



# Ethical aspects of AI The viewpoint of the EU

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# AI – Regulatory/Legal challenges

- **Definition of AI: variety of definitions and approaches**
- **Disruptive and horizontal character of AI**
- **Looking for new risk identification/assessment methodologies**
- **Need for balancing between technological innovation and ethical governance**
- **Management of scientific uncertainties and social concerns**

# Ethical challenges

- Black-box effectsΑδιαφάνεια
- Bias/discriminatory effects
- Autonomy
- Απόρρητο πληροφοριών και ιδιωτικότητα
- Ασφάλεια και ανθεκτικότητα
- Ηθικός έλεγχος

# Shaping a European approach towards AI

- Focus on:
  - Human-centric AI**
  - Trustworthy AI**
  - AI ethics by design**
- **Creation of an ecosystem of excellence and of an ecosystem of trust**
- **EU aspires to become a global leader in the development of trustworthy AI**

# What is the EU doing on AI in policy/regulatory terms?

- **Legislative proposal for an AI Act**
- **Communications, Coordinated Plans and a White Paper**
- **Ethics Guidelines (Requirements, ALTAI, sector-specific guidance)**
- **Standardisation initiatives, sandboxing and international outreach**

proposal



Regulation on a  
European approach for  
Artificial Intelligence  
[21st of April 2021]

Subject matter and scope



Title I

List of prohibited AI



Title II

High-risk AI systems



Title III

Transparency obligations



Title IV

Support of innovation



Title V

Governance systems



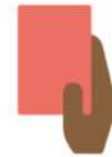
Title VI, VII, VIII

Voluntary commitments



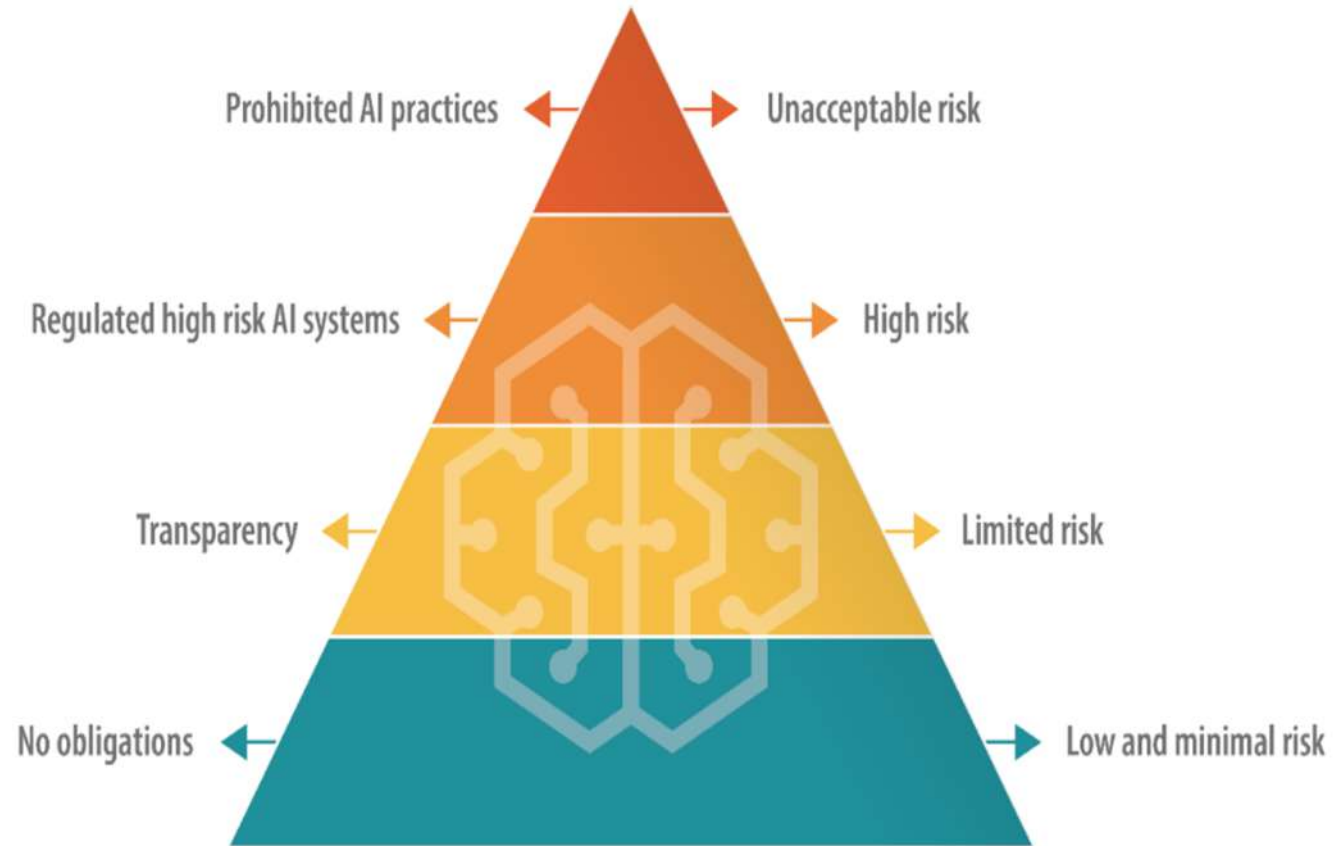
Title IX

Penalties, delegation of power, updates



Title X, XI, XII

# AI Act proposal



Data source: [European Commission](#).

