ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DIGITAL RIGHTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

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Qualitative report on the implementation, scope and regulation of artificial intelligence in various countries through focus group discussions

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Introduction

This study stems from a concern to understand the implementation, knowledge, regulation and scope of artificial intelligence, in various countries. The investigation is contextualized within a European project, Cost Action EU/CA19143 Global digital rights network, leaded by the authors belonging to the Spanish team.

The European Law proposal (European Parliament and Commission, 2021) has been under discussion previously. The European Union (EU) has taken a significant step by establishing clear rules for the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). The world's first Artificial Intelligence Regulation was agreed upon by the Council and the European Parliament last December 2023 (European Commission, 2024). This law has two fundamental objectives:

- Ensuring the safety and rights of citizens: The regulation aims to ensure that AI systems used in the EU are secure and respect the fundamental rights of individuals.

- Promoting investment and innovation in AI in Europe: The regulation encourages research and development in the field of AI within the European continent.

Some key aspects of this regulation include:

- Definition of AI systems: The definition proposed by the OECD is used to clearly distinguish AI systems from other simpler software programs.

- Scope of application: The regulation does not apply to areas outside EU law or affect the competencies of Member States in matters of national security. Additionally, it does not apply to systems used exclusively for military or defense purposes, nor those used for research and innovation.

- High-risk AI systems: AI systems presenting significant risks will be subject to specific requirements and obligations to access the EU market. In cases of unacceptable risks, their use will be prohibited. Examples include behavioral cognitive manipulation and indiscriminate tracking of facial images obtained from the internet.

- Impact assessment on fundamental rights: Before introducing a new AI system to the market, its impact on fundamental rights will be assessed.

The European legislation on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Turkish legislation show significant differences in their approaches and scope. Below, I outline some key differences:

Regarding differences between European regulation and non-European countries regulation, non-European countries, while actively engaged in developing strategies and regulations related to AI, have yet to introduce a law as comprehensive as that of the EU. In non-European countries, AI regulations may vary across application areas, lacking a

specific harmonized framework for AI. In addressing ethical considerations and fundamental rights, the EU places significant emphasis on safeguarding fundamental rights and conducting impact assessments before the introduction of new AI systems. While non-European countries share these values, the implementation and application of ethical principles may differ. Regarding risks and prohibitions, in non-European countries, regulations may not be as detailed regarding specific risks and prohibitions. In the realm of innovation and competitiveness, the EU seeks to foster investment and innovation in AI within Europe. Similarly, non-European countries express interest in innovation, but their approach may differ in terms of priorities and strategies. In summary, while the EU has established pioneering and comprehensive legislation to jurisdictions share concerns about safety and rights, but their specific approaches may vary. All these need further discussion, as there is a *Executive Order* in the United States of America, a *Law regulating Artificial Intelligence* in China from august 2024 and a huge debate in California around the SB 1047.

Method

The research methodology employed is qualitative, aiming to gather insights from educators and professionals across different countries to delve into and acquire a comprehensive understanding of this phenomenon. In doing so, we seek to comprehend the current applications and overall extent of this technology. Additionally, we are interested in determining the extent to which legislative regulation is concurrently evolving. This report may serve as a stimulus for other researchers to further explore the multitude of variables we present through alternative study methodologies.

In the initial design of this prospective comparative study on the use of artificial intelligence across various countries, a qualitative approach has been chosen over a statistical one for several reasons. Firstly, the qualitative method is well-suited for exploring complex phenomena in their context, and artificial intelligence, being at different stages of implementation and regulation in different countries, requires a detailed analysis of the cultural, political, social, and economic factors influencing its adoption. This approach allows for a deeper understanding of motivations, perceptions, and barriers that may not be evident through a purely numerical analysis.

The qualitative approach offers the flexibility to explore reality from the perspective of the actors involved, such as decision-makers, technology developers, and end-users. This is particularly crucial in an emerging and dynamic field like artificial intelligence, where experiences and contexts vary significantly between countries. Through focus groups, the complexity of the phenomenon and the variables that might be overlooked in quantitative research can be captured.

While statistical analysis is powerful for measuring patterns and trends, it was set aside in this initial phase due to the need to first uncover which variables are relevant for cross-country comparison. Once a broader and more detailed understanding has been

achieved through the qualitative approach, it will be possible to construct more precise quantitative instruments that better reflect the observed reality.

Looking ahead, with a solid base of identified variables, further studies are projected to employ a quantitative approach to measure the extent and variability of these factors, allowing for the generalisation of findings and their extrapolation on a wider scale. This sequential design ensures a thorough and well-founded investigation, integrating the strengths of both methods.

Returning to this qualitative study, the results of the study, consisting of 14 questions, are presented. The findings are presented in the form of components, subcomponents, and indicators along with commentary. This allows for the discernment of different responses from each discussion group.

The sample consisted of 9 focus groups, drawn from European and Hispano-American institutions as part of the academic year 2021-2022.

The significance of the results is evident based on the collected sample represented in Table 1.

Since the data was gathered in 2021, use of artificial intelligence and related products has increased to an unprecedented degree. Launched at the end of 2022 by OpenAI, ChatGPT reached an estimated 100 million monthly active users two months after launch (Hu 2023). To illustrate the rapid uptake of AI in the span of a few months in 2023, a Gartner, Inc. poll of more than 1,400 executive leaders found that 45% reported that they are piloting the use of generative AI, and another 10% have put generative AI solutions into production. This is a significant increase from a poll Gartner conducted just months before in March and April 2023, where only 15% of respondents were piloting generative AI and 4% were in production (Gartner, 2023). However, regulation has lagged behind, which means that the 2021 interviews laying the basis for this report are still relevant. Considering the scale and international nature of AI, it would appear that the smaller jurisdictions in particular are waiting on the outcomes of the EU AI Act. For example, despite Malta having an extensive AI National Strategy with a number of milestones, four years on very little has been implemented, outside setting up a regulatory authority in the MDIA, a 'technology assessment recognition framework', and support schemes for innovative technologies including AI.

Table 1. Participants

Informants' Institution	Country/Continent
Faculty of Law, University of Coimbra	Portugal, Europe
Institute of Digital Games, University of Malta	Malta, Europe
Institute of criminology at the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana	Slovenia, Europe
Hacettepe University	Turkey, Asia
Matej Bel University	Slovakia, Europe
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid Universidad de Huelva	Spain, Europe
Universidade da Beira Interior	Portugal, Europe
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe	Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Europe
Fasta University, Mar de Plata	Argentina, America
University of Łódź	Poland

Source: own elaboration

Results

Question 1. ¿How could you define artificial intelligence?

