



9 December 2020

Mr Gregor Stojin

President

Ad hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence

Council of Europe

F-67075 Strasbourg CEDEX

France

Re: Application for observer status in the Ad hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAHAI)

Dear Mr Gregor Stojin,

Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law (hereafter - CEDEM) presents its compliments to the CAHAI for enhancement of the international and domestic standards on artificial intelligence and requests the following.

According to paragraph 8 of Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods, CEDEM respectfully requests permission of the CAHAI to join the plenary meetings and working groups of the Committee in the status of observer.

Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law is a civil society organization, which has been working since its foundation in 2005, formerly known as Media Law Institute. CEDEM is a think tank that channeling its efforts for establishment of the rule of law, development of independent media and enhancing the role of the civil society of Ukraine.

CEDEM is the founder and active participant of such important initiatives as the Reanimation Package of Reforms, the Independent Media Council, the International School of Media Law, the Open University Reforms. In addition, CEDEM also actively participate in public consultations, organized by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, on the impact of artificial intelligence on free speech. Moreover, our organization cooperates with the Ministry for Digital Transformation of Ukraine on development of the National Strategy on Artificial Intelligence.

The main activities of CEDEM on freedom of expression, privacy and artificial intelligence include preparation of analytical papers on the application of artificial intelligence in the media sphere, gaps in its work and perspectives for its development in the light of contemporary challenges. Furthermore, CEDEM organizes regional workshops on access to public information for civil servants, educational seminars for journalists and lawyers in all regions of Ukraine, actively participates in development and promotion of positive changes to media, personal data protection legislation and preventing amendments to existing laws, which impair freedom of expression or privacy.

Also, CEDEM, as a trusted partner of Facebook in Ukraine, works on the development of standards for social media regarding detection of manifestly illegal speech,





recommendations on amending existing automated algorithms and their adjustment to the regional peculiarities. Thus, the main aim of CEDEM's work implies protection of human rights, democracy and rule of law.

CEDEM effectively cooperates with international organizations. In particular, our organization has repeatedly provided consultations for the Council of Europe, as well as National Experts for institutional mapping analysis on information policy and media in Ukraine in 2015-2019. Apart from that, in cooperation with Council of Europe CEDEM has created the distanced courses on access to public information, organized lectures on contemporary issues within International Media Law Summer School (including on topics of artificial intelligence), numerous workshops, public discussions and round tables.

Thus, CEDEM's specified experience in advocacy, effective and comprehensive research on outstanding issues and preparing analytical papers could be useful for achieving the CAHAI aims within the spheres of its competence. CEDEM believes that our participation in activities of the Committee, based on legal expertise in the field of media law, privacy and artificial intelligence, would assist the CAHAI in development of qualitative, comprehensive and coherent regulations in this field, being a unique and enriching experience for both parties.

For these reasons, we kindly request to grant our organization observer status at the meetings of the CAHAI.

In case you have any questions, please contact Ms Tetiana Avdieieva, media lawyer (+38095 864 66 13; t.avdieieva@cedem.org.ua).

Sincerely yours,
Olesia Kholopik
Director

