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United Nations Efforts to Address the Threats Posed by AI-powered Machines Programmed by Humans

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Abstract:

The development of artificial intelligence technologies in this millennium has made significant strides, particularly with the creation of intelligent robots by global companies and research institutions, supported by advanced algorithms. However, these technologies have also led to negative consequences, hindering progress and threatening international peace and security. As a result, the role of the United Nations and its agencies has become crucial in protecting individuals' privacy rights and safeguarding their security from the risks posed by AI-driven machines. This has been accomplished through the adoption of recommendations and ethical regulations by countries to ensure the fundamental rights and freedoms of their citizens.

Keywords: Robotics, Artificial Intelligence, Right to Privacy, United Nations, Human Rights.

الملخص:

شهدت مسألة تطوير تكنولوجيات الذكاء الاصطناعي في هذه الألفية طفرة نوعية من خلال تصميم الشركات العالمية ومؤسسات البحث للروبوتات الذكية مدعمة بالبرامج الخوارزمية، إلاّ أن هذه التكنولوجيات المتطورة أفرزت في مقابل ذلك بعض الآثار السلبية نتج عنها تعطيل التنمية وزعزعت السلم والأمن الدوليين. ونتيجة ذلك برز دور الأمم المتحدة وهيئتها في حماية الحق في الخصوصية للأفراد والحفاظ على أمنهم من تهديدات الآلات الذكية المسيرة بتقنية الذكاء الاصطناعي من خلال إقرارها لمجموعة من التوصيات والضوابط الأخلاقية تتبعها الدول لأجل كفالة الحقوق والحريات الأساسية لمواطنيها.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الروبوتات، الذكاء الاصطناعي، الحق في الخصوصية، الأمم المتحدة، حقوق الإنسان.

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Introduction:

The early 21st century saw a significant leap in the use of artificial intelligence and intelligent robots in many countries, driven by governments' adoption of advanced programs and systems for research, technological development, and personal data management. Global companies and research institutions have played a key role in developing these technologies, creating intelligent machines supported by various applications that convert information into artificial knowledge, simplifying human life. However, these technologies have also negatively impacted individuals' privacy and rights, posing serious threats to humanity, disrupting development, and destabilizing international peace and security.

In response to these challenges, the United Nations has worked to protect privacy rights and safeguard humanity's safety from the threats posed by AI-powered machines and robotics. The UN has enacted a series of recommendations and ethical guidelines, which are being adopted by its main organs and specialized agencies. These measures aim to protect citizens' fundamental rights and promote sustainable development by ensuring responsible and ethical use of AI technologies.

The emergence of AI-powered robots as a driver of scientific and technological innovation, through intelligent information systems, has opened new avenues for individuals and institutions to access information and address challenges quickly. This has ushered humanity into the "Age of Knowledge," where AI-generated knowledge mimics human understanding. As the world transitions into an era of technological development and digital economies, AI and robotics provide opportunities for advancements in areas such as education, research, the environment, and agriculture. However, the development of these technologies depends on their responsible use, ensuring that AI-driven robots contribute to solving global issues like climate change and warfare.

The right to privacy is one of the most fundamental personal rights, closely linked to an individual’s private life. It is protected in most national legislations and international human rights frameworks, which impose obligations on countries to ensure adequate protection. With technological advancements in the 21st century, countries have adopted AI-powered robots in sectors like research and development, personal data management, agriculture, aviation, and e-commerce. These technologies have enhanced public service performance and simplified daily life.

However, the rapid growth of these technologies in the digital space, particularly AI-powered machines, has led to negative consequences for individuals’ privacy and dignity. These include breaches of confidential information and data, violating citizens' privacy and infringing on their basic rights and freedoms. In response to the increasing risks of AI technologies in information systems, and the lack of national regulations in many countries, the United Nations has explored international legal frameworks to ensure human rights protection and mitigate the negative effects of AI-powered robotics on global development and peace. The UN has proposed ethical principles and operational mechanisms for governments to follow when using AI technologies, ensuring the protection of personal data and national security.

This study emphasizes the role of UN organs and specialized agencies in promoting human rights and ensuring that AI technologies contribute to the betterment of human rights, peace, and sustainable development. The UN has actively addressed the challenges posed by AI technologies, setting legal and technical measures to safeguard individuals' rights, prevent privacy breaches, and minimize negative impacts on peace and development.

