LUXOR DECLARATION
on Youth and Intercultural Dialogue in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

We, the young participants at the 8th Arab-European Youth Forum, held in Luxor, Egypt, from 14 to 19 October 2024, brought together by the Council of Europe and the League of Arab world to foster intercultural dialogue by young people in the age of Artificial Intelligence (AI), recognise both the opportunities and challenges that AI presents.

Guided by the principles of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security -adopted following an initiative from HRH Crown Prince Hussein Bin Abdullah II, during the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's Chairmanship of the United Nations Security Council- and the Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 16, and the standards and principles of Council of Europe and the League of Arab States, we are committed to harnessing AI ethically to promote peace, equity, and mutual understanding grounded on universal human rights. We are appalled by the destruction, human suffering and loss of lives of on-going armed conflicts in our regions, in stark contradiction to the aspirations for peace, dialogue and societies that are cohesive and embrace diversity.

Constituting more than half of the population of the Arab and European regions, youth are vital to shaping the future. We affirm our role in advancing ethical AI, bridging cultural divides, and addressing key global issues. Through collaboration and inclusive dialogue, we aim to ensure that AI fosters shared progress, empowers youth, and contributes to a more just and peaceful world.

Environmental protection and climate crisis

1. *Alarmed by* the lack of implementation of existing climate solutions and the ongoing delays in addressing the climate crisis, we urge stakeholders to prioritise action by holding polluters accountable, phasing out fossil fuels, and eliminating single-use plastics. We emphasise the importance of supporting sustainable businesses, alternative products, and transitioning to a circular economy that ensures every individual plays a role in mitigating environmental damage.

2. *Conscious of* the disproportionate impact of climate change on vulnerable communities, exacerbated by weak collaboration and corruption, we call upon governments, international bodies, and the private sector to foster increased collaboration. We emphasise the urgency of a just transition, where all sectors, including corporations, are held accountable for implementing transparent and equitable climate solutions. These solutions must address the root causes of climate change, while advancing net-zero emissions and fostering sustainable consumption practices.

3. *We recognise that* while artificial intelligence holds transformative potential in addressing the climate crisis through advanced environmental monitoring, resource optimisation, and

predictive capabilities, it still also poses significant environmental risks if not carefully managed. The excessive energy consumption associated with AI technologies, such as data centres and cloud computing, contributes to a growing carbon footprint that can exacerbate environmental degradation.

4. *We urge* governments and institutions to establish the legal framework to utilise AI to promote sustainability and address global challenges, while carefully managing its potential environmental impacts. Failure to do so could undermine the very efforts AI is meant to support in combating the climate crisis, making this a critical area for immediate global attention and action.

Youth participation

5. *Noting with* regret the restrictions faced by youth with fewer opportunities, particularly in accessing local and governmental initiatives, which limits their full participation, we encourage governments to ease restrictions, commit to building the capacity of underrepresented youth through peer-to-peer engagement, equal access to decision-making processes related to AI, avoiding tokenistic youth participation, and delegating decision-making powers to youth.

6. Attentive to the lack of public funding and insufficient non-formal education opportunities for youth, leading to superficial participation in key initiatives, we invite governments and youth organisations to increase support for volunteerism and advocacy, to promote youth-led actions backed by public funding, strengthening cooperation with officials, and integrating youth participation and volunteerism in early-stage school subjects.

Mutual perceptions and stereotypes

7. *Deeply disturbed* by the persistence of stereotypes between Euro-Arab communities, which exacerbate prejudices, undermine a culture of universal human rights, and hinder authentic intercultural dialogue, we encourage governments and civil society to raise awareness through inclusive educational campaigns and grassroots initiatives. These should challenge stereotypes and prejudice, promote empathy, and provide emotional support systems for those affected by discrimination.

8. *We are concerned* about the intergenerational traumas caused by discrimination, which continues to regress mutual understanding. We advocate for the promotion of cross-cultural exchanges and peer-learning programmes, as they will foster shared goals among youth, heal historical wounds, and build lasting connections between communities.

9. *We are aware* of the media's role in reinforcing stereotypes and prejudice between nations. We request media outlets to implement ethical practices and media literacy programs, train journalists on cultural awareness and promote non-violent communication in order to facilitate balanced and respectful media representation of all people.

10. *Recognising the impact* of algorithmic bias in generative AI, we urge the passing of legislation to contribute to more accurate frameworks and reduce instances of systemic unfairness among AI products.

Combating misinformation and media literacy

11. *Deeply concerned* by the growing polarisation of public opinion due to the influence of fake news and misinformation amongst youth with different backgrounds, we suggest the

implementation of simple media literacy tools to empower youth and the public to develop critical thinking skills and to identify and combat misinformation and disinformation.

