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Global Forum on the Ethics of Al 2025

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Promoting the Ethical Principles of the Artificial Intelligence at the 2nd Global Forum

The 2nd Global Forum on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, "Changing the Landscape of Al Governance" took place in the Brdo Congress Centre of Kranj, Slovenia, on 5 and 6 February 2024.



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The Forum brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including policy-makers, researchers, and industry leaders, to discuss and address the ethical challenges posed by Al. One of the primary outcomes of the forum was the emphasis on reinforcing national regulatory frameworks and institutions. Discussions highlighted the need for effective governance at the national level to ensure that Al technologies are developed and used ethically. This includes aligning national policies with UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of Al and the emerging EU legal framework.

At the invitation of Ms Emilija Stojmenova Duh, Minister of Digital Transformation, Slovenia, Amb. Simona-Mirela Miculescu participated in the forum that brought together the experiences and expertise of countries at different levels of policy development, for a focused technological and exchange to learn from each other, and for a dialogue with the private sector, academia and a wider civil society. UNESCO made an important contribution to the goal of effective and ethical Al governance by adopting an ambitious global standard - the Recommendation on the Ethics of Al - in 2021, and spearheading its implementation by the Member States through innovative tools and methodologies, such as the Readiness and the Ethical Impact Assessments.

Through the application of these tools, UNESCO is **changing the business model that drives AI**, and going beyond principles to develop a range of concrete and practical solutions and to ensure that AI outcomes are fair, inclusive, sustainable and non-discriminatory. The **evidence obtained** through this work, including a comprehensive and multidimensional diagnoses of the AI readiness of almost fifty countries around the world, **informed the debates** during the Forum.



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The forum underscored also the importance of global collaboration in implementing ethical AI practices. Digital ministers from various regions discussed the opportunities and challenges of promoting AI technologies globally. Several parallel sessions were dedicated to exploring specific aspects of AI ethics, such as gender equality, environmental protection, transparency, and non-discrimination. During the first day of the Forum, high-level decision makers, industry leaders, representatives of scientific and research institutions as well as non-government organisations shared their insights and good practices about governance of Artificial Intelligence at global, regional and national levels.

The **second day of the Forum** featured leading experts in the field exploring opportunities and challenges posed by AI, such as the potential of the technology to advance the agenda of equity, diversity and non-discrimination, emerging best practices of AI supervision, partnerships with the private sector through the ethical impact assessments, and the impact of AI on gender equality. Various UNESCO initiatives were launched including the <u>Global AI Ethics Observatory</u> and UNESCO AI Ethics Experts without Borders Network.

"While we are putting our hope in AI to advance inclusive education for our children and teachers, let us ensure that we 'educate' the AI with the fundamental knowledge of our internationally agreed standard-setting instruments, and shared best practices. Hence, it becomes imperative to embed our collective values, or 'commons,' within each algorithm utilized for the development and deployment of artificial intelligence, essentially constituting its fundamental operational and regulatory framework. Let's us ensure that this framework includes - on all continents and in all languages, including indigenous languages - critically important and internationally agreed instruments."

H.E. Amb. Simona-Mirela Miculescu, President of the 42nd session of the General Conference of UNESCO



Picture description: Ms Gabriela Ramos, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, Ms Emilija Stojmenova Duh, Minister of Digital Transformation, Slovenia, and Amb. Simona-Mirela Miculescu, President of the General Conference of UNESCO at the closing ceremony of the Forum.

Overall, the UNESCO Global Forum on the Ethics of Al highlighted the need for a collaborative, inclusive, and ethical approach to Al development. The outcomes of the event set the stage for continued efforts to ensure that Al technologies are used responsibly and for the benefit of all humanity.



Welcome message by Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences of UNESCO





Welcome message by Emilija Stojmenova Duh, Minister of Digital Transformation, Slovenia



→ Address by H.E. Amb. Simona-Mirela Miculescu, President of the 42nd General Con...













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