologists often prioritize innovation over risk mitigation, which could undermine global security. Thus, these companies need to ensure that there is proper risk assessment in place when designing and producing new AI developments. Governments could play a major role in establishing regulations that ensure AI mechanisms and software are being developed in accordance to present laws and within ethical boundaries.

According to Deloitte's 2017 Human Capital Trends Report, advances in technology are causing firms to change their organizational structures, transform their HR departments, develop new training models, and reevaluate their hiring practices. Moreover, public institutions pertaining to education and healthcare will also need to undergo changes to adapt to the new technology. Through big data, Al will be able to facilitate the creation of customized learning programs, which would drastically affect the educational institutions and the companies that produce educational resources. Likewise, Al in healthcare and medicine could organize patient routes and treatment plans better. Recently, Google, launched its Google Deepmind Health project, which is used to mine the data of medical records in order to provide better and faster health services.

Companies and institutions will need to work closely with their respective governments to ensure that the integration of AI is done in an ethical and balanced manner. This cooperation will also foster a better understanding of how local changes are affecting the country and the global economy as a whole.

#### Governments and International Organizations

National, regional and international decision-making bodies play a large role in regulating the environment of AI development. For example, the EU is working to establish a group that will discuss the challenges associated with AI, in hope that it will start to provide answers to the difficult ethical, legal and societal questions technology poses. The Commission's European Group on Ethics (EGE) is calling for a process that would pave the way towards a "common, internationally recognised ethical and legal framework for the design, production, use and governance of artificial intelligence, robotics and autonomous' systems." It also proposes a set of fundamental ethical

Taipei American School Model United Nations, Taipei 2018 | IX Annual Session principles, based on the values laid down in the EU Treaties, such as sustainability, accountability, privacy, democracy, and equality.

Following this model, countries should work together to ensure AI does not contribute to global inequality by preventing discriminatory biases in AI data sets and creating equal access to the benefits of AI. Moreover, governments must ensure that AI development is a sustainable process, in line with the preservation of our environment, and resolve issues related to the automation of weapons seeing as this change could lower the threshold of acceptability for engaging in bloodshed and lead to greater loss of civilian life in war zones. Fortunately, international organizations can help facilitate global cooperation and public dialogue so that key decisions on the regulation of AI development are made in an inclusive, informed, and farsighted manner.

#### **Timeline of Events**

Date	Description of event
August 31st, 1955	John McCarthy coined the term "artificial intelligence" as the topic of the Dartmouth Conference, the first conference devoted to the subject
December 1955	Herbert Simon and Allen Newell develop the Logic Theorist, the first artificial intelligence program
2000	Honda's ASIMO robot, an AI humanoid robot, is able to walk as fast as a human, delivering trays to customers in a restaurant setting
2015	UN Interregional Crime and Research Institute (UNICRI) launched its programme on AI and Robotics at the Hague, Netherlands
June 7th, 2017	'Al for Good' Global Summit is hosted by the UN International Telecommunications Union (ITU) at Geneva, Switzerland
March 9th, 2018	The EU calls for a High-Level Expert Group on AI to advise the European Commission and propose AI ethics guidelines

## **UN Involvement, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events**

In 2015, the UNICRI launched a programme for AI and Robotics with the goal of progressing discussion on robotics and AI governance and build consensus among national, international, public and private actors. Specific activities of this programme include risk assessment, facilitating technology exchange, convening expert meetings and international conferences, and organizing awareness-raising workshops. During the 71st session of the UN General Assembly, the director of UNICRI announced that UNICRI was in the process of opening the first Centre on Artificial Intelligence and Robotics within the United Nations system, which will act as an international resource on matters related to this field.

Recently, the AI for Good Global Summit, hosted by the ITU, also brought together representatives of government, industry, UN agencies, civil society and the AI research community to explore the latest developments in AI and their implications for regulation, ethics, security, and privacy. In breakout sessions, the participants collaborated and proposed strategies for the development of AI applications to promote sustainable living, reduce poverty and deliver citizen-centric public services.

#### **Possible Solutions**

Solutions should involve creating platforms in the form of conferences, organizations, or other methods to maintain constant dialogue among countries and corporations on the matters of AI development. Seeing as these technological developments are relatively new, most countries and companies do not have guidelines that regulate its use. Thus, having policymakers work with experts and international agencies such as the UNCRI Centre for AI and Robotics to create such policies is a crucial step in ensuring that AI is being integrated into society in an appropriate and balanced manner.

Furthermore, governments and companies will need to develop flexible mechanisms such as risk reduction and management plans to respond and adapt to the changes that will occur. This can also be coupled with continued research in the field that is shared in national, regional or global databases in order to identify the trends of Al and remain constantly updated on any changes and subsequent effects. Despite the need for international cooperation, preserving an element of competition is still important for the private pursuit of technological advances. Therefore, governments should foster an environment that balances both economic cooperation and competition.

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