To address the research question:

What are the risks associated with using AI-powered robots, and what solutions can humanity adopt to benefit from them in the age of artificial knowledge? What role has the United Nations played in setting standards to address the threats posed by AI systems on human rights, peace, and sustainable development amidst the growing use of artificial intelligence?

This study adopts a descriptive and analytical approach, focusing on the importance of AI-powered systems, such as robots, and their current impact on individual privacy and freedoms. It examines key decisions and recommendations from UN organs regarding the safe and responsible use of AI technology to enhance human rights, peace, and sustainable development. The study is structured around two main topics:

The First Topic: Threats and Challenges Surrounding the Use of Robots in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

This century has seen the emergence of smart robots powered by artificial intelligence systems, which have become a driving force for technological innovations in intelligent information systems. These advancements have helped overcome obstacles for individuals and institutions in their daily activities, contributing to development and international peace. However, these technologies have also led to negative effects that have impacted the stability of countries, which now face risks and challenges related to the use of AI-driven smart robots. This section will highlight these issues.

First Requirement: The Relationship between Robots and Artificial Intelligence

Before examining the risks and challenges associated with AI-powered robots, it is important to define what these intelligent machines are and how they relate to AI within the legal context. A robot is generally defined as an automated machine that performs repetitive tasks based on predefined instructions from specialists or direct control by designers, using a series of intelligent software programs. These robots are designed to mimic human behavior or replicate specific tasks more efficiently and accurately. In some cases, they are built to operate autonomously without human intervention.

Robots are closely associated with the field of robotics, which combines computer science and applied engineering. They serve as efficient tools that enable artificial intelligence systems to provide rapid, responsive services across various sectors. Initially, robots were designed as programs performing specific roles through algorithms created by developers to execute predefined tasks[1]. However, the technology has evolved, and these intelligent machines can now influence human behavior, as seen with programs like "ChatGPT," which can affect an individual's actions or emotions.

These robots operate according to the programming of the AI system that controls them; executing tasks based on algorithms and specific software codes. By integrating AI, these machines become more intelligent, enabling them to perform tasks with increased precision and efficiency. Relevant AI specialties in robotics include machine learning, which involves developing models that learn patterns from data to predict new outcomes, and robotics, which integrates AI applications into robots to autonomously perform physical tasks[2].

A significant legal debate has emerged about whether these intelligent robots should be granted legal personality, similar to natural or legal persons, due to the

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[1] Markoff, j., Machines of Loving Grzce-The Quest for Common Ground between Humans and Robots, Harper Collins Publishers, 2015,p.168.

[2] Vinusesa, h. The role of artificial intelligence in achieving the sustainable development, Revue Expert n°147, December 2019, p.59.

increasing role they play in modern technological interactions. Some legal experts argue that recognizing robots as legal persons could raise numerous legal and ethical concerns, complicating the assignment of responsibility for actions involving these entities[3]. Others suggest that granting robots legal personality does not necessarily imply full legal responsibility and their legal status could be recognized without implicating them in criminal or civil liability. International bodies such as the United Nations and the European Union have sought to establish guidelines and ethical principles for designing AI-powered robots, which companies and nations must follow. These principles are based on three fundamental ideas:

1. A robot must not replace humans.
2. Robots must obey human instructions, unless those orders conflict with the law.
3. Robots should protect human existence and dignity.

In the context of armed conflicts or wars, international humanitarian law has raised concerns about the creation and use of "killer robots"- intelligent machines programmed for lethal activities. The United Nations General Assembly, through its meetings and discussions in committees focused on information technology, has addressed the issue of robotic weapons causing excessive harm to humans. This sparked a global discussion on the need for a legal and ethical framework to govern the use of AI- driven robots and drones in warfare. The central idea is that these robots should be programmed to ensure human control over the machine, rather than the other way around.

