

Responsible AI

A GLOBAL POLICY FRAMEWORK

BACKGROUND: Responsible Artificial Intelligence—What is it, and why should people care?

Artificial intelligence is complex, high risk and quickly embedding itself into our everyday lives, often without people realizing it. No universal guidelines for responsible AI exist yet, but general consensus and research—as shown in the eight discussion principles of *Responsible AI: A Global Policy Framework*-- support the following practices.

Responsible AI ...

1. Benefits the public good and minimizes unintended consequences, especially those that may infringe on individual rights and liberties.
2. Recognizes that adoption of a “responsible AI” framework is an urgent moral imperative due to rapid innovation across all sectors of society and the high risk of potential societal and individual harm (in particular because so very few truly understand the technology and because the technology may have such a significant impact on so many).
3. Takes a holistic approach to development and execution at all levels, intentionally engaging with diverse stakeholders and acknowledging that both industry and government stakeholders are looking for sensible guideposts for responsible conduct.
4. Follows emerging global consensus and models around ethical AI best practices.
5. Places the notion of human “accountability” at the heart of the framework (making organizations that develop, deploy or use AI systems accountable for harm caused by AI).
6. Rejects the notion of granting legal personality to AI systems.
7. Commits to avoid bias and discrimination through regularly tested and evaluated systems and practices, and inclusion of diverse stakeholders.
8. Promotes transparency and explainability of AI systems as a means of promoting human agency. Clearly identifies and explains when and how operations involve humans or AI-driven non-humans.

9. Reinforces the need to ensure that AI systems are safe and reliable.
10. Adopts open-data practices that help achieve AI growth while ensuring reasonable and fair privacy, consent, and competitiveness.
11. Protects privacy and intellectual property rights.

6 Reasons Why Responsible Artificial Intelligence Matters

1. Because AI is being embedded into nearly every profession and industry worldwide in ways that will change how we as humans and organizations connect, work, play, and learn—in other words, how we experience our daily lives.
2. Because the technology has great power to disrupt and distort, potentially benefiting and/or harming humankind and the rights, protections, and values we all currently enjoy.
3. Because AI is complex and understood by few people, creating a serious imbalance of comprehension and inadequate permission-giving by average people whose lives are often unknowingly being changed.
4. Because AI already is being explored and applied for malevolent purposes that threaten our safety, security, and human rights.
5. Because the risks of bias, discrimination, deception, and privacy infringement are high due in part to inadequate engagement by diverse stakeholders in the development, application, and accountability of AI systems and products.
6. Because no universal standards of responsible AI exist, so many AI providers and users are not operating within a best-practices framework that holds themselves accountable for the reliance, fairness, and impact of this transformative technology.

Follow the worldwide conversation exploring the eight discussion principles that anchor the global framework proposed by 54 legal experts, technology leaders, and industry representatives from five continents.

Download the 16-page policy framework free at www.ITechLaw.org/ResponsibleAI. Media can obtain free print or e-copies of the 304-page book by contacting Emily.Reineke@itechlaw.org.

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