The most frequently used source for the definition is extracted twice from what the EU provides as a system. In defining this new phenomenon, the sample proposes five main components: **AI as a system**, its **qualities**, **purpose**, **applicability** in various fields, and **consequences on the ethical plane**. AI as a system stands out primarily as an **algorithmic** system, with other designations such as a neural network or data modeler. Regarding its qualities, expressions often revolve around the **image of human intelligence** compared to artificial intelligence, perhaps due to the operationality of higher cognition compared to other simpler logical operations. Among these operations, those of **great complexity, learning capacity, and logic are recognized**. Qualities related to **production and technological** use are also described. **A broad applicability in various fields is acknowledged**, and it is noted that the use of the product has consequences on the ethical plane, human rights, and freedoms.

When qualities are discussed in the expression "behavior," an assumption of the humanization/anthropomorphization of the concept is detected, instead of creating another term for these artifacts precisely because they perform human operations. Additionally, the quality of autonomy is highlighted. This idea is strongly reinforced: it is similar, it imitates human intelligence, there is a humanization of this intelligence through the operation of learning and decision-making, which implies an operation similar to the human quality of choosing and enjoying freedom (not free will).

Table 2. Definition of AI

Components	Subcomponents	Descriptors
System	Algorithms	Algorithms, Neural Network, Data modeling
Qualities	Human qualities	Imitate Human intelligence, operate as human intelligence, Autonomy
	Technologic qualities	Hardware devices, software based, for mobile phone,
Objectives	Intelligent behavior	Making decisions, complex tasks,
		Machine learning, deep learning
		Problem solving, logical thinking, analyze environment, make predictions, make recommendations
Applicability	Different areas	Medicine, business, education, sales, publicity, personal assistants, commercial, climatic, agricultural
Ethical frame	Direct consequences	In human rights, human freedom

Source: own elaboration

Question 2. How is AI similar to or different from other technology?

The perception of the sample is mainly focused on describing the nature of Artificial Intelligence. As a result, several stand out: first, that it is a technology that is applied to a wide range of areas; second, that in itself is made up of the combination of other technologies and belongs to an interdisciplinary creation; third, that it mimics human cognitive operations; fourth, that it is an accessible tool; fifth, that it is increasingly an autonomous technology; sixth, that it is efficient and quick in operations; seventh, it has advanced programming complexity; eighth, it has an impact on lives and on an ethical level on individuals and on society because it puts human rights and freedoms at risk; ninth, it can even be misused by totalitarian states; tenth, it was created to facilitate or to fully replace the work of humans and to give more space to creative time. Moreover, the nuanced differences between AI and other technologies, particularly in terms of the transformative impact on social dynamics and organizational processes may be highlighted.

No participants remarked the possibility of AI of auto-generation (for example, robots who create another robots).

Table 3. AI similar to or different from other technology

Component	Subcomponents	descriptors
Nature of IA	Applied to wide of subjects area	It is wide-ranging application, applied to nearly any subject area, similar as other wide inventions: radio, electricity.
	Combination of technologies in itself	Wide range of types of artificial intelligence technologies within AI; based on generally used technology – high performance computers and large databases; AI is different from other technologies, because it combines elements of mathematics, statistics, and neurology.
	Cognitive Human Operations	Striving to exercise the activities that have until recently been exercised only through human reason and intellect; drastically change existing social perceptions and functioning; capable of learning, improving, making conclusions on an abstract level and deciding; differs from other technology, because of deep learning; able to solve more complex problems; analyze and combine appropriate response to the problem; close to mimicking what living organisms do; it mimics functions of human intelligence, which no other technology had previously developed.
	Autonomous	it is becoming more and more autonomous in responding to the factual changes
	Accessible	Becoming more and more accessible to a wider circle of subjects and used in various fields of everyday life.
	Efficient and fast	Allows you to solve problems and perform tasks more efficiently and quickly.
	Ethical impact on humans	Each technology has its area of application, and its impact in humans, either in the society or individually; it offers room for discussion on a wide range of ethical issues; AI like no other technology may create serious concerns when it comes to promotion, protection and enjoyment of important human rights and fundamental freedoms, such as the right to privacy, freedom of opinion and expression, including the freedom to receive information, freedom of assembly and association, freedom to be free from discrimination, etc. The effect that AI can have on these rights influence the way in which other connected rights, including right to health, freedom of movement, gender equality, rights of minorities, etc. This is particularly true if AI is misused or abused for the purpose of commercial gain or strengthening autocratic and totalitarian regimes.
	Origin and purpose of creation of AI	It was created by humans for facilitating work and processes in many areas, for optimization of work, increasing productivity and enabling people to transfer a part of their decision making power relating to points which may not be considered a priority and thus to leave more time for other creative activity.
	Complexity	The operational quality is different due to greater programming complexity.

Source: own elaboration

Question 3. In which contexts has AI been discussed in your country?

The dissemination of the subject of artificial intelligence in various fields is reflected: first, from public and private entities; second, through the Media, which if they reflect it is mostly in a positive way; third, in the academic field in forums, research and education. It is also encouraged by macro structural frameworks, first, by the legal and political measures of governments (Portugal, Malta, Turkey); second, by economic interests from the industrial sector (Malta, Slovenia, Turkey, Spain and Slovakia). Negative critical discussions are reflected for AI different aspects that encourage ethical debate about regulation of artificial intelligence and human rights in Spain, Slovenia, Turkey, Bosnia and Argentina).

Table 4. Contexts has AI been discussed in your country

National Context		Event or place
Public and private entities		AI may help human beings to solve different problems (Spain).
Academic		Conferences (Portugal); Institute of Digital Games (Malta); Research, education (Slovenia). Science, education (Slovakia). Potential bias caused by data manipulation was raised (Spain). While using AI, ignorance of the black boxes due to the complexity of the programming is visible (Spain).
Media coverage		Social nets (Portugal); media coverage is more positive (Turkey).
Government	Policy, law	In 2019 the Portuguese Government published a National Strategy for AI document, that was presented in the context of the European Union (Portugal); MITA, Malta Enterprise, and MDIA, National AI Strategy https://mdia.gov.mt/legislation/ (Malta); Malta's National AI Strategy and Vision Realignment (2024), in progress National Program to promote the development and use of AI in the Republic of Slovenia by 2025, adopted in 2020; The government supported some working groups on AI (Turkey). In 2020, Spain launched it Artificial Intelligence Strategy, https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/presidente/actividades/Documents/2020/ENIA2B.pdf The Parliamentary Secretariat for Financial Services, Digital Economy, and Innovation, *Malta: Towards Trustworthy AI, Malta's Ethical AI Framework* (October 2019);
Industry sector		Local industry: Modl.ai (Malta); Economics (Slovenia); There is a positive approach to AI because of economic benefits. Based on AI manipulated or determined calculations, the outputs of works are seen to be more efficient and economic. (Turkey). Economy, production (Slovakia). Lack of ethics in business sector and potential of leading to monopolizing different sectors (Spain).
Critical discussion		Although AI is widely discussed on the policy level, no concrete actions to regulate this field have been taken so far. Additionally, the human rights perspective and ethical dilemmas surrounding AI are rather neglected (Slovenia). However, there is an argument from an ethical approach (Turkey). Academic discussion is more negative about AI (Turkey). There has not been much discussion about this topic save for its role in content moderation on digital platform and significance in disseminating (false) information about the pandemic (Organization for Cooperation-Bosnia). AI was discussed in Argentina on the occasion of the proposal to implement a facial recognition system by cameras on public roads. Then, from some first trials and the surprise of discovering people wanted for crimes, the controversy broke out in the media. Finally, the debate on the legalization of this system was pending. This was discussed in Buenos Aires City during the 2015-2019 government period (Argentina). Currently, several banks are closing their branches and laying off their employees, as digital banking is increasingly used. This has sparked a debate about the consequences of the application of AI and the consequent disappearance of jobs, in a country where there is more than 40% poverty and a high unemployment rate (Argentina). AI is seen as dangerous since it may cause human extinction at some point (Spain).