Second Requirement: The Infringement of the Right to Privacy by Smart Robots in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

At the start of the new millennium, there was a significant leap in the use of information and communication technologies by various countries, particularly with the deployment of AI-powered robots by businesses, financial institutions, and public administrations in their commercial, financial, and public service operations. However, this technological advancement raised growing concerns about the ability of these technologies to protect individuals' privacy- often referred to as the "right to privacy"- and their personal data. This concern arises from the influential role of robots and AI algorithms in processing personal data and gaining access to individuals' private lives. To understand the implications, we will examine the scope of the right to privacy under international law, its protection against AI applications,

[3] Aida, Ponce, Del Castillo, A. Law on Robotics and artificial intelligence in the EU? Civil Law on Robotics of, 2017, p.85.

and its alignment with human rights principles in the age of the knowledge economy. Issues such as the leakage of user data from "ChatGPT" have also emerged as significant violations of privacy, highlighting how AI systems can manipulate data and distinguish between individuals[4].

From a legal perspective, privacy refers to the domain of an individual's private life within society, which varies depending on societal components and rules governing what is considered private. Privacy encompasses several aspects, such as security (protecting personal information and sensitive data of public institutions, businesses, and financial entities), human rights (violations of personal freedoms and rights), and individual property and financial matters (violations of personal assets and private property).

It is important to note that the concept of the right to privacy has evolved rapidly in modern times, facing numerous challenges in legal frameworks that regulate public service practices and business activities in the digital world. These frameworks are designed to protect personal data in line with the principles of the knowledge economy. International conventions explicitly recognize the right to privacy in the digital age and establish rules for its protection in accordance with international human rights law. Specifically, documents and declarations issued by the United Nations emphasize the need to avoid using AI technologies in ways that violate the right to privacy, while advocating for the development of these technologies in alignment with state obligations under established guidelines.

Despite the significant advancements in AI-powered robots that have revolutionized the knowledge and digital economies in many countries-improving individuals' quality of life-some experts in technology and law express concern over the excessive use of these smart machines by states, businesses, and individuals for unethical and harmful purposes. These risks could infringe on personal privacy, threaten individual freedoms, expose secrets, and distort facts, ultimately harming personal interests. On the other hand, some legal professionals argue that, while risks exist in fields such as genetic research, climate change, and individual privacy (including cybersecurity attacks and data breaches), AI technology can also provide secure frameworks for safeguarding networks and protecting personal data in public and private institutions. According to these experts, the real issue is not the existence of risks, but the need to adhere to proper standards that regulate the use of these smart systems[5]. These standards should ensure that AI systems effectively

[4] Vinusesa, h. op.cit, p.72.
[5] Markoff, j., Machines of Loving Grzce, op.cit, p.187.

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handle sensitive personal information through secure data management programs, preventing any infringements on individuals' privacy. When used correctly, AI can help organizations, businesses, and individuals protect networks from cyber-attacks and secure private data.

At the international level, the global community has placed special emphasis on protecting individuals' right to privacy by implementing modern legal mechanisms that monitor emerging technologies in the digital world, ensuring that they respect privacy and data security. The United Nations, through its various agencies and bodies, has made significant efforts to protect individuals' privacy and personal lives by issuing declarations, treaties, and international resolutions that underscore the importance of privacy and its protection under the law. However, the use of AI-powered smart machines presents several challenges in fields such as genetics, climate science, and technology[6]. These challenges include privacy violations, such as the exposure of personal secrets, discriminatory practices, data leaks, and illegal use of personal information, including identity theft and the unauthorized dissemination of personal data. As a result, privacy has become an increasingly complex issue in the digital era, especially with the growing spread of personal and organizational information across digital platforms and systems.

The Third Requirement: The Use of Artificial Intelligence[7] through Smart Robots to Promote Human Rights and Sustainable Development

The use of AI-powered smart robots has increased significantly worldwide in various fields, such as research, agriculture, management, and commerce. Industrialized countries, in particular, have recognized the importance of utilizing and developing artificial intelligence as an advanced technology that enhances capabilities across multiple sectors while embedding human rights principles within AI systems to protect human dignity and integrity. Since the right to privacy is a fundamental human right established by national legislations, it has become essential for these countries to adhere to international human rights law and United Nations resolutions, which mandate the protection of this right from the impacts of using smart robots and AI technologies. This ensures that these technologies align with both domestic legal frameworks and the legitimacy of international human rights law. Many legal professionals and AI technology experts have explored ways

[6] Allen, Gregory, Understanding china's strategy, Center for a New American Security, New York, 2022, p.114.

