
CEPS TASK FORCE

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: ETHICS, GOVERNANCE AND POLICY CHALLENGES PROSPECTUS

Artificial intelligence has finally reached its “hype” phase, with countless experts, real and self-proclaimed gurus, and also generalist newspapers, blogs, magazines becoming more and more attentive to its breath-taking development. However, the current debate too often falls short of addressing concrete policy challenges: sometimes, the discussion appears trapped into extreme cases such as the “trolley problem” for self-driving cars; or the possibility that artificial general intelligence surpasses human intelligence. This often leads to a rather dystopian view of AI as an existential risk for humanity, and also as an unprecedented job-killer. At the same time, it leaves important ethical, governance and policy questions unaddressed. These issues are ranging very widely, encompassing the liability, accountability and transparency of algorithm developers, the attribution of rights and duties to smart autonomous robots, the design of an innovation-friendly data policy for AI-enabled applications, and most importantly the empowerment of all citizens and end users thanks to a widespread diffusion of socially relevant AI-enabled innovation.

CEPS is launching a Task force to try to bring back the AI debate to a more concrete discussion of these outstanding ethical, governance and policy challenges. The Task Force will focus in particular on EU policy, but will also look at developments in other parts of the world. We envisage four meetings, approximately with monthly frequency, structured along these lines (very provisional):

- Meeting 1. What is the state of AI? Stocktaking with experts from various academic backgrounds. Presentations by the European Commission and the European Parliament, in view of the upcoming Communication on AI (expected on April 25, 2018)
- Meeting 2. AI between ethics and economics. Liability, innovation and user empowerment issues.
- Meeting 3. Standardization and industry developments in the AI and machine learning domain. Algorithmic transparency and accountability options.
- Meeting 4. The governance of AI: ensuring fruitful public-private cooperation and future-proof public policy.
- Meeting 5. Presentation of the Final Report.

The CEPS Task Force on AI aims at involving a significant number of stakeholders, such as industry players (Internet companies, energy, telecoms, banking/insurance, healthcare, manufacturing, etc.); academics (see below for a preliminary list); the European Commission (DG GROW, CONNECT, RTD); and the European Parliament (EPRS STOA, plus several MEPs).

Scientific board

A scientific advisory board is being set up, including the following academics (invited):

- Luciano Floridi (Oxford Internet Institute), *Chair of the Scientific Board*
- Toby Walsh (LMU and UNSW)
- Mariarosaria Rossi (University of Pavia)
- Vincent Conitzer (Duke – Computer Science, Economics and Philosophy)
- Kay Firth-Butterfield (WEF and IEEE)
- Lorena Jaume-Palasi (AlgorithmWatch)
- John Higgins (Global Digital Foundation and Burson Marsteller)
- Karen Yeung (King's College)
- Gianmarco Verruggio (CNR-Italy)

Rapporteur



Andrea Renda, Senior Research Fellow, CEPS. Senior Research Fellow and Head of Global Governance, Regulation, Innovation and the Digital Economy (GRID), CEPS; and Chair for Digital innovation, College of Europe, Bruges (Belgium). Andrea is an expert in technology policy, innovation, governance and better regulation.

Timeline

The tentative timeline for the AI Task Force is the following:

1st meeting: May 2018

2nd meeting: June 2018

3rd meeting: July 2018

4th meeting: August 2018

Presentation of the report: end of September 2018.

Joining the Task Force

Participation in the Task Force is subject to a fee to cover the research and organisational expenses. CEPS Corporate Members are entitled to receive a significant discount. Also, bundle discount are available for members that decide to join also the new Task Force on Blockchain (please inquire with Andrea Renda). Discounted fees will be considered for non-members if they decide to become a member of CEPS.

The fee covers:

- The research carried out by CEPS for the purpose of this Task Force
- Organisational, catering and other costs of all meetings
- Web access and documentation
- Launch of the final report in Brussels in a public event to maximise exposure
- Press release and communications management
- Printing and editing costs of the final report
- Distribution of the final report to key stakeholders in industry and policy-making
- Three printed copies of the final report per member (mailing included)

The fee does not cover travel and accommodation costs for Task Force members to attend the meetings.

Upon request, CEPS will mail additional copies of the final report to members, at their expense. The final report will be launched at a public event in Brussels, open to the press, with the presence of high-level policy-makers. Additional launch events in other European capitals may be organised, if sponsored by members of the Task Force.

Please note that CEPS is also organizing a Task Force **Towards a European Internet of Value? Leveraging Blockchain to Boost the EU Digital Single Market**. If you are interested in joining both task forces special, discounted fees apply.

Fee Structure (+21% VAT if applicable)		Fees for two TFs on AI and Blockchain
CEPS Corporate Members	€ 1,500	€ 2000
Non-Members—Large corporations	€ 5,000	€ 7000
Non-Members – SMEs	€ 500	€ 700
Academics and civil society	€ 300 [upon request]	€ 500
Policy-makers	Free of charge [upon request]	

To join the Task Force, please fill in the application form on the next page. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact us:

Andrea Renda

Senior Research Fellow

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REGISTRATION FORM

Artificial Intelligence: Ethics, Governance and Policy Challenges

Person attending the meetings			
Title:	First name:	Last name:	
Job title:			
E-mail:		Telephone:	
Company / Institution			
Company / Institution name:			
Postal address:			
	Postcode:	City:	Country:
Contact Person:			
E-mail:		Telephone:	
Billing information			
Tax register number (VAT for Europe):			
Your reference, Customer Purchase Order No. or Cost Code N:			
Department:			
Postal address:			
	Postcode:	City:	Country:
Contact person:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	We are interested in joining also the <i>Towards a European Internet of Value? Leveraging Blockchain to Boost the EU Digital Single Market</i> task force		
CEPS members – check the applicable fee (+21% VAT)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	CEPS Corporate Member EUR 1,500		
Non-members - check the applicable box (+21% VAT)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full Fee EUR 5,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	My company is interested in becoming a member of CEPS*
Date:		Signature:	
Return to: Ada Modzelewska ada.modzelewska@ceps.eu + 32.2.229.39.75 Centre for European Policy Studies 1 Place du Congrès 1000 Brussels Belgium			
More information: If you would like to become a member or need more information, please contact Andrea Renda, Senior Research Fellow at andrea.renda@ceps.eu			