Source: own elaboration

Question 4. Has a more positive or a more negative picture been conveyed about AI?

The participants, mostly with equal representation, comment on a generally positive image of artificial intelligence. In two cases is it neutral or barely positive. Several aspects are highlighted: healthcare, legal, economic, product comparison, commercial uses, and social benefits. Ministerial and regional government support is reflected in some cases through various actions. Investment in education is justified in two cases. Media portrays it as a positive technological contribution. Negative aspects are downplayed.

Table 5. Picture that has been conveyed about AI

Image	Calification	Aspects
	Extremely positive	(Malta) Medical applications, Legal Framework, Economic benefits, Societal benefits. Government's support in the furthering of education
	Very positive	(Slovenia) more objective, flawless, infallible tool of the future, while its negative impacts are side-lined
	Mostly positive	(Slovakia) positive impact of AI on economy and improvement of human life but mentions also ethical aspects in media is AI presented usually mostly positive like a new inventions that can improve human wellbeing and make life easier
	Positive image	In general, there is a positive image of the advantages that AI applications mean in order to solve problems of daily life, such as banking procedures in public offices, the ease of buying and comparing prices and especially, from the pandemic, the possibility of having a first medical assistance through a video call with health professionals, without the need to resort to medical centers. Regarding job opportunities in Argentina, there is a development of applications and platforms for commercial, medical, business, etc. services abroad, so that programmers prefer to work for Argentine companies that provide services abroad or directly for companies abroad and charge in dollars. Therefore, private and public services either of companies or state agencies are scarce of programmers and, because of it, the state launches free programming courses for young people.
	Slightly positive	(Portugal and Spain) quite neutral, if something, slightly positive. AI offers great functionality, but it's possible, that its bad aspects were not fully revealed (Spain).

Source: own elaboration

Question 5. Do you know what is XAI (eXplainable AI)?

In three cases from the sample, the concept of XAI is unknown, indicating that it is not precisely a widely disseminated concept. Simultaneously, in four cases, a definition is provided. Regarding the participants' perception stances, first, there is a critical-negative perception in the comment about the definition by participants, suggesting potential problems and doubts due to the very nature of this artificial intelligence that goes beyond, escaping the known logical reasoning of man. Second, in three other definitions, the perception is more positive, as precisely this definition aims to prevent AI from producing inexplicable results, tailor it to human service, have greater control, and establish transparent operational criteria.

Table 6. What is XAI (eXplainable AI)

XAI concept known	Definition	Problems
	A topic of contention for 'black box' operating AI, due to the fact that some AI fine-tunes its own parameters based on such large quantities of data (which is the advantage of using the AI in the first place) that it isn't always possible for humans to understand the reasoning behind an AI's ultimate conclusions.	This is problematic as it can lead to fears of undetected bias, mistakes, and misunderstandings, particularly concerning for policy-makers, regulators, and the general public.
		However, we have some doubts whether AI can be explained meaningfully without reduction of the "calculation" processes.
	It's an attempt to both explain some results produced by AI systems, but also to keep AI systems from producing unexplainable results	
	The goal is to have a more human-friendly AI that will be able to adjust its decision making to the given context and also give the rationale of this process. This would hopefully help humans to better understand the way AI works which will contribute to the understanding of humans being in control and being able to predict how AI will behave in the future.	
	The XAI is the development of systems that can explain the criteria with which they are built, in such a way that they are transparent, that is, that everyone can know how the system works, for example, to select personnel, grant a bank loan or predict the possibility of perpetration of a crime by a person. This transparency does not mean the disclosure of the algorithm code that is owned by the organization, but to know the criteria with which it is built.	
	It contrasts with the concept of the "black box" in machine learning where even its designers cannot explain why the AI has arrived at a concrete decision. XAI is an implementation of the social right to explanation.	
XAI CONCEPT UNKNOWN	No	

Source: own elaboration

Question 6. What image is offered of artificial intelligence in your country?

From the analysis, two aspects are linked to the positive image. Firstly, the image of AI is associated with economic strategies, social improvement, health, defense, security, internal administration, as a catalyst for progress and innovation, and as an instrument of Latin coalition. Secondly, it is linked to technological objects with various applications. On the other hand, there is also the image not represented or represented only in certain industry and academia forums that do not reach popular discussion forums. Likewise, there is a perceived image of risk due to potential job displacement and the need for regulation based on human criteria.

Table 7. Image offered of artificial intelligence in your country

Positive image represented	Strategic	Objects
	It is seen as an important and forward-looking driver of the economy in Malta. The government is attempting to make it a core economic activity, by setting up regulation as well as funding technologies and education in this area. (MDIA AI scholarships);'The Government's aim is to develop A National AI Strategy and put Malta amongst the top 10 nations with a national strategy for Artificial Intelligence.	MITA emerging technologies lab)
		Robots, autonomous vehicles, autonomous lethal weapons, fin-tech tools.
		Digitized brain, networks, robots.
	Mostly positive as a hope for improving human life	
	i. AI is a tool for the development of public policies in health, education, defense, security and internal administration of the State. ii. AI is a new factor of production for Argentina. It should invest in this technology to raise the rate of economic growth and to promote 4.0 integration. iii. AI would allow Argentina to build more sophisticated scenarios of predictive regional integration, through an innovative set of anticipatory analytical tools. iv. An AI-based cognitive info-structure would be an opportunity for Argentina to close the physical connectivity gap with other Latin American countries.	v. The emergence of AI will create new risk scenarios of job automation. This generates new challenges and opportunities that should be recalibrated with a humanistic criterion.
Image unrepresented		Not a simple one
		The discussion of AI has not reached the public fora, and therefore has been kept in academia and industry. In these areas there is not much concern with the "image" of the technology
		AI is perceived as "Scary"

Source: own elaboration

Question 7. What AI brands and products are most advertised so people can be easily aware of them?