[7] A.I: Artificial Intelligence

to leverage these smart machines and modern technologies in service of human rights, aiming to utilize the full potential of available resources and improve human well-being. The goal is to address numerous challenges, save time and effort, and enhance quality of life. However, approaches to using AI-powered robots for human rights have varied. Some experts argue that AI risks must be assessed to ensure they serve human rights, while others believe that human rights principles should be integrated into the lifecycle of AI technologies from their inception, ensuring these principles guide the technology's development and deployment.

A third group suggests the establishment of legal mechanisms to regulate and monitor the use of AI-powered robots, ensuring their compatibility with global human rights frameworks and the rule of law. This could involve creating an international body under the United Nations to oversee the design and development processes of AI-driven robots, addressing both legal and technical aspects, and correcting deviations from human rights principles and international humanitarian law[8].

Additionally, regional agreements, such as those from the European Union, have outlined essential principles to protect individual and collective rights, including privacy, and have embedded these principles within the development of AI technologies. This ensures the protection of individuals within the EU from infringements on their personal lives and the automated processing of personal data, regardless of nationality.

To achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for 2030, the UN main bodies have been developing strategies on how specialized agencies and global companies involved in the design and development of smart robots, AI applications, and technological research should address the impact of scientific and technological advancements. These efforts aim to leverage technological change to meet the Millennium Development Goals, with all parties committed to ensuring that the use of robotics and AI technologies contributes to solving global challenges and advancing the capabilities of countries, regardless of their economic status or geographical location[9].

The Second Topic: The United Nations' Stance on the Impact of AI-Powered Robots on Human Life

[8] Aida, Ponce, Del Castillo, A., op.cit, p.123.

[9] Mayer, dreuiget, Algorithms, they predict our future, Courier international, n°151, November 2019, p.96.

Given the advancements in communication and information technology, along with the increasing use of smart robots and AI in the 21st century, it has become essential for countries to adopt international legal mechanisms, in accordance with international law, to protect individuals, institutions, and states from the potential risks of AI-powered smart machines. The United Nations has embraced this approach to safeguard human rights, protect the environment, the economy, and agriculture, and ensure that all advancements serve humanity's benefit. This commitment reflects the organization's dedication to upholding personal rights and guaranteeing basic human rights, while also maintaining an ethical and natural balance for humanity on Earth. Undoubtedly, the United Nations provides the ideal international framework to support the enhancement of these rights, incorporating them into the lifecycle of AI technologies to minimize the risks[10].

First Requirement: Protection from the Risks of Using AI-Powered Machines from the Perspective of the UN's Main Bodies

In recent years, the impact of AI-powered robots has garnered increased attention from the United Nations, particularly from its main organs, which have been closely monitoring developments across various fields such as information technology, human rights, development, and disarmament. The UN has issued numerous recommendations and guidelines to countries and organizations involved in designing and developing AI-powered smart machines, emphasizing the risks faced by users of these technologies, especially in the context of digital transactions[11]. The aim is to establish effective mechanisms to minimize the negative impacts of AI technologies and ensure their responsible use.

Firstly: The United Nations General Assembly

In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly launched a dedicated program for artificial intelligence and smart robots, developing a clear action plan in collaboration with relevant stakeholders in the field. The goal was to monitor the global development of AI activities. To implement this initiative, the General Assembly tasked the United Nations Regional Institute for Crime and Justice with overseeing the program. In line with these recommendations, the institute created a special program to assess the benefits and drawbacks of AI-powered machines,

[10] United Nation and intelligence artificially, Forum International, Addis-Abeba, Ethiopia، Forum international, United Nations, Economic Commission for Africa February 2020.

[11] Catherine, Clifford, Digital Technologies and Mediation, Revue Discover Nat. Common, January 2018, p.144.

explore associated risks, and propose potential solutions for developing AI and robotics technologies. These recommendations came to fruition during the 71st session of the General Assembly in September 2016, with the opening of the first UN center for AI and robotics in The Hague. In June 2023, the General Assembly revisited the issue by proposing the establishment of an international regulatory body to ensure the responsible use of AI technologies, similar to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)[12]. This proposal was realized in October 2023, when the UN Secretary-General launched a high-level advisory body consisting of 39 experts in AI and robotics. The body's mission was to ensure that humanity benefits from AI technologies. The UN called on countries, specialized agencies, and institutions to participate in global discussions on managing AI, aiming to maximize its benefits, mitigate risks, and include developing nations that are in critical need of these technologies.

