

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND DISINFORMATION: CHALLENGES AND RISKS FOR DEMOCRACY

ROUND TABLE

Organised by the PACE Interparliamentary Cooperation and Project Support Division in cooperation with the Latvian Delegation to the PACE

Date/time: Friday 26 May 2023 from 16 h 30-18 h 00

Venue: The Small Guild/Mazā Ģilde, Amatu Street 5, Riga, Latvia (Meeting room: Great Hall)

Background:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a determining factor for the future of humanity. It offers both opportunities and challenges including with regard to information and disinformation. AI generated disinformation and fake news, present serious risks and challenges for human rights, democracy and security. It is therefore of utmost importance to strike the right balance between mitigating the risks and making full use of the advantages offered by AI.

The **Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe** strongly advocated for a regulatory framework for AI, based on the protection of human rights, democracy and the rule of law and called for the Council of Europe to take the lead to draft a legally binding instrument which would ensure that AI-based technologies are used to enhance, and not to damage, democracy.

The Round Table will aim to:

- ▶ raise visibility of the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly work and standards on artificial intelligence, freedom of expression and disinformation;
- ▶ contribute to the on-going work by the Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence to elaborate a framework Convention on the development, design and application of artificial intelligence;
- ▶ facilitate discussions and networking with stakeholders and define take-away actions to make progress in this regard.

Speakers:

Opening session:

- ▶ **Tiny Kox**, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)
- ▶ **Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica**, Chairperson of Latvian delegation to PACE

Thematic interventions:

- ▶ **Gundars Bergmanis-Korāts**, Principal Scientist, NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence in Riga
- ▶ **Gregor Strojín**, Vice-Chair, Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI)
- ▶ **Kaspars Kauliņš**, International Business Development Director, Tilde

Discussion

Conclusions: **Louise Barton**, Director, Human Dignity and Sustainable Development, PACE

Moderator: **Jānis Kārklīņš**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Latvia to the Council of Europe





Artificial Intelligence: Ensuring respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law

■ In October 2020, the Parliamentary Assembly adopted a set of resolutions and recommendations, examining the opportunities and risks of AI for democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

■ These were:

- ▶ The need for democratic governance of artificial intelligence [Resolution 2341 \(2020\)](#) and [Recommendation 2181 \(2020\)](#)
- ▶ Preventing discrimination caused by the use of artificial intelligence [Resolution 2343 \(2020\)](#) and [Recommendation 2183 \(2020\)](#)
- ▶ Justice by algorithm – the role of artificial intelligence in policing and criminal justice systems [Resolution 2342 \(2020\)](#) and [Recommendation 2182 \(2020\)](#)
- ▶ Artificial intelligence in health care: medical, legal and ethical challenges ahead [Recommendation 2185 \(2020\)](#)
- ▶ Artificial intelligence and labour markets: friend or foe? [Resolution 2345 \(2020\)](#) and [Recommendation 2186 \(2020\)](#)
- ▶ Legal aspects of ‘autonomous’ vehicles [Resolution 2346 \(2020\)](#) and [Recommendation 2187 \(2020\)](#)
- ▶ The brain-computer interface: new rights or new threats to fundamental freedoms? [Resolution 2344 \(2020\)](#) and [Recommendation 2184 \(2020\)](#)

■ The Parliamentary Assembly will continue working on AI through follow-up to these resolutions and recommendations, further reports, its Sub-committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights and its observer status with the Ad hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAHAI)

■ For more information:

- ▶ Artificial Intelligence: Parliamentary Assembly calls for ensuring respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law (<https://assembly.coe.int/LifeRay/APCE/pdf/Communication/LeafletAI-EN.pdf>)
- ▶ PACE Website on AI (<https://pace.coe.int/en/pages/artificial-intelligence>).