



# E-relevance of Culture in the Age of AI

*Expert seminar on culture, creativity and artificial intelligence  
Rijeka, Croatia, 12-13 October 2018*

## ACTION PROPOSALS

The following proposals, deriving from the deliberations of the participants of the Rijeka seminar, are listed with the aim of instigating Council of Europe action that could benefit member States and the AI community:

### 1. Establishment of a permanent “AI observatory”

that would closely follow and scrutinize new developments in AI regarding the consequences for Human rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law.

Any serious attempt at understanding or mitigating the social impact of AI desperately needs a reliable source of clear diagnostics. Currently, such work is being done sporadically and only with very particular topics or countries in mind, or is being done by media following their business models. It is not hard to envision a permanent body that systematically follows both the corporate and scientific wing of AI research and writes ‘clarification papers’ that can serve for further decision-making in the following fields:

### 2. Education refreshment

that would draw on the findings of the AI observatory and enable educators, parents and students to actively participate in the information society.

In these times of rapid change, education systems are destined to lag behind the advancement of technologies and this gap is frequently being filled with media literacy courses that serve as little more than beginner courses for usage of commercial platforms. There is ample scope for the Council of Europe to help with focus on democratic values.

### 3. Media AI workshops

aimed at mainstream and trade media that clarify the field of Artificial Intelligence with the aim of stimulating the quality of public dialogue with all its consequences.

Media industries are undergoing a severe business crisis, but their impact is still great. This opens up a dangerous space for superficiality and dis-service to society via “automated public sphere”. The Council of Europe is the player that has the clout to enhance the more substantive reporting on AI and broader questions about the information society.

### 4. Policy recommendations

aimed at broadening the scope of a regulatory framework, from obvious measures such as competitiveness and security to the areas of Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law.

This would be the most far reaching activity of the Observatory, enhancing and modernising the existing policy work of the Council of Europe.



*\*\*\* This text has been prepared by Vuk Ćosić for the Council of Europe. The views expressed in this document are those of its author and not necessarily those of the Council of Europe.*