Upon completing its work, the advisory body presented initial recommendations and guidelines to countries in early 2024. These guidelines focused on three key areas: international governance of AI, a shared understanding of the risks and challenges associated with AI, and identifying opportunities to benefit from AI technologies. All of these efforts are aligned with achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. These initiatives are also part of the UN's preparations for the upcoming "Summit on the Future," scheduled for September 2024. Similarly, in 2023, the United Nations Secretariat followed the General Assembly's approach to addressing the challenges of smart technologies and AI. The United Nations Secretary-General appointed a special assistant to coordinate and collaborate with various specialized agencies to monitor the use of AI-powered machines and develop modern mechanisms for international governance of AI[13].

1. The United Nations Security Council

Due to the increasing risks associated with AI and its potential impacts on international peace and security, the UN Security Council held an official discussion in July 2023, bringing together both permanent and non-permanent members to address the risks posed by AI-powered machines, particularly their use in espionage, weaponry, warfare, and outer space. During the session, the UK, as the rotating

[12] Nations Unies, intelligence artificielle les avancées de l'ONU vers un cadre mondial de gouvernance، secretariat general des Nations Unies, 2023:. http://unric.org To consult the 08/09/2024.
[13] United Nations, Artificial Intelligence and its Impact, DOC /NU/2018.

president of the meeting, called for an international dialogue involving all countries utilizing these smart technologies[14].

The goal was to exchange perspectives and discuss ways to create legal and practical mechanisms for monitoring and regulating AI technologies to prevent misuse in non-peaceful activities that threaten global stability, particularly in areas like nuclear energy, weaponry, and drones. This effort aims to mitigate the consequences of using these technologies irresponsibly[15].

The use of AI-powered machines in warfare and armed conflicts, especially in light of recent violations of international humanitarian law during the Gaza conflict, has raised substantial concerns for the Security Council. Given the varied humanitarian, legal, ethical, and security implications, the question arises: Will AI serve as a force for humanity's progress, or will it lead to its downfall?

AI Technologies have already played a negative role in conflicts like the Gaza War and the ongoing Ukraine crisis, contributing to significant loss of life and widespread destruction. Certain AI-powered weapons, such as drones and guided missiles, now pose lethal threats to human life. In today's conflict-ridden world, these technologies could further destabilize global peace and security, leading to challenges such as unemployment, violations of privacy, cybercrime, and terrorism[16].

2. The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

The United Nations Economic and Social Council, in collaboration with its Economic and Financial Committee, held a working session with various international governmental and non-governmental actors on the topic of "Sustainable Development in the Era of Rapid Technological Advancements." The session focused on exploring how the UN[17] and its specialized agencies, alongside global institutions involved in the design and development of AI programs and applications, can address the effects of scientific and technological progress. The aim was to leverage technological change to achieve sustainable development. The participants of the meeting concluded with recommendations highlighting the importance of a collaborative approach to ensure that AI and robotics technologies

[14] Security Council "Security Council debate on the role of artificial intelligence", Session: 9821E/CS/15946, December 2024, p.286.

[15] United Nation, Activities on Artificial Intelligence, 2019: http://www.itu.int/dmspub/itu-s. To consult the 24/10/2024

[16] Francis, Donnât, Artificial Intelligence, a thread to privacy? Revue pouvoirs, numéro 170/3, 2019, France.

[17] U.N:United Nations

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contribute positively to addressing global challenges. These technologies should play a key role in bridging the digital divide between developed and developing nations. The participants emphasized that human action and ethical considerations, rather than being driven solely by machines should shape the impact of these technologies on our lives.

Secondly: Framework for UN Committees and Programs on AI Technologies and Making Them Accessible to Humanity

The United Nations General Assembly has assigned several of its committees and programs the responsibility of monitoring the activities of specialized agencies, providing them with both financial and technical support. These efforts are designed to study and assess the benefits and drawbacks of using AI-powered machines, while also offering technical and material assistance to countries facing humanitarian and security crises. These crises stem from wars, environmental degradation, and the ongoing need for sustainable development.