The participants' brand identification leads them to identify various realities, referring first to sectors, second to brands as companies and startups (initiating) that produce technology or integrate artificial intelligence, third to specific objects like robots or cars, and fourth to objects in a broad sense with integrated artificial intelligence (from apps to smart cities).

Table 8. AI brands and products are most advertised

Sectors	Companies, start.ups	Objects	Objects with AI integrated
	A Feedzai, from Nuno Sebastião,[tem como objetivo tornar a atividade bancária mais seguro através de um *software* de inteligência artificial anti-fraude] and DefinedCrowd, from Daniela Braga [A empresa de análise de dados com recurso a inteligência artificial "recruta *freelancers* através de uma plataforma chamada Neevo e atribui-lhes tarefas como rotular imagens ou gravar áudio, acelerando o seu trabalho com a automação baseada em *machine learning*, sempre que possível]		
	Tesla, Boston Dynamics	Autonomous Vehicles	Google Deepmind, Facebook AI, Social Media, Machine Vision, Data Analytics and Predictive Tools, OPEN AI, DEEPL, GEMINI
	KUKA and Yaskawa	Humanoid robots and industrial robots	
		Phones, cameras, videogames, cars, NLP,	Smart city
		Features in cars and robot vacuum cleaners.	

In Argentina, artificial intelligence is developed in different sectors: I. Agtech II. Financial system III. E-commerce IV. Spacetech Brands and services are not known or advertised to the public, because they are destined for private companies and the public sector. There are no brands or products that incorporate AI developed in the country.			
Health			SPOT LAB

Source: own elaboration

Question 8. Do you know if any of these products are produced in your country? Please, list some examples.

Several companies, including some startups employing AI, are identified in the production of various objects, including video games, robots, chatbots, and detectors. Argentina is involved in the provision of services in this field. In two cases, it is unknown whether these countries are producers of AI products or incorporate AI.

Table 9. Products produced in your country

Known products	
	Modl.ai (videogames)
	Gorenje GAIO, INTECH-LES, Kolektor Vision, Pontess, Revoz, RLS, Yaskawa Slovenia (robots)
	Eg for cars - InoBat- intelligent battery for electric cars; chatbot- Covid-Chat - which helps regarding identifying symptoms of covid
	PAULA - detection of covid mask of customers
	In Argentina it produces services, not products: I. Satellogic II. Dymaxion Labs. Both companies use satellites and AI to accelerate strategic decision-making. III. Pachama promotes carbon capture and protection of native forests through AI. IV. Nydro uses AI to avoid wasting energy by storing it in batteries, in order to sell it or use it at another time. V. Etermax develops video games and creates business solutions with AI applied to language.
	SPOT-LAB (creation of AI solutions)
Unknown products	Not really

Source: own elaboration

Question 9. Please, tell us between 2 and 5 academic studies in your country on artificial intelligence law

There are 7 teams (Spain, Portugal, Malta, Slovenia, Turkey, Slovakia, and Argentina) out of 9 participating teams presenting studies conducted in their respective countries on laws related to artificial intelligence. Consequently, it can be stated that there is a representation regarding this type of research.

Table 10 Between 2 and 5 academic studies in your country on artificial intelligence law

Nation	Legal studies on AI
Spain	Salgado-Criado, J; Fernandez-Aller, C. A Wide Human-Rights Approach to Artificial Intelligence Regulation in Europe. Ieee Technology And Society Magazine. 40(2), pp. 55 - 65. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc., 2021. ISSN 0278-0097 Artificial intelligence, bias and health: Dilemmas surrounding the proposed AI Regulation. Guillermo Lazcoz Moratinos, 2021 Fernández-Aller C; Pérez MMS. Is Data Protection-friendly Artificial Intelligence Possible?. Doxa. Cuadernos De Filosofía Del Derecho. 45, pp. 307 - 336. Universidad de Alicante, 2022. ISSN 0214-8676 DOI: 10.14198/DOXA2022.45.11
Portugal	Manuel Lopes Rocha, Rui Soares Pereira (coord.), Ana Coimbra Trigo (colab.), Inteligência artificial & direito, Almedina, Coimbra, 2020 Mafalda Miranda Barbosa, O futuro da responsabilidade civil desafiada pela inteligência artificial: as dificuldades dos modelos tradicionais e caminhos de solução, Coimbra, 2021
Malta	Lia, T. (2020). The possible legal implications that artificial intelligence poses in the near future. ELSA Malta Law Review, 7, 28-46. https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/68158 Hadzi, A. (2019). Social justice and artificial intelligence. Body, Space & Technology, 18(1), DOI: https://doi.org/10.16995/bst.318. https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/68003 Galea, N. (2020). Redefining criminal liability in the light of artificial intelligence (Bachelor's dissertation). https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/69455 Rezki, E. (2020). Regulating algorithmic profiling in the European Union: the interplay between EU data protection and anti-discrimination law (Master's dissertation). https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/70080 Leigh Micallef, Thea (2016) Civil responsibility for damage caused by artificial intelligence (LL.D. dissertation) https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/17514 Ellul, Joshua and Pace, Gordon J. and McCarthy, Stephen and Sammut, Trevor and Brockdorff, Juanita and Scerri, Matthew, Regulating Artificial Intelligence: A Technology Regulator's Perspective (June 24, 2021). *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Law ICAIL* 2021, Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3873329