12. *Alarmed* by the lack of adequate regulation of AI technologies, which contributes to the spread of misinformation and raises concerns on ethics and cultural biases, we appeal to governments and organisations to establish stronger ethical guidelines for AI usage and to promote AI as a tool for fact-checking and verifying information, ensuring its responsible use.

13. *We recognise* that misinformation and disinformation are often linked to issues of authority and governance, considering the World Press Freedom Index as a critical reference. We encourage governments to address these issues by creating a more pluralistic media environment through increased freedom of the press.

14. *We call for* increased accountability among social media platforms and urge them to take responsibility for reducing misinformation and disinformation by implementing effective measures to detect and prevent the spread of false information online.

AI and the job market, preparing for the future

15. *Worried by* the potential for AI to deepen socioeconomic inequalities and cause job losses, particularly in marginalised communities, we strongly advise governments and stakeholders to adopt policies that retrain displaced workers. This includes investing in capacity-building programs that enhance employees' AI skills, ensuring equal access to skill development opportunities, and providing tools to keep up with the rapid AI revolution. We also encourage the promotion of self-education and independent learning, empowering individuals to adapt to the changing demands of the job market.

16. *Mindful of* the potential erosion of cultural diversity in the job market due to algorithmic bias, we stress the importance of governments and industry leaders implementing ethical standards for AI development. This involves preventing different types of biases in AI systems to ensure equality and the quality of information. Establishing universal regulations is crucial to protect personal data and intellectual property, prioritising privacy, transparency, and the ethical use of collected data. We suggest the possibility of establishing an AI ethics committee to oversee these efforts and ensure compliance.

17. *We urge* stakeholders to build upon existing or create new regulations in employment, adapting to the evolving landscape shaped by AI technologies. This includes enforcing human-centric fact-checking policies to maintain fairness and accuracy in employment practices, ensuring that AI enhances rather than hinders job market equity.

Empowering education with AI

18. *Mindful of* the importance of ethical and effective use of AI in education, we urge stakeholders to promote the adoption of standardised AI guidelines across educational systems, ensuring that teachers and students can ethically and effectively benefit from it. Education on AI should include training for students, teachers, and parents to make AI literacy accessible for all, ensuring everyone is involved, understands how to benefit from AI, is aware of its shortcomings, and can work together to prevent misuse.

19. *Alarmed by* the potential widening of digital divides, we urge stakeholders to prioritise the development of open, accessible, and affordable AI-driven educational solutions that

address diverse accessibility needs and resource disparities. By doing so, stakeholders can help ensuring equitable learning opportunities for all, regardless of their background, prior knowledge, or resources.

20. *Conscious of* the necessity to foster fair and equitable educational opportunities, we assert that it is essential to integrate data from diverse worldviews and cultural perspectives into AI systems. This approach ensures that AI outputs are balanced, enabling education that is inclusive and not tied to specific worldviews. By drawing on a variety of cultural contexts, AI can promote understanding and respect for different traditions, enhancing intercultural education and maintaining cultural integrity.

21. *Attentive to* the evolving roles of educators due to emerging technologies, we urge stakeholders to advocate for comprehensive AI literacy training programs that include parents, students, and teachers. This approach will enable all parties to effectively navigate and benefit from AI in education. Teachers, in particular, must be involved in discussions and policies regarding AI to ensure that AI serves as a complementary tool rather than a replacement, support should be provided to help educators balance traditional and AI-supported teaching methodologies.

22. *Worried by* potential imbalances in AI integration in education, we urge stakeholders to promote the adoption of standardised guidelines and best practices already available. The usage of AI should be promoted in a way that empowers students to seek guidance, encouraging critical thinking and problem-solving.

23. *Recognising the* importance of creating a cohesive learning environment, we urge stakeholders to work towards fostering a unified education system where AI enhances intercultural understanding, supporting inclusive and diverse educational environments while respecting human rights and cultural nuances and traditions.

Conclusion

This Declaration highlights the urgency of addressing misinformation and social inequalities in the era of AI, emphasising the importance of global collaboration, youth empowerment and regulating the usage of AI in education to tackle these challenges. By promoting localised solutions and advocating for equitable access to participation, and establishing ethical frameworks for the use of the AI, it call for an inclusive and sustainable approach. This call to action urges governments, organisations, private stakeholders, and civil societies to work together, adopting concrete measures that advance the usage of AI in promoting cultural diversity, capacity-building for the youth, and the development of a future-ready workforce.