

# A FUTURE WITH



## Voices of Global Youth



## FINAL REPORT

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# A Future with AI

## Voices of Global Youth

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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We asked 254 youth from 36 countries to share their thoughts on the future of artificial intelligence (AI), by responding to a survey and submitting an essay. The objective was to learn about their experience with AI and their hopes, fears and ideas for the future of AI.

We found a high level of trust in AI and a positive attitude, even though most do not have a detailed understanding of how AI works. We found an equally high (75 percent percent) level of readiness to face a future in which humans and AI coexist.

Unemployment is the highest concern and youth are actively thinking about careers that are not affected by AI or that, in fact, leverage AI. There was strong interest in AI or even regulation of AI.

Finally, the participants collectively adopted a Statement that captures their views of a future with AI.

### BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

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The world is ever evolving; however, the change these days occurs quickly – and we are shaping the future with the actions and decisions we take today. Our youth will inhabit the world we are creating. One of the areas” of [the Secretary-General’s report on Our Common Agenda](#)” is "Listen to and work with youth".

Policymakers should benefit from the ideas of youth on topics that will affect this generation in years to come.

One such topic is Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI is being adopted rapidly and eagerly everywhere, but not all its uses are equally welcome. It is critical that we find ways to embrace AI in an intentional and sensible way that reaps the benefits and minimizes the risk of harm.

The goal of this project is to contribute towards a vision of a future where human wellbeing and happiness take center stage; therefore, we reached out to youth (10- to 24-years-old) around the world to understand their perceptions, fears, hopes and ideas regarding AI. Some attitudes may be universally shared, while others are more culturally specific. All, however, are essential if we hope to achieve a degree of mutual understanding and to promote solidarity and collaboration globally.

























**Q5. How often do you see AI around you?**

- Never
- Once a month
- Once a week
- Once a day
- Multiple times a day

**Q6. How much do you agree with the following? (rate from 1 = disagree ... 4 = agree)**

- I search for information about AI (e.g., programming, new AI services)
- I study AI through the internet, books or classes.
- I trust AI.
- I see AI as my friend or a family member (e.g., Siri, Alexa).
- I think AI or robots can be my best friends.
- I want to keep my robot even though I buy a new one as I feel sad if I throw it away.
- I want to use AI in order to learn languages, mathematics, etc. at home.
- I want to play games with AI in order to increase my skills.
- I want to collaborate with AI (e.g., playing games, creating arts).
- I think human should be critical against any decision which is made by AI.
- I want to create new AI or robots in collaboration with other people around the world.
- I want to discuss AI use and regulation with other people around the world.
- I want to create a world where humans and AI live together.

**OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS OF AI**

**Q7. For the following activities, do you prefer AI to do it, or human? Or AI and human working together?" (choose one out of three: AI, Human, Together)**

- Doing manual labor in factories (robots with AI)
- Housekeeping
- Childcare
- Care for elderly people

- Teaching
- Assessing students (e.g., grading tests)
- Political decision making
- Surveillance (helping the government or police)
- Surgery
- Inventing new medicine
- Driving cars
- Delivery (by drone, robots)
- Work as a salesperson (e.g. self driving cars or robots)
- The use of AI in weapons
- Creating Art and Culture (e.g. music, paintings, novels etc.)

**Q8. How serious do you think the risks of AI are?**

- Not so serious - I don't worry about them
- The risks are serious, but they can be controlled
- Very serious
- We must stop using AI now!

**Q9. What do you think is the biggest risk of AI? (choose as many as you want)**

- Malfunctioning of AI (e.g. self driving cars or robots)
- The use of AI in weapons
- Humans depending too much on AI
- Humans losing their jobs to AI
- The unfair distribution of AI among countries
- Robots taking over the world
- Collecting and processing personal data without human control
- Government regulating people through AI
- Unfair judgements and discrimination by AI









## ANNEX 3: IMAGINATION CHALLENGE

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We gave youth three topics to choose from for their essays on the future of AI.

### TOPIC 1: USING AI FOR GOOD



There are many opportunities for AI. Robots can take on tasks that are dangerous for humans, like rescuing people from a fire or earthquake, or working in a factory.

AI is becoming better at understanding humans. Maybe one day AI can look after elderly people or teach children?

AI is already used to discover new medicine (like Covid vaccines!). AI is already used to discover new medicine (like Covid vaccines!).

AI can also help us monitor the environment and predict the future of our oceans, forests and our climate.

#### Your challenge:

*Imagine the ideal future society where you want to live in 2050. Now choose one social issue that you need to solve in order to create your ideal society above (e.g. one of SDGs). Describe how you would use AI to solve this issue.*



### TOPIC 2: BAD AI

If we are not careful, Artificial Intelligence may also have bad results. For example, when AI takes decisions (like grading your exams), how can we know it is being fair?

And AI may be used in weapons, for example drones, that can kill people. Some countries have started using such weapons.

Artificial Intelligence can learn. It becomes smarter over time. Some people are afraid AI may become so smart it will act on its own one day. There are some science-fiction movies about robots that take over the world.

#### Your challenge:

*Choose the biggest risks of AI in 2050. Make your original AI Principles (you can look up the "Three Laws of Robotics"). Describe how everyone can adhere to your principles*



*globally. Who should take the most important roles? Should the UN play a role? Or propose your own new communities or organizations, virtually and/or non-virtually.*

### **TOPIC 3: THE FUTURE OF WORK**

When AI and Robots can take over many of our jobs, what will humans do?

**Your Challenge:**

*Imagine you are the boss of a big business in 2050. What kind of tasks will you use AI for, and what kind of tasks will you ask humans to do? You may imagine new types of jobs for humans in the future. What kind of skills do you think will be important, not only technical but also “uniquely human” skills. What are “uniquely human” skills and how can you learn those?*