Slovenia	1. ZAVRŠNIK, Aleš. Criminal justice, artificial intelligence systems, and human rights. ERA-Forum, 2020, 20(4), pp. 567-583. 2. ZAVRŠNIK, Aleš. Algorithmic Justice: Algorithms and Big Data in Criminal Justice Settings. European Journal of Criminology, Online first, 2019. 3. ZAVRŠNIK, Aleš. Algorithmic surveillance: big data, algorithms and social control. Revija za kriminalistiko in kriminologijo, 2017, 68(2), pp. 135-149 (in Slovenian). 4. ZAVRŠNIK, Aleš (ed.), BADALIČ, Vasja (ed.). Automating crime prevention, surveillance, and military operations. Cham: Springer. cop. 2021. 5. ZAVRŠNIK, Aleš (ed.). Big Data, Crime and Social Control, Routledge, 2018.
Turkey	-LEGAL STATUS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DEBATES ON ITS LEGAL PERSONALITY (2019) https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/download/article-file/775111 -Robotlar, Yapay Zekâ ve Hukuk (2020) https://www.seckin.com.tr/kitap/799126928 -Yapay Zekâ ve Hukukuna Genel Bir Bakış (An Overview of Artificial Intelligence and Its Law) (2021) https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/pub/adaletdergisi/issue/62377/940007 by Gökhan Erdoğan, Head Chief Ministry of Justice, gokhan.erdogan@adalet.gov.tr, ORCID: 0000-0001-8726-4241 -"Yapay Zekânın Yargı Sistemlerinde Kullanılmasına İlişkin Avrupa Etik Şartı", Marmara Avrupa Araştırmaları Dergisi (2020) - Çetin, Selin, "Yapay Zekâ ve Hukuk ile ilgili Güncel Tartışmalar", Selin Çetin (ed.), Yapay Zekâ Çağında Hukuk, İstanbul, Ankara ve İzmir Baroları Çalıştay Raporu (2019) -YAPAY ZEKANIN HUKUKİ STATÜSÜ VE HUKUKİ KİŞİLİĞİ ÜZERİNE TARTIŞMALAR (2019) https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/download/article-file/775111
Slovakia	AI and law in healthcare https://www.flaw.uniba.sk/fileadmin/praf/Pracoviska/Ustavy/UPITPD-V/E-KNIHY/14_12_2020_Mesarcik_Gyurazs_-_AI_a_zdravotnictvo_fin.pdf legal and ethical aspects of AI https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339644459_Pravne_a_eticke_perspektivy_umelej_inteligencie_v_podnikani_Legal_and_Ethical_Perspectives_of_Artificial_Intelligence_in_the_Business Ethical aspects published in https://www.exe.sk/sites/default/files/2020-06/umela-inteligencia-na-Slovensku-e-book.pdf

Argentina	i. Corvalán, Juan G.: "Prometea: AI to transform public organizations": This text is used as an application guide of the "Prometea experience" in the Constitutional Court of Colombia and in other Public Institutions of the region. ii. Cevasco, Luis et. Al.: Artificial Intelligence and Work. Building a New Employment Paradigm: The book shows that for a better understanding of the implications of AI on the world of work, it is essential to analyse tasks rather than jobs: Existing jobs might be enriched when routine tasks are being taken over by machines. Additional jobs and tasks arise as human ingenuity creates new offers, often in relation with social media or in the creative industries. It also highlights the essential role that both States and companies have to play in preparing the workforce of the future. Educational institutions need to develop into larger eco-systems where young people and those already in the workforce can learn to "co-work" with new AI-based tools and smart machines. iii. Granero, Horacio et. al.: "Artificial Intelligence and Law: a social challenge": this study addresses the implications of AI in various aspects of law, such as predictive justice, intellectual property, torts, smart contracts. The authors highlight the necessity of a legal answer to this new reality.

Source: own elaboration

Question 10. Describe between 2-5 opportunities and challenges of AI from a human rights perspective

Participants from five teams highlight a greater number of challenges in various applications, including the challenge of implementing artificial intelligence as a technology while respecting human rights linked to the locus of human dignity that entails the consequences of AI use. However, four team express opinions regarding the opportunities of AI in various sectors: security, educational services, access to medical services, legislative access, judicial processes, administration, food distribution, and transportation.

Table 11. Between 2-5 opportunities and challenges of AI from a human rights perspective

Teams	Components	Subcomponents	Descriptors
Portugal & Portugal	Challenges	the new link between AI/Human Rights	• Being a technology, AI has to be made compliant with Human Rights. There are well documented cases of AIs making choices that are biased because of biased training data • Ultimately, it's the responsibility of the Human in the system to feed good and unbiased data at the training stage
Portugal, Spain & Turkey		the place of Human Dignity in AI	• based on AI calculation, the classification of the citizens could be turned to cause new inequalities and discriminations based on class, ethnicity, gender etc. • question of fair and equal justice based on A calculation

Malta, & Slovenia			• developing/operating/monitoring/using AI mechanisms • Lack of specific legal/political framework for HR protection in the scope of AI activities • The need for a wider inclusion of AI into education programs to reach a wider audience, otherwise AI will become a closed topic, elaborated upon merely in narrow circles of experts on particular fields • Unavailable and inconsistent data, lack of objective standards for data processing, underrepresentation of minority groups, which could bring discriminatory results • Misuse of AI for spreading false information (fake news), cyber-attacks and other activities leading towards a major AI skepticism • Threat to privacy due to potential misuse of AI by governmental or non-governmental actors • Threat to labour market (severe changes or elimination of certain workplaces, not only routine labour but also expert work positions) • Threat to cultural identity due to the accelerated globalization through AI, especially through the abolishment of Slovenian language in the digital world • Difficulties in identifying the responsible/liable subject in case of HR violations • replacing humans, too much control, loss of freedom;
Malta, Slovenia, Slovakia and Argentina	Opportunities		• HR awareness and education, and automated monitoring for (online) violations; i. Improved access to medical, legal, administrative, etc. services and consequently a higher standard of HR protection • Improved scrutiny over implementation and enforcement of HR protection; better control and protection of HR; i. An AI system could help better food distribution in countries like Argentina, which is an agricultural producer • AI could help develop environmental awareness programs for both individuals and businesses • AI could streamline judicial processes benefiting those who require justice • AI could improve public transport planning in large cities • AI could help smarter planning of educational services in the national territory
Spain			• AI could be beneficial the health sector, for optimizing cancer diagnosis; in translation; recommendation systems

Source: own elaboration

Question 11. ***Have you encountered cases of criminal justice-risk scoring using AI in your country that violate the rights of individuals in a way that is unfair? If yes, please provide a brief comment.***

In response to the question of whether there have been cases of criminal justice risks of AI violating people's rights or of using AI in an unjust manner, risks were identified in only one country, Argentina. These related to the facial recognition law, which was seen as posing human rights violations. Additionally, there is a recommendation from an article by Završnik regarding the risks of computation through proxies. In four other countries, no cases are known.

