Thematic sheet

Education

Scenario 3 : Automation in education

Summary[1]

Theme presentation: key points

- AI systems can help provide and improve the quality of education, particularly on the following aspects:
  - Customization, by adjusting learning to each student's progress
  - Inclusion, by taking into account students' particularities
  - Accessibility, by allowing personalized education for students who unable to travel easily
- However, education through AI systems raises some issues:
  - Inclusion and equity, as not everyone has access to the hardware and infrastructure
  - Protection of personal data, such as students' habits, cognitive and personality traits, skill levels, etc.
  - The replacement of humans by machines for teaching tasks and the role of the student-teacher relationship

The objective of this deliberation is to evaluate and suggest improvements for the parts of the UNESCO recommendations related to AI and education.

[1] *Important note : This is a summary document. For more information : context, questions, please refer to the long version of the thematic sheet.*

Recommendations to evaluate

In particular, you are asked to evaluate recommendation 71, which encourages research initiatives on the use of AI in education:

R°71: “Member States should encourage research initiatives on the use of AI in teaching, teacher training and e-learning, among other topics, in a way that enhances opportunities and mitigates the challenges and risks associated with these technologies. This should always be accompanied by an adequate impact assessment of the quality of education and impact on students and teachers of the use of AI and ensure that AI empowers and enhances the experience for both groups.”

Pick 1 more recommendation you would like to focus on. If you have time left after, you can move on to a third or fourth recommendation.

Recommendation 99 with respect to the processing and usage of data:

R 99: “Member States should ensure that individuals can oversee the use of their private information/data, in particular that they retain the right to access their own data, and ‘the right to be forgotten.”

Recommendation 57 about the certification mechanisms for the use of AI systems in sensitive application domains which impact human lives:

R°57: “Member States are encouraged to consider a certification mechanism for AI systems similar to the ones used for medical devices. This can include different classes of certification according to the sensitivity of the application domain and expected impact on human lives, the environment, ethical considerations such as equality, diversity and cultural values, among others. Such a mechanism might include different levels of audit of systems, data, and ethical compliance.”

Recommendation 94 about responsibility and accountability for the decisions and behaviors of an AI system:

R°94.Member States should review and adapt, as appropriate, regulatory and legal frameworks to achieve accountability and responsibility for the content and outcomes of AI systems at the different phases of their lifecycle. Governments should introduce liability frameworks or clarify the interpretation of existing frameworks to make it possible to attribute accountability for the decisions and behaviour of AI systems. When developing regulatory frameworks governments should, in particular, take into account that responsibility and accountability must always lie with a natural or legal person; responsibility should not be delegated to an AI system, nor should a legal personality be given to an AI system.