



Committee: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Topic: Regulation of Artificial Intelligence

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Introduction

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), was established after two wars (WWI and WWII) and adopted in 1945, but did not enter into force until 1946, there were 195 members and 8 associate members. UNESCO's main goal is to find peace around the world, it believes that the most efficient way of achieving peace comes through education, sciences, and culture. UNESCO has created many programs, so that they will be able to achieve peace, some of these programs include: "The Universal Copyright Convention (1952)", "World heritage Convention (1972)", amongst others. UNESCO focuses primarily on five main achievements, these include wanting to greatly decrease the amount of extreme poverty within the world, making the whole world have primary education, eliminate gender disparity; they want to combat HIV, malaria, etc. and lastly, they're focused on making sure that there is enough environmental sustainability around the world.

The educational part of the system includes having enough educational policies around the world, as well as having the best material to support these educational policies, such as good materials and teachers and a wide range of information. They are always looking for ways to innovate their educational ideas around the world, and they are looking specifically at what works in each country to help improve the education quality in those areas.

Within the scientific contributors for UNESCO, their primary focus right now is the environment. What has been done recently has been increasing the amount of contamination around the world, while scientifically proving negative effects. Consequently, the committee looks for ways to help climate change, like their renewable energy programs, sustainable development in small islands, etc. However, their primary focus on science is how it can improve the way of life, not only environmentally speaking, but in every aspect. It also focuses on social and human sciences, this is associated with the relationships people have with other people, how we act and why we act a certain way around different kinds of people.

At last, we have the cultural aspect, the committee believes that culture is one of the most important factors of peace amongst nations. What's meant by this is that if people respect each other's cultures, it would be a lot easier to have social relations and therefore less conflict. Most conflicts stem from the belief of being superior to another, (in this case we're talking about countries) UNESCO believes that by respecting other people's points of view, then there's no reason as to why conflicts should happen.

Artificial intelligence has many definitions, definition by John McCarthy in 2004 which stated that AI artificial intelligence is "the science and engineering of making intelligent machines, especially intelligent computer programs. It is related to the similar task of using computers to understand human intelligence, but AI does not have to confine itself to methods that are biologically observable" (John McCarthy 2004, <https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/what-is-artificial-intelligence>). Artificial intelligence is a system that can think like a human, it combines computer sciences and different kinds of data to help find an answer to a specific question, it helps solve problems. There are different types of artificial intelligence, there's weak and strong AI. An example of the weak AI is Apple's Siri, and Amazon's Alexa. A Strong AI is a type of machinery that is somewhat equal to humans, it can plan for the future as well. This type of AI can replace human intelligence, being the reason why there has been a lot of controversy about the future of artificial intelligence and how it can affect human's future. Important scientist Stephen Hawking was worried about the AI regulations, he believed that with the right regulations AI and humans can co-exist peacefully. Bill Gates and Elon Musk also strongly suggest having proper regulations concerning this. Elon Musk and Stephen Hawking signed a letter that called the UN to stop producing any type of armor that could operate "beyond meaningful control". What the committee is worried about is what AI algorithms can do, if operated incorrectly it can cause great damage in people's life. The problem right now is that AI technology is improving very quickly, but the government and regulations aren't moving fast enough. UNESCO strongly believes that there has to be an efficient and fast solution in AI regulations to make sure that there aren't any fatalities in the future.

Development

Billions of people around the world are using artificial intelligence, we use it to help us in the workplace, at school, to find the answer to a question, to communicate, to play games, etc. AI has a lot of advantages, which prevents us from seeing the possibilities of the fatal effects of it, there are many risks that claim that the misuse of AI can cause great conflict and danger. A great number of weapons use artificial intelligence. Following the ongoing Ukraine-Russia war, the United Nations have had to discuss the

use of autonomous weapons, or in other words “killer robots”. These weapons are programmed to target a specific group of people or person, little not human activity remains over the target once it has been locked. These systems aren't properly developed yet, this means they are prompt to making mistakes that could be fatal towards anyone. Because of the possible fatal effects this type of system can have, countries have either prohibited or regulated the use of this type of artificial intelligence.

There are three primary issues that support the AI regulation, these include the privacy issues, most electronic devices now hold our facial recognition, or our hand prints, passwords, personal information, etc. AI has all this information to their disposal, and it can easily use it to its advantage. Another issue includes that algorithms can discriminate against race and gender, there has been a study which found that racist and sexist ideas have made some changes in the way robots think; an example of this is when a robot was asked what a woman should do, it answered to be a housekeeper, and when asked what a black man worked on, it showed them working as a janitor. The third issue, \ the most known, is a code-flawed AI that could be a threat to people.

Companies have been investing billions of dollars into the development of artificial intelligence. This money goes directly to the creation of robots that are now being used to do basic human work. The labor shortage during COVID caused an impact on many people, they were scared that something like this might happen again. Experts say that creating these types of robots will somehow prevent the staff shortage from happening again, however, tech specialists have doubts about how quickly they are doing this that could cause unforeseen consequences.

As much as artificial intelligence has improved our way of life, it can also have terrible consequences. It is essential that we research enough about the threats that AI can have amongst society and what needs to be done to prevent any fatalities. Some people oppose having AI regulations because they believe that all technological advances are good advances, and while most technological advances throughout the years have been more positive than negative, there is still the possibility of some negative effects. Other people believe that there should be regulations about AI. Recently there was a debate in the House of Lords where a robot participated, its name is Ai-Da, she spoke with British legislatives in the jury to testify that she could win an art program despite it being a robot. It stated that even if it doesn't have life, it can still create art. This is when people start being a little concerned about artificial intelligence doing things, not to help humanity, but for their own pleasure.

UNESCO believes that to do this debate correctly, there needs to be research on both points of view, and to what extent the regulations need to be done.

Conclusion

UNESCO invites all delegations to thoroughly research this issue since it is a controversial topic amongst nations. It's encouraged to be well-informed about all regulations already made and the ones that are in progress. This issue is vital since artificial intelligence has been rapidly growing, and will continue to grow with little to no regulation. If not coded correctly, artificial intelligence can cause great damage to society. Some of UNESCO's main concerns include the humanization of artificial intelligence, the danger of AI weapons, and the effects of wrongfully coding. We invite all delegations to find what concerns their countries the most, and what they believe this debate should keep as its main focus. Keep in mind that we are here to look for solutions, artificial intelligence is rapidly growing and there has to be changes done as soon as possible.

UNESCO has a few suggestions of what can be done regarding the regulation of artificial intelligence:

- A solution UNESCO would suggest is to create more knowledge on the issue by implementing a congress about the importance of artificial intelligence and the consequences it can cause. In each congress, there will be a debate about the regulations proposed; this will be funded by a non governmental organization.
- Another solution UNESCO strongly suggests is to listen to regulations within different countries, researching them and looking for new regulations they can implement in their own country. This will help by having more regulations in each country and nations working together.
- The third solution UNESCO suggests is creating a program that can re-assure that the coding in all new programs is done correctly. Since in most cases, the new version of AI is basically new coding on top of the old, if there is a flaw in the old coding the new one will inevitably have it, so by creating a program that makes sure the coding is done correctly then there shouldn't be an issue.
- At last, UNESCO suggests a solution that focuses specifically on artificial Intelligence weapons, the solution is to prohibit the use of this type of machinery with the intention of providing a safer place.-

Lastly, UNESCO invites your delegation to participate in this debate with the intention of providing the most efficient and viable solutions for this issue.

Thank you!

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