1. United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

In the 2020 report prepared by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, participants highlighted the growing issue of smart information technology being used by certain entities to transfer individuals' personal data, potentially infringing on their rights and freedoms. These concerns are particularly significant given the intersection of digital practices and programs facilitated by AI technologies. To address these violations of privacy, the report suggested that states develop field mechanisms to manage and monitor these technologies, minimizing the risks of privacy violations[18]. Additionally, the report called for the creation of a global ethical charter, setting clear methods and limits for the use of AI technologies by states and institutions involved in smart information technologies.

In 2021, the Commission took further action by adopting a set of guarantees to protect the right to privacy in light of the growing risks posed by AI technologies. It recommended that states cease the use and sale of AI systems that pose serious risks to human rights, emphasizing that such systems should only be deployed in areas where they can protect privacy in line with international human rights law. The report pointed to illegal practices involving AI systems, particularly instances where personal data was misused in unlawful and unethical ways, violating the right to

[18] Allen, Gregory, Understanding china’s strategy, Center for a New American Security, New York, 2022, p.165.

privacy. As a result, the report concluded by urging states to take urgent action to protect individuals' rights and freedoms, implementing measures to safeguard privacy in the digital age[19].

2. World Food Program of the United Nations

In 2023, the World Food Program's innovation division developed a strategic plan to utilize AI-powered transport vehicles in conflict and disaster zones. The objective was to enhance the delivery of food parcels while safeguarding the lives of humanitarian aid workers. These AI-driven robots were deployed in South Sudan during active conflicts, reducing the risks faced by personnel in volatile environments. By using autonomous vehicles to navigate and deliver supplies, the World Food Program aimed to ensure continuous aid distribution while minimizing human exposure to danger[20]. This initiative demonstrated the potential of AI in improving humanitarian operations, leveraging technology to address critical challenges in conflict zones.

Thirdly: Regulations on the Use of AI Robots under UN Specialized Agencies

The specialized agencies of the United Nations indeed provide an essential platform for fostering collaboration and coordination between governmental and non-governmental entities. By bringing together various stakeholders, the UN creates a space where smart information technologies can be integrated responsibly into the AI lifecycle. This collaborative effort is crucial in developing guidelines, regulations, and best practices to mitigate the risks associated with the misuse of AI under all circumstances.

1. International Telecommunication Union in Cooperation with the Specialized Agency for Information and Communication Technology

The "Positive Impact of Artificial Intelligence Globally" summit organized in July 2023 by the UN agency for communications, in collaboration with the information and communication technology agency represents a significant milestone in the global discourse on the role of AI and robotics in addressing pressing challenges of the 21st century. The summit's focus on how AI can

[19] Cummings, Heather and other, Artificial intelligence and international affairs: disruption anticipated, Cat ham house report, 2018, Recueil Dalloz, 2017.

[20] David, M., Sauviat, C., Artificial Intelligence, the New Barbarism, éditions du Rocher, 2019, p.78.

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contribute to solving environmental, health, and agricultural problems reflects the growing recognition of the transformative potential of these technologies in international development. By exploring the areas where human-robot collaboration can thrive, the summit sought to find practical applications that can benefit society without replacing human roles or causing job displacement. The participation of "Sophia," the first robot ambassador for innovation for the UN Development Program, symbolizes the increasing acceptance and integration of AI-driven entities in global discussions about sustainable development and human progress[21].

The summit's commitment to working toward a common framework for AI's use highlights the global consensus that AI technologies must be aligned with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030. The promise of AI to assist humanity in achieving these goals is coupled with the need for careful programming, ensuring that AI-driven solutions serve humanity’s needs while safeguarding ethical, social, and economic values[22]. The key outcomes of this summit, especially the focus on collaboration and responsible development, are poised to guide future AI and robotics initiatives, ensuring they are used to enhance human well-being and contribute to the achievement of the United Nations’ broader development agenda. These efforts can also shape the way AI technologies are governed globally, promoting responsible innovation and mitigating risks associated with misuse.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, while UN bodies have rapidly adapted to the advancements in artificial intelligence technologies at the beginning of this century, and have recently established a clearer legal framework regarding the role, legal status, and responsibilities of smart machines within the AI ecosystem, the UN system is now grappling with the evolving concept of machine responsibility in the use of AI technologies. This will undoubtedly pose future legal and technological challenges in the age of knowledge economies.

