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Rethinking cultural and ethical issues in AI

October 28, 2019

Artificial intelligence is currently the focus of many scientific and political debates. However, there is a surprising lack of cultural questions in these debates, even though culture forms the vibrant heart of every society. Recently, some political and professional authorities have been calling for an ethical framework for AI development and digital practices that could also guide legislative initiatives. This movement towards the establishment of legal, technical and professional standards could become a social opportunity for large-scale creativity – provided that the issues remain open and that the problems are identified and analyzed.

This workshop is part of that moment, which could be described as "normative openness". It proposes four central themes in the form of four round-table discussions that link AI and digital development with new social and cultural trajectories:

1. Programming ethics into "autonomous" machines (ethics by design) and the impact on the concept of human freedom

2. The convergence of surveillance and biometric identification AI and digital technologies and the transformation of privacy

3. The impact of AI and digital development on cultural creation and their standardization to the detriment of cultural diversity and the plurality of cultural expressions, as well as the dilution of copyright

4. The fixation of certain worldviews through algorithmic programming and their ethical and political significance in terms of reports of gender discrimination and domination

The new social and cultural trajectories initiated by current AI and digital development must be questioned, critiqued and chosen rather than being experimented with in Darwinian fashion like a vast social experiment. Peripheral to the Forum "AI for Humanity" , the workshop brings together specialists from various disciplines to propose this process.

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9 – 9.30 a.m.
Introduction

9.30 – 11 a.m.
Round-table 1 : Between surveillance and identification: what privacy protection? The examples of facial recognition and biometrics

Chair : Tomislav BracanoviĆ, philosopher, Institut of philosophy, Zagreb, COMEST.

Digital biometric and assigning identity: ethical and political analysis
Marie-Hélène Parizeau, philosopher, Université Laval, Québec, COMEST/UNESCO Former Chair

Face recognition and the right to anonymity
Clare Gravie, legal expert, Center on Privacy and Technology, Georgetown University

Public attitudes toward AI-enabled surveillance and facial/biometric identification technology: Views from a US opinion surveys
James Katz, College of Communication, Boston University

Digital biometric of the self and the amplification of IA: a new questionable medicine
François Berger, neurologist and researcher, INSERM, Paris

Moderator for the discussion : **Francesca Musiani**, socio-economist, CNRS, Paris

11 – 11.20 a.m.
Break

11.20 a.m. – 12.50 p.m.
Round-table 2 : Can we program ethics into autonomous machines? The example of autonomous cars and weapons

Chair : Peter-Paul Verbeek, philosopher, University of Twente, Netherlands, COMEST Chair

Can machines make ethical decisions?
Raja Chatila, Professor in IA and robotics, Institute of Intelligent Systems and Robotics, Sorbonne University, Paris

AI as omniscience: a threat to human dignity and autonomy?
Patrick Lin, Philosopher, Ethics + Emerging Sciences Group, California Polytechnic State University

Can autonomous weapons obey the 'laws' of war?
John Finney, Emeritus Professor of Physics at University College London, UK, PUGWASH Conferences/COMEST

Are autonomous weapons truly autonomous?
Jennifer Ang, Philosopher, Centre for University Core, Singapore University of Social Sciences

Moderator for the discussion : **Mélanie Dulong de Rosnay**, legal expert CNRS, Paris

12.50 – 2 p.m.
Lunch

IA

2 – 3.30 p.m.
Round-table 3 : Cultural politics in the era of AI: Creativity and Discoverability

Chair : Luka Omladič, philosopher, University of Ljubjana, Slovénia, COMEST

The new measures in favour of discoverability
Véronique Guèvremont, legal expert, Université Laval, Québec and UNESCO Chair on Cultural Diversity Expressions

Using personal data in the context of promoting cultural diversity
Pierre-Luc Déziel, legal expert, faculty of law, Université Laval

The protection of creations generated by AI: a legal and ethical issue
Alexandra Bensamoun, legal expert, Université de Renne 1, CERDI

Artificial intelligence and the cultural sector: opportunities and challenges
Octavio Kulesz, UNESCO consultant and digital publisher at Teseo Press, Argentina

Moderator for the discussion : **Yves Citton** (Eur ArTeC, Univ. Paris 8, Paris), Litterature Theory and Media Professor

3.30 – 3.50 p.m.
Break

3.50 – 5.20 p.m.
Round-table 4 : Gender in Artificial Intelligence : Ethical, Legal and Political Issues

Chair: Sang Wok YI, philosopher, Hanyang University, Republic of Korea, COMEST

The Politics of Gendering "AI" Assistants: Learning from Popular Culture Contexts
Heather Woods, Communication Studies, Kansas State University

Gender Proof: Preventing AI from Learning and Perpetuating Gender Bias
Susan Leavy, Computer science, University College, Dublin

Through the Looking glass of Artificial Intelligence
Vanessa Nurock, philosopher, Université de Paris 8

Moderator for the discussion: **Marie Lechner** author, artistic curator and journalist, Gaieté Lyrique, Paris

5.20 – 6 p.m.
General Discussion

Free registration on https://gfaih.org/
CIFAR workshop program in collaboration with COMEST (World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology) of UNESCO
The workshop is a co-located event of the Global Forum AI for Humanity (October 28-29-30) https://gfaih.org/
The workshop will be in French and English (with simultaneous interpretation from French to English)

Adress
Institut de France, 3 rue Mazarine, 75006 Paris, auditorium

Format
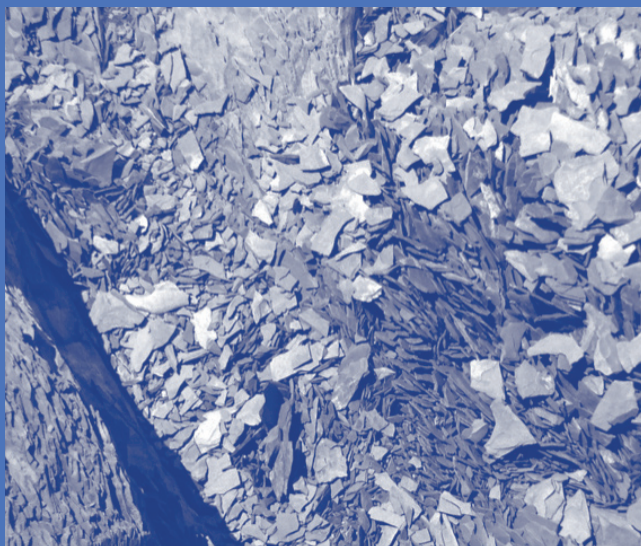15 min presentation for each speaker and 30 mins of general discussion per round-table

Steering Committee:
Marie-Hélène Parizeau (Laval University, Québec, COMEST/UNESCO Former Chair)
Vanessa Nurock (Université de Paris 8)
Raja Chatila (Université Pierre et Marie Curie)
Véronique Guèvremont (Université Laval, Québec, UNESCO Chair on Cultural Diversity Expressions)

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