*Discounted fees for this Task Force will be considered for non-members if they decide to become member of CEPS

ANNEX

Principles and Guidelines for CEPS Task Forces

This Annex offers guidance to prospective Task Force members and other interested parties in understanding the functioning of a CEPS Task Force and the process of drafting a Task Force report. Task Forces are processes of structured dialogue among industry representatives, policy-makers, consumers and NGOs, who are brought together over several meetings. Task Force reports are the final output of the research carried out independently by CEPS in the context of the Task Force.

Participants in a Task Force

- ✓ Members are for-profit entities, membership organisations or NGOs which participate in a Task Force and contribute to its expenses by paying a fee.
- ✓ Rapporteurs are CEPS researchers who organise the Task Force, conduct the research independently and draft the final report.
- ✓ Chair is an expert appointed by CEPS to steer the dialogue during the meetings and advise as to the general conduct of the activities of the Task Force.
- ✓ Observers are any policymakers or stakeholders who are invited to attend the Task Force meetings and provide oral and written input.

Objectives of a Task Force report

- ✓ Task Force reports are meant to contribute to policy debates by presenting a balanced set of arguments, based on the members' views, available data and literature.
- ✓ Reports seek to provide readers with a constructive basis for discussion. Conversely, they do not seek to advance a single position or misrepresent the complexity of any subject matter.
- ✓ Task Force reports also fulfil an educational purpose, and are therefore drafted in a manner that is easy to understand, without jargon, and with any technical terminology fully defined.

The role of the Task Force members

- ✓ Member contributions may take the form of participation in informal debate or a formal presentation in the course of the meetings, or a written submission.
- ✓ Input from members is encouraged and will be made available to all members, if it is to be used for the final report.
- ✓ Members represent their institutions but are asked to provide input as experts.
- ✓ Members are given ample opportunity to review the Task Force report before it is published, as detailed below.

Drafting of conclusions and recommendations

- ✓ Task Force reports feature a set of conclusions. To draft these conclusions, rapporteurs will summarise members' views. Wherever members' views do not lead to clear conclusions, general phrasing will be employed.
- ✓ Task Force reports feature a set of policy recommendations. These recommendations are meant to reflect members' views.
 - For a recommendation to be featured in the report, there needs to be 'consensus' or 'broad agreement' among Task Force members. Consensus does not however mean unanimity or full agreement as to every aspect of a given recommendation.
 - Where 'consensus' co-exists with a significant minority view, the report will feature this minority view next to the relevant recommendation.
 - Where there is no 'consensus' but several contradictory views, the report will feature all these views and either refrain from making any recommendation or simply advise policy-makers to clarify the given subject matter.

- In all cases, the report will seek to identify the points where there is some form of agreement, for instance a common understanding of facts or opinions.
- ✓ Both conclusions and policy recommendations will be summarised at the beginning of the report in the form of an 'executive summary'.
- ✓ Members will be given ample opportunity to review the text of both conclusions and recommendations.

Drafting of the main text

- ✓ In the main text, rapporteurs detail the results of the research carried out independently in the framework of the Task Force. This part of the report will refer to the discussions during the task force meetings but also to available data and literature.
- ✓ Members' views are not simply presented as such but are also put into context. Wherever there is fundamental disagreement, the rapporteurs will ensure that all views are presented in a clear and fair manner.
- ✓ Scientific literature may be cited in this part of the report. Members are not purported to endorse any reference to this literature. A general disclaimer is inserted to clarify this aspect.
- ✓ The conclusions for each section will be clearly presented –and highlighted if appropriate. For the drafting of these conclusions please refer to the section above.

Use of data

- ✓ Task Force reports feature data that are considered both relevant and accurate by the rapporteurs.
- ✓ Task Force members are encouraged to contribute with any data or propose any sources they may consider relevant.
- ✓ Members may question either the relevance or accuracy of any given data. After consultation with other Task Force members, rapporteurs may decide either to exclude this data or to mention these concerns in the main body of the text.

Sample structure of a Task Force report

1. Editorial information
2. Disclaimer (see example below)
3. Executive summary
4. Outline
5. Main text
6. Summary of conclusions
7. References
8. Annexes, if any
9. List of participants

Sample disclaimer

"This report is based on the discussions in the CEPS Task Force on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, which met on five separate occasions in 2015. The policy recommendations offered at the beginning of this report reflect a general consensus reached by Task Force members, although not every member agrees with every aspect of each recommendation. A list of members, observers and invited guests of the Task Force can be found in Annex 3. The members were given the opportunity to comment on the draft final report, but its contents may only be attributed to the rapporteurs."

About CEPS – Centre for European Policy Studies

Founded in Brussels in 1983, the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) is among the most experienced and authoritative think tanks operating in the European Union today. CEPS serves as a leading forum for debate on EU affairs, and its most distinguishing feature lies in its strong in-house research capacity, complemented by an extensive network of partner institutes throughout the world.

CEPS' funding is obtained from a variety of sources, including membership fees, project research, foundation grants, conferences fees, publication sales and an annual grant from the European Commission.



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