Countries’ positions on the risks posed by AI-driven robots vary, as do the challenges the international community faces in regulating and shaping the development of this field. Some remain optimistic, viewing the advancement of AI technologies as the key to solving complex global issues and overcoming

[21] Marc, Van Rijmaynem, The Digital Speaker, Harper Collins Publisher, 2023, p.247.

[22] Nations Unies, intelligence artificielle les avancées de l'ONU vers un cadre mondial de gouvernance، secrétariat général des Nations Unies, 2023. http://unric.org To consulté le 29/09/2024.

technological risks threatening humanity. For these proponents, AI offers vast opportunities to transcend biological limitations, enabling humanity to achieve previously unimaginable feats. On the other hand, there are concerns about the negative consequences of AI technologies, with their current usage contributing to harm in many parts of the world- ranging from wars and armed conflicts to violations of personal data, environmental degradation, espionage, and the erosion of human initiative. These technologies have the potential to exacerbate global tensions. As a result, many voices in international forums are advocating for the adoption of a robust legal and ethical framework to regulate the use of AI, ensuring its proper application in a way that guarantees justice, equality, and respect for human rights.

Despite differing perspectives, the development and deployment of AI-driven smart machines necessitate comprehensive regulations rooted in human rights, transparency, and accountability from the parties designing and developing these technologies. If left unregulated, the proliferation of these technologies could introduce significant risks that may threaten humanity in the future. As such, the primary responsibility rests with the designers of human-like AI robots and machines, particularly those used in warfare, to establish technical, legal, and ethical frameworks for their use.

Although this advanced technology is currently confined to a small group of developed nations and their global corporations, who deploy it for specific purposes that align with their interests, the world should not succumb to alarming scenarios regarding the misuse of AI. In light of this, the United Nations should establish an international body to oversee the regulation of smart robots and the development of AI technologies globally. Through our study, we can derive the following conclusions:

- The creation of a legal and ethical framework for the use of AI-powered smart machines stands as one of the most critical challenges of the digital age. Ensuring international protection frameworks, primarily spearheaded by the United Nations, will help guarantee the information security of nations.
- A key challenge in the use of AI-driven smart robots in the information age is the absence of international treaties that regulate the rules and ethics of this field, as well as set standards for the use of AI technologies and the protection of human rights.
- Traditional protections for the use of AI-driven smart machines, based on limited international decisions and conventions issued by the UN in the past century, have

proven insufficient to keep pace with the rapid technological advancements and their impacts on these advanced technologies.
- The role of the UN and its specialized bodies in addressing modern technologies remains inadequate in promoting contemporary international regulations that protect states and individuals from the potential dangers posed by AI-powered smart machines.
- The issue of state intervention in the right to privacy must align with the principles of legality and human rights at the domestic level, in line with the solutions proposed by the UN's guidelines for designing and developing artificial intelligence applications.
- While artificial intelligence has revolutionized the information landscape, it has also raised significant risks to individual rights and state sovereignty, necessitating the development of new mechanisms to monitor its use and prevent violations of human rights.

We conclude our study with the following recommendations:

- Despite emerging positive developments regarding the use of AI-powered smart machines within the UN framework, the organization, along with international law, must address the challenges posed by this field. This can be done by initiating dialogue among all stakeholders within the UN system, including states, NGOs, businesses, and the research sector. The goal should be to establish a charter that outlines guiding principles and proactive measures to protect individual privacy and safeguard the environment in the age of information technologies.
- Governments should update their legislation regarding the use of AI-driven smart machines to better align with the technological transformations of the new millennium.
- The United Nations should strengthen cooperation between developed and developing countries to facilitate the transfer of modern technologies from the former to the latter, aiming to bridge the digital divide.
- Active United Nations bodies, such as the Security Council-due to its primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security-should impose specific restrictions on the use of AI technologies by manufacturing countries and global companies to ensure adherence to ethical warfare practices and human rights principles.

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