
LECTORI SALUTEM!

We are proud to present this Special Issue on the theoretical and practical issues around the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence. The issue was supported by the BME Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences (as always), ELKH SZTAKI and the The Artificial Intelligence National Laboratory of Hungary (MILAB).

The foreword of the issue is presented by our distinguished guest Dr George Tilesch, author of *Between Brains: Taking Back Our AI Future*, and founder and president of the Phi Institute.

Then, we find ourselves right in the middle of it all. Aron Dombrovski investigates some ethical problems around Autonomous Weapons Systems, in particular whether there is an unjust bias against them. Appealing for moral consistency, Dombrovski approaches the problem through the conceptual framework of the Just War Theory, before expanding his coverage to other AI technologies and to possible resolutions of the apparent double standards within the field of AI robotics.

Attila Gyulai and Anna Ujlaki adopt a political theoretical perspective to address the problem of AI regulation. By disregarding the political problem of enforceability, they argue that the applied ethics approach dominant in the discussions on AI regulation is incomplete. Applying realist political theory, the article demonstrates how prescriptive accounts of the development, use and functioning of AI are necessarily political.

Karoline Reinhardt elaborates the questions a diversity-sensitive social platform raises with regard to responsibility, and proposes a tentative ethical framework of responsibility for these platforms. This framework could help balance between the need for respecting human diversity and avoiding unjust discrimination, pitfalls and privacy concerns arising from the collection, processing and storage of diversity-related data.

Kinga Sorbán, in her paper on recommendation engines, introduces the relevant rules present in the existing ethical guidelines and elaborates on how they are to be applied within the streaming industry. The paper strives to adopt a critical standpoint towards the provisions of the ethical guidelines in place, arguing that adopting a one-size-fits-all approach is not effective due to the specificities of the content distribution industry.

Constantin Vică, Cristina Voinea and Radu Uszkai infuse another aspect of realism – not unlike Gyulai and Ujlaki – into the AI ethics debate. Their concern is that, instead of a genuine ethical interest for AI, we are witnessing moral diplomacies resulting in moral bureaucracies battling for moral supremacy and political domination. They provide a short overview of what they term ‘ethics washing’ in the AI industry, analyze a case study, then conclude with some general considerations regarding the future of the ethics of AI.

This issue also contains a regular paper, not connected to the special topic. In our penultimate article, Peter Konhäusner, Maria Margarita Cabrera Frias and Dan-Cristian Dabija investigate the methods being implemented by platforms to use monetary incentives on their crowd. Their paper uses an inductive empirical meth-

od based on grounded theory, with data gathered from 15 different platforms that are known to be using monetary incentivization methods, to analyze and categorize the different strategies used by the platforms and their marketing objectives. The authors present useful information to assist managers to make the right decisions regarding monetary incentives and for fostering the potential of their crowd.

Finally, back in the AI regulation topic, in the last paper of this issue Héder elaborates the connection he sees between the AI regulations fever and the generic concept of Social Control of Technology. According to his analysis, the amplitude of the regulatory efforts may reflect the lock-in potential of the technology in question. This refers to the ability of a limited set of actors to force subsequent generations onto a certain technological trajectory, hence evoking a new interpretation of Technological Determinism for Artificial Intelligence.