Table 12. Cases of criminal justice-risk scoring using AI in your country that violate the rights of individuals

No existences of Cases		Two responses with no
Not yet existence of cases	Justice	Not yet, uptake of AI on relevant systems is quite low. Some willingness to take up IT in the justice sector in Malta, with some mention of AI, but nothing is in place yet. https://www.coe.int/en/web/cepej/establishing-a-digital-strategy-for-the-maltese-justice-sector1
		Malta also scrapped plans to implement facial recognition. The state-owned company tasked to implement a controversial facial recognition CCTV system in touristic hotspots was dissolved in 2023: https://www.maltatoday.com.mt/news/national/120627/state_ditches_controversial_huawei_cctv. Plans for this project were first announced in 2019: https://www.maltatoday.com.mt/news/national/91196/rollback_facial_recognition_cctv_malta_intrusive_technology Precisely for that reason an inclusive, non-discriminatory data is crucial for a proper functioning of AI mechanisms. Moreover, discriminatory outcomes can be the results of calculation via proxies (more in: Završnik, Aleš. Algorithmic Justice: Algorithms and Big Data in Criminal Justice Settings. European Journal of Criminology, Online first, 2019).
Yes existences of risk of Cases	Facial recognition	Even if we do not have information about false positives because of skin tone or gender in Argentina, there have been a few mistaken identifications by facial recognition. In Argentina we have not yet encountered cases of criminal justice-risk scoring using AI. During the last months of 2020, the legislative body of CABA (Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires) modified the public security law to give place for facial recognition rules. This modification has been severely criticized because it has not considered the impact on privacy, and it has not been explained the necessity nor the proportionality of the system. Nonetheless, we should be prepared to cope with those risks because experience shows that, in other countries, algorithms used for such aim are usually biased, which lead to unlawful violations of human rights
Discussion about its introduction in the judicial system		A document published by domestic Ministry of Justice on how AI can be used in the field of justice was provided: https://www.cej-mjusticia.es/sede/publicaciones/ver/13637

Source: own elaboration

Question 12. ***Do you think access to services using algorithms and different IA technologies can bring stereotyping and racism towards individuals/groups? If yes, please, can you give us some dimensions and main arguments around some of the following topics?***

- *Financial system credit scores*

  «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_al»

- *AI in healthcare system- diagnosis*

  «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_a1»

- *Education-Essay Scoring*

  «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_a2»

- *Online Content Moderation-standards enforcements*

  «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_a3»

- *Human resources-recruitment and hiring?*

  «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_a4»

- *Insurance*

  «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_a5»

Based on the responses, there is unanimous acknowledgment from nine teams that algorithms can indeed harbor stereotypes and racism in a positive manner. Five teams acknowledge that this can happen in all the aspects outlined, with one of them being less critical.

Two other teams emphasize specific cases in the financial aspect, both coinciding in the granting of credits.

Two teams focus on healthcare cases. Firstly, a specific mention is made regarding genetically related diseases. Secondly, this type of AI application is discussed in the context of socio-economic marginalization or exclusion of the female gender.

Two teams confirm the existence of bias in educational scoring. However, one of them disagrees and also clarifies that the evaluation is inherently subjective. One team acknowledges that AI can help with elimination of human bias.

Regarding the compliance with online content moderation standards, they believe that discrimination and racism occur. In one case, it is recommended that this moderation should be carried out by humans.

In the case of human resources recruitment and hiring, there are two more extensive responses. The first one warns about discriminatory policies; the second one cautions that it occurs in the private sector in recruitment and suggests a positive orientation of AI use to better adapt to candidates and be an efficient tool.

Concerning insurance, bias is acknowledged in four cases. This happens in some services, and there is not as much risk in other consultative services. Another consequence is that it leads to higher costs for consumers in insurance payments. Another team believes there is potential but suggests European regulation for these services.

Five teams have responded affirmatively that content moderation may go against human rights.

Table 13. Services using algorithms and different IA technologies bringing stereotyping and racism

Topics	Yes, for all cases (1); yes; yes. But as long as racial details are not fed into the system and there is no inference from residencial data, it should be almost fine; They analyze a person based on a large amount of data; then they include each candidate in a certain label, regardless of his/her situation. Therefore, the label could be totally wrong and unfair; As consequence of inappropriate data used in AI models, increasing stereotypes, racism and other forms of discrimination can appear
Financial system credit scores «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_al»	Difficult to access credits; (Argentina) In the case of the credit scoring financial system, algorithmic biases can occur in a variety of ways. Regarding gender, a good example is the complaint of Steve Wozniak and David Heinemeier Hansson on Twitter against Apple Card. They expressed that the algorithm behind the company had a sexist configuration because, in the same financial situation, it granted more credit to men than to women. This involved the opening of an investigation by the US financial regulator. In several Latin American countries (including Argentina), an AI system called CredoLab (developed by Ombu Tech Services) performs the calculation of credit scoring based on evidence from mobile and web behavior data. Apparently, this information allows lenders to make decisions based on the way people behave in the modern world. The company ensures that there is a correlation between the behaviors that users have on their digital devices and their reliability for debt repayment. They take pride in this. So far, there are no serious and substantiated papers about this system and its consequences or biases in its score, although they are usually presented as a "healthy" alternative to other systems. However, O'Neil refers to similar systems that analyze clicks on a website or geolocation tags of devices, creating a parallel data market that is left out of government oversight. These substitute values create new biases (229). In CredoLab it is not clear what they mean by "mobile and web behaviors", therefore, there is no transparency in the process and the criteria of the judgment that is made on people are unknown.
AI in healthcare system- diagnosis «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_a1»	Discrimination based on AI used health care systems; not really. If anything, there are pathologies that are more prevalent with humans with a specific ancestry. In the case of the medical diagnostic system, although many beneficial advances can be implemented for patients, doctors and the health system, it is also necessary to promote a debate and surveillance on the systems to avoid the violation of rights due to discrimination, invasion of privacy, etc. In Argentina, there are several medical diagnostic systems that have been implemented in recent years, according to Carolina Martínez Elebi (2020), for example: prediction of adolescent pregnancy (21); image analysis for early detection of diseases and word analysis in psychiatry (23); stem cell differentiation (26). The author analyzes both advantages and problems that occur in the implementation of these systems, among them, what she calls "arbitrary or algorithmic discrimination" (42). In the case of some of these systems, discriminatory biases were observed mainly of gender and social class, both in the training data of the systems and in the design of the models they use. For example, in the case of the adolescent pregnancy prediction, it stigmatized a group of low-income girls who, according to the system, were more likely to become pregnant in adolescence (22). There is also a study about gender bias in X-ray training databases, which only included images from men (25).
Education-Essay Scoring «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_a2»	To access equal opportunities at educational sphere; yes; not really. Anyhow, scoring is already a highly biased and subjective... One of the key anticipated benefits of AES is the elimination of human bias such as rater fatigue, rater's expertise, severity/leniency, scale shrinkage, stereotyping, Halo effect, rater drift, perception difference, and inconsistency (Taghipour, 2017).
Online Content Moderation-standards enforcements «Do_you_think_access_To_services_using_a3»	Yes; yes; absolutely. This task should always be done by a human.

