

Terms of reference of the Policy Development Group (CAHAI- PDG) (as adopted by the CAHAI at its second plenary meeting on 6-8 July 2020 [CAHAI (2020) 10 ADD]

Composition

The CAHAI-PDG shall be composed of up to 20 experts designated by member States, and of participants and observers which express interest in taking part in this working group and contribute professionally and continuously to its work.

Tasks

The CAHAI - PDG shall:

1. Contribute to the development of the feasibility study of a legal framework on artificial intelligence applications, building upon the mapping work already undertaken by the CAHAI and focusing in particular on the following issues:
 - a) To identify and analyse how AI applications by States and private actors impact on human rights, rule of law and democracy, including the risks, threats, and opportunities posed or brought by AI, including where appropriate through an evaluation of proposals on AI regulation made by member States and other stakeholders; and taking into account the importance of keeping pace with AI developments worldwide;
 - b) Based on the conclusions of the mapping, to prepare key findings and proposals on policy and other measures, to ensure that international standards and international legal instruments in this area are up-to-date and effective and prepare proposals for a specific legal instrument regulating artificial intelligence;
 - c) To identify high-risk and high-opportunity AI applications, consider and develop policy and other measures to address risks posed by them and ensure the protection of human rights, rule of law and democracy;
 - d) In connection with the work carried out under points b) and c) prepare proposals to facilitate implementation of relevant international and European human rights obligations, and aimed at supporting the implementation of effective human rights risk assessments and any other necessary actions to respond as necessary to significant new and emerging opportunities, threats and risks;
2. Develop proposals for engaging and consulting with the relevant stakeholders on the above-mentioned elements in close co-ordination and consultations with the Consultations and Outreach Group (CAHAI-COG).

Working methods

The CAHAI-PDG will hold 2 meetings in 2020, and subject to a plenary decision to that effect, any other additional meetings as required in 2021. It will conduct its work through technology, such as e-mail or other similar means of electronic communication, virtual meetings, and/or physical meetings. The group shall designate a Chair and a Co-chair among its members at its first meeting.

The Council of Europe's budget will cover the costs of participation of the chairpersons (for physical meetings) and those for the organisation of meetings through technological means, to enable the working group to perform its functions and responsibilities through online exchanges.

Participation of members for physical meetings will as a principle be borne by the sending institutions and organisations without defrayal of expenses.

Duration

July 2020-December 2021