R3 Keeping green values in the age of AI

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Agenda item:	5. Resolutions

Resolution text

In the last couple of years we have been witnessing the transformation and development of digital technologies. One of the dominant spheres that have been on the rise is artificial intelligence (also known as AI, as it will be referred to in this resolution). While AI has been present in the background for some time, it is safe to say that it has finally become a crucial part of the contemporary person's life, whether they are aware of it or not.

AI is now being used in a wide variety of jobs, from the essential ones like healthcare and finance, to the creative ones, like writing and filmmaking. We are using it every time we use Google translate, social media, automatic passport control, smart air conditioning and, perhaps most evident, generative chatbots such as ChatGPT, only to name a few. However, people don't often realise how much AI is used in today's world in more controversial and harmful fields, such as surveillance and warfare. With the rapid decline of democracy and rise of authority and right-wing ideas, AI is one of the main tools of oppression in Eastern Europe. It is proven that these tools are heavily used in Serbia for spyware, as well as video surveillance that operates in a legal grey zone[1][2], while similar happenings have been noted in Albania[3], Bulgaria and Hungary[4], among others. Russia and Turkey have been using AI as a tool of political authoritarian propaganda[5]. Greece has been using AI technology as a tool of oppression against migrants[6]. Russia has additionally been misusing AI technologies heavily during the full scale invasion of Ukraine since 2022, both as means of propaganda[7], and as active aggressive military threat[8]. The harm is even greater when we take into consideration that many of the Eastern European countries don't even have any regulations regarding AI[9][10].

CDN is not and never has been against innovation and development in technology, and we underline that the instances of questionable usages of AI don't mean that the whole technology is to be ostracized. However, we must prioritise safe, humane and democratic usage and development of the technology, both on a personal and governmental level. This is why we demand and advocate for the following ways that would help creating and using AI on par with green values:

- There should be complete transparency when developing AI and AI tools, as well as transparency about when and how they are used. Development of AI should be in public interest and with public accountability in mind. There shouldn't be monopolisation of AI by the big tech, and there should be open-source models that would ensure fair access. AI should serve human

needs, not corporate profits. Future developments should be open source and all information gathering should be made public.

- AI should be used to help and improve workplaces and services, and not to harm existing workers. We demand strong labor protection and banning job displacement due to automation. AI should be primarily used and developed in order to aid human needs, and to improve social services, such as health-care, education, and social security. These tools should, therefore, be free and accessible, with developed programs for education of digital literacy that would help people use the tools.

- We demand that all the countries in Eastern Europe adopt detailed, dynamic and democratic policies and strategies for AI usage that will prioritise human rights and freedoms. The future usages of AI by the state must then go in line with these legislations. These practices should be constantly revised and updated in ways to ensure any discrimination by AI, especially against the marginalized communities and migrants. AI in autonomous weapons and warfare, as well as in mass surveillance should be completely banned, especially by the government.

Finally, while we realise AI is the key part of contemporary life, especially for youth, as an organisation with green values we must keep environmental sustainability in mind. AI tools often use up a lot of energy and damage the environment in the process, which is why we should strive against overconsumption of AI and demand regulations of AI's energy consumption, including data centers and large-scale models. AI should be developed as a sustainable tool as much as possible, protecting the interest of the environment.

In future, CDN plans to develop the strategies and resolutions regarding the AI in accordance with other organisations such as EU, Council of Europe and European Youth Forum. We will continue, as CDN representatives, to practice transparent AI usage, but also encourage creativity, development and green values.

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[1] https://balkaninsight.com/2024/06/28/serbian-authorities-use-high-tech-surveillance-to-monitor-opponents-birn-report/

[2] https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur70/8814/2024/en/

[3] https://tvpworld.com/85256069/albanias-smart-city-project-triggers-surveillance-fears

[4] https://balkaninsight.com/2022/10/13/boosting-of-spying-capabilities-stokes-fear-hungary-is-building-a-surveillance-state/

[5] https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/ai-poses-risks-both-authoritarian-and-democratic-politics

[6] https://www.computerweekly.com/news/366618223/Greek-authorities-subject-refugees-to-invasive-surveillance

[7] https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/deepfake-footage-purports-show-ukrainian-president-capitulating-2022-03-16/

[8] https://www.cnas.org/publications/commentary/roles-and-implications-of-ai-in-the-russian-ukrainian-conflict

[9] https://practiceguides.chambers.com/practice-guides/artificial-intelligence-2024/north-macedonia/trends-and-developments

[10] https://airewb.org/misuse-of-artificial-intelligence-how-ready-is-bosnia-and-herzegovina-for-the-new-challenges-of-cybercrime/

Reason

The reasoning for the resolution is presented in its content.