Human resourc-es-recruit-ment and hiring? «Do_you_ think_ access_To_ services_ using_a4»	By inappropriate data we hereby mean data that is based on discriminatory practices (for example: workers statistics which are an indirect result of discriminatory employment policies; Etienne Gatt, writing for The Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry (recognised as the 'regula-tory authority' of the private sector in Malta by law - Commercial Code, Chapter 13 of the Laws of Malta), sums up the arguments in this way: 'One clear advantage is that candidates who might be excluded from the shortlist because of human bias stand a much bigger chance of making it through to advanced stages if such shortlisting is carried out by an AI tool. The bad news is that ultimately, AI learns from human-fed information and, sadly, human bias can be learnt too. [...] We need not regard the role of AI in recruitment as a man vs machine situation. Rather, we need to focus on how AI can enhance the possibility of a better fit for candidates, increased employer branding through faster response times and more efficiency, enabling recruiting managers to dedicate more time to strategic tasks.' https://www.maltachamber.org.mt/en/blogs/54
Insurance «Do_you_ think_ access_To_ services_ using_a5»	By inappropriate data we hereby (...)insurance data that are caused by discriminatory insurance policies) or data that is based on an underrepresented social group; The approach tends to favour cautious balance: 'Even though the introduction of AI marks the beginning of an innovative digital approach to customer engagement for Mapfre Middlesea, going forward, the company will continue to place readily-available customer support at the forefront of their business practices in order to ensure timely resolutions as well as customer satisfaction for their clientele.' Insurance, just like the financial system, is vulnerable to bias in AI. Generally, it is perceived that the bias is a result of the data used being biased, however even the design of an algorithm can be biased. This bias risks that individuals aren't accorded equal treatment for insurance. Using AI in customer service is less risky as it doesn't necessarily make any decisions on the treatment of a customer's case, instead focusing on communication and customer queries. https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/introducing-artifi-cial-intelligence-within-maltas-insurance-industry.715473; result in paying more insurance;

Online content moderation may infringe rights of citizen expression	There is no AI being used to moderate content. The closest to this in Malta (though through international collaboration) probably occurs in relation to moderating online games, but this moderation does not infringe citizen expression as it is happening in a platform and not moderation of content so much as in-game behaviour.). https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3474680;(Argentina) The debate whether online content moderation may infringe rights of citizen expression is a crucial issue for democracy in twenty-first century. In Latin America, the Inter-American Convention on Human Rights (ICHR) provides a regulatory framework of content moderation and private censorship, as a baseline for private actors; also it offers concrete recommendations for States and private companies to further enhance the protection of freedom of expression in the digital age. Article 13 of the ICHR minimizes restrictions that impede the free flow of ideas. The prohibition of prior censorship is almost total, except for public entertainment in relation to children's access. freedom of expression, especially on access to public information, decriminalization of contempt and the public interest doctrine as a factor for the criminalization of slander and insults. However, since 2013, with the massification of the internet and social networks, laws and bills around regulation of internet are increased and thus the debate on freedom of expression is reopened. In Argentina, so far, there is no specific legislation. The law number 27078 (Argentine Digital Law) declares of public interest the development of Information and Communications Technologies and seeks to establish and guarantee the complete neutrality of the networks. Although it does not explicitly talk about content regulation, the guarantee of neutrality protects and encourages the possibility that all people can access all types of content and expressions, since it determines that all content must move equally and at the same speed through the network (12). Between 2006 and 2018, a regulatory framework on the liability of intermediaries was discussed, fundamental for its impact on the exercise of the right to freedom of expression on the internet. However, the bill that had obtained half sanction in Senators, was filed in the Chamber of Deputies, for receiving pressure from industry of books, graphics and audiovisual products. In 2016, a project was proposed to create the "Public Defender's Office in Social Networks of Digital Content". The aim was to protect "the rights of human and legal persons against acts, facts and expressions that cause serious damage to their constitutional rights, through any type of social networks, be they, digital, fixed or mobile, in particular the internet and any other digital platform existing or to be created in the future for data transmission". The project was severely criticized for breadth and ambiguity of concepts, as well as lack of specificity. The risk of violating the right to privacy of users and generating new levels of self-censorship was high. In the analysis of the legislation of the last 20 years, it is observed that the one referring to freedom of expression is scattered throughout multiple laws and bills. This dissemination means that many of them are not referred to the freedom of expression commissions of the chambers, even when they can seriously affect this right. In all this documents, there is no references about distinction between manual and automatized moderation. An Argentinian case to consider: in 2020, the former president of Argentina Cristina Fernández de Kirchner denounced Google, because the description that appeared next to the name was "Thief of the Argentine Nation". A computer expertise was requested to obtain the detail in a clear and precise way about how this publication is generated, for how long it was active, how many views it had, taking into account that the search engine itself claims to have 3 billion daily visits. The complaint states: "In short, Google published on its platform and under its responsibility, false and offensive information regarding Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, smearing her name, image and honor". Along with the complaint, Fernández de Kirchner said that he intended to install a question: "Is there any kind of defense for people who are victims of this type of actions perpetrated by a computer giant like Google?" Google answered that text is automatically generated by an algorithm. Therefore, this is an example how algorithms can install and viralize stereotyping or wrong ideas about individuals or groups. The resolution of the case will generate new jurisprudence on the matter, although it is not clear what direction and scope will be.

Source: own elaboration

13. Are you in favour of operations being carried out entirely by artificial intelligence or do you prefer those moderated by humans?

The teams agreed that Artificial Intelligence is a powerful tool capable of enhancing and optimising many tasks. However, it is clearly incapable of accomplishing these things alone. Continuous human oversight is required to adapt the system to the many and intricate conditions of the actual world. It is essential to solicit input from the system using new data, as well as when biases or other issues are detected that require algorithm modifications. Additionally, it is vital to implement effective data governance measures to maintain data quality and promote best practices. Human control is necessary at the first and final stages of AI processes to ensure control over the algorithms, procedures, and outcomes generated by AI mechanisms. Some teams provided the reasons why human supervision is necessary in their opinion (*see: the table below*).

Table 14. The reasons why operations carried by the AI should be moderated by humans

Country	The reasons why human moderation is necessary
Malta	It is necessary to seek feedback from the system with new data, as well as instances of modification of the algorithms when biases or problems of any kind are noticed. It is also necessary to carry out adequate data governance, which ensures the quality of the data and good practices around it. An AI without human restraint is dangerous in terms of the potential for damage it possesses in the various human realms.
Slovenia	Human factors must remain present as the subject defining societal interests and benefits.
Argentina	AI should be deployed with caution.

Source: own elaboration

14. Do you think that legislation proposed by the European Union is sufficient? Are there any other tools missing in your country?

Teams admit that the steps taken by the EU should be generally recognized as comprehensive but not entirely sufficient. For example, the EU is closely monitoring the situation but expresses concerns about the timing of the proposed legislation: The GDPR has had limited success in protecting data and human rights, there are risks associated with the misuse of data and potential alterations to software after audits, which could undermine the legislation's effectiveness. The proposed legislation is just one part of a larger framework needed to regulate AI, covers mainly public sector applications, and leaves out several AI uses –not included as high risk- which are only obliged to transparency. Meanwhile, the team from Argentine believes the EU's legislation is sufficient as it aims to mitigate AI-related risks while ensuring respect for human rights. They highlight the lack of comparable regulations in Argentina, with only the Data Protection Law in place, and compare the EU's legislation to Argentina's limited legal tools, such as tort law and consumer protection, which are currently the only means to manage AI-related risks in the country.

Table 15. The evaluation of the EU legislation on AI and additional tools needed to regulate this issue

Country	Evaluation of EU legislation	Additional tools/regulations
Malta	The EU is closely monitoring, but concerns exist regarding the timing and effectiveness due to risks of data misuse and potential software changes after audits.	No additional tools mentioned, but concerns raised about the limited effectiveness of GDPR in protecting data and human rights.
Slovenia	EU legislation is just one part of a bigger picture; AI is already regulated by existing laws (e.g., data protection) and will be further addressed by other legal disciplines.	No additional tools mentioned in the response.
Argentina	Considered sufficient as it reduces AI-related risks and protects human rights, but there is a lack of similar legislation in Argentina.	Currently used: Data Protection Law, tort law principles, Consumer Protection Law, and the precautionary principle.

Source: own elaboration

Conclusions

This research addresses the global implementation of artificial intelligence (AI), focusing on the European Union's (EU) groundbreaking AI Regulation. The study, conducted within the framework of the Cost Action EU/CA19143 Global Digital Rights Network, examines key aspects of the EU law, including definitions, scope, high-risk AI systems, and impact assessments. Comparisons with Turkish legislation reveal notable divergences, highlighting the EU's comprehensive approach. While the EU prioritizes fundamental rights and stringent regulations, non-European countries lack a harmonized framework and may vary in ethical considerations, risk management, and innovation strategies. In summary, the EU leads in AI legislation, while non-European countries are developing their legal frameworks, demonstrating shared concerns about safety and rights but divergent approaches.

Utilizing a qualitative research methodology, we aim to gain insights from educators and professionals worldwide to comprehensively understand the applications and extent of AI technology in education. We also explore the concurrent evolution of legislative regulation. The report, presenting results from 14 questions, categorizes findings for discerning diverse responses from 9 focus groups representing European and Hispano-American institutions during November 2021. This study serves as a foundation for future research using alternative methodologies.

The EU sample is the predominant source for defining AI, though one participant expresses uncertainty. The sample identifies five components: AI as a system, its qualities, purpose, applicability, and ethical consequences. AI is often characterized as an algorithmic system or neural network, emphasizing complex operations, learning capacity, and ethical implications. The sample primarily focuses on describing the nature of Artificial Intelligence. Key points include its wide application, interdisciplinary nature, mimicking human cognitive operations, accessibility, autonomy, efficiency, societal impact, ethical considerations, and its role in facilitating human work and creative time.

The extensive dissemination of artificial intelligence is apparent across public and private entities, positive media coverage, and academic forums. Macro structural frameworks, including legal and political measures, along with economic interests, contribute. Critical discussions in Slovenia, Turkey, Bosnia, and Argentina stimulate ethical debates on AI regulation and human rights. About the image of AI, participants, mostly evenly represented, generally express a positive view of artificial intelligence. One case is neutral. Key aspects include healthcare, legal, economic, product comparison, commercial uses, and social benefits.

In three cases, participants are unfamiliar with XAI, indicating limited dissemination. Simultaneously, three cases offer definitions. Perceptions vary; one is critical-negative, suggesting concerns about AI's nature surpassing known human reasoning. Two other definitions are positive, emphasizing transparency and control.

Participants' brand awareness leads them to recognize diverse facets. They initially mention sectors, followed by companies and startups producing or integrating AI. Specific objects like robots and cars are noted, along with a broader category encompassing various AI-integrated objects, from apps to smart cities. Various companies and startups, employing AI, are recognized for producing items such as video games, robots, chatbots, and detectors. Argentina is engaged in AI-related services. It's unclear if these countries are AI producers.

Seven out of nine participating teams (Spain, Portugal, Malta, Slovenia, Turkey, Slovakia, and Argentina) present academic studies on AI-related laws, indicating representation in this research area. Participants from six teams emphasize numerous challenges in AI applications, including ethical concerns about its implementation respecting human rights and human dignity. In contrast, four teams express positive views on AI opportunities across various sectors. Regarding cases of AI-based criminal justice risks violating rights, Argentina is the only country identifying risks related to facial recognition law. In Malta, there is an intention to implement it. In three other cases, no instances are known.

Importantly, the teams agreed that while Artificial Intelligence is a powerful tool capable of enhancing and optimizing many tasks, it is incapable of accomplishing these things alone. Continuous human oversight is required to adapt AI systems to the intricate conditions of the real world. It is essential to incorporate new data and address biases or other issues that necessitate algorithmic modifications. Effective data governance measures are also vital for maintaining data quality and promoting best practices. Human control is necessary at the initial and final stages of AI processes to ensure proper management of algorithms, procedures, and outcomes generated by AI mechanisms. This human oversight is crucial to prevent the perpetuation of stereotypes and biases within AI systems, which has been acknowledged as a significant concern by all participating teams.

When asked about whether the legislation proposed by the European Union is sufficient, participants provided varied responses. The Maltese team appreciates the EU's close monitoring but raises concerns about the timing and potential for software manipulation post-audit. The Slovenian team views the EU's legislation as just one part of a

larger framework necessary to regulate AI, while the Argentine team considers the EU's approach sufficient in addressing AI risks and protecting human rights, highlighting the absence of comparable regulations in Argentina. Across all responses, the need for comprehensive and adaptive regulation that incorporates human oversight and addresses ethical concerns is a recurring theme.

Finally, based on the responses, all nine teams unanimously acknowledge that algorithms can harbor stereotypes and racism. Five teams recognize this occurrence in all outlined aspects, with one being less critical. Two teams highlight financial bias in credit granting. Two teams discuss AI bias in healthcare, addressing genetic diseases and socio-economic and gender-related marginalization. Two teams confirm educational scoring bias, while one disagrees. They assert that content moderation standards often lead to discrimination and racism, recommending human moderation in one case. In HR recruitment, discriminatory policies are warned against, and the private sector's AI recruitment is cautioned, suggesting a positive AI orientation. Bias in insurance is acknowledged in four cases, leading to higher consumer costs.

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