# Four categories of potential risk

- **Minimal risk:** the new rules won't apply to these AI systems because they represent only minimal or no risk for citizen's rights or safety. Companies and users will be free to use them.
- **Limited risk:** subject to specific transparency obligations to allow users to make informed decisions, be aware they are interacting with a machine and let them easily switch off.
- **High risk:** given their potentially harmful or damaging implications on people's personal interests, these AI systems will be "carefully assessed before being put on the market and throughout their lifecycle"
- **Unacceptable:** the Commission will ban AI systems that represent "a clear threat to the safety, livelihoods and rights of people".



INDEPENDENT  
**HIGH-LEVEL EXPERT GROUP ON  
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**  
SET UP BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION



**ETHICS GUIDELINES  
FOR TRUSTWORTHY AI**

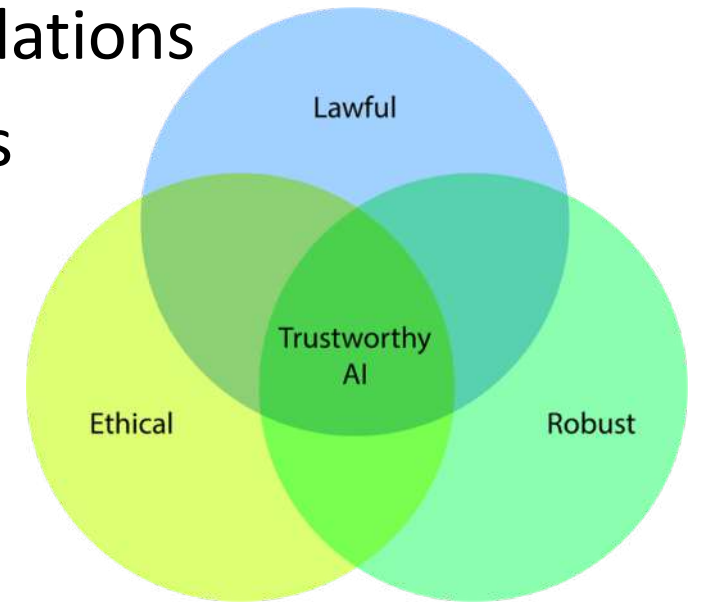
# Seven requirements

- Ensure that the development, deployment and use of AI systems meets the **seven key requirements for Trustworthy AI**:
  - (1) human agency and oversight,
  - (2) technical robustness and safety,
  - (3) privacy and data governance,
  - (4) transparency,
  - (5) diversity, non-discrimination and fairness,
  - (6) environmental and societal well-being
  - (7) accountability.

# EU (trustworthy) approach to AI

Trustworthy AI should be:

- (1) lawful - respecting all applicable laws and regulations
- (2) ethical - respecting ethical principles and values
- (3) robust - from a technical perspective



# Ethical guidelines on the use of AI in teaching and learning for educators (EU, October 2022)

- The guidelines are intended for primary and secondary teachers
- Ethical requirements and practical advice are offered to educators and school leaders on how to integrate the effective use of AI into school education.
- The guidelines discuss emerging competences for the ethical use of AI among teachers, proposing ways of raising awareness and engaging with the community.



# EC Ethics Review and AI

- **AI as a separate box in the ethics issues check-list**
- **AI as separate section in the Guide on How to complete your ethics self-assessment**
- **AI as separate section in the Guidance Note on identifying serious and complex ethics issues in EU-funded research**
- **Special Guidance on Ethics By Design and Ethics of Use Approaches for Artificial Intelligence**
- **Dedicated Ethics Checks on AI-related projects**

# What is coming

- **Guidance Note on *human-centered AI: algorithmic bias and fairness***
- **Guidance Note on *explainable/inclusive AI***
- **Guidance Note on *AI Ethics Audits and Checks***
- **Guidance Note on *AI Ethics and project lifecycle***

# European Parliament

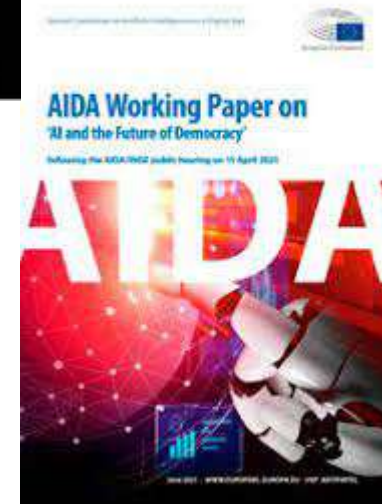
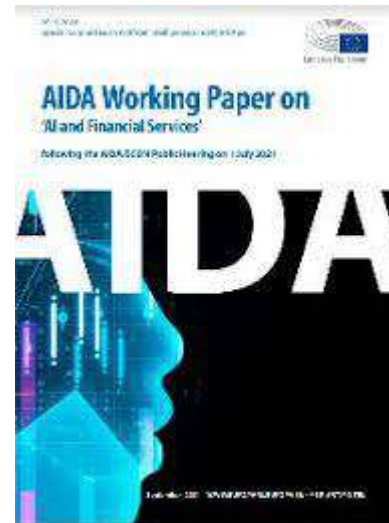
- **More than 10 Resolutions on AI**
- **Committee reports on the proposed AI Act - (July 2022 EP Report: 3000 amendments)**
- **Temporary AI Committee (AIDA)**

# EP's AI Act negotiating team

- The discussions will be led by the **Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection** (IMCO; rapporteur: Brando Benifei, S&D, Italy) and the **Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs** (LIBE; rapporteur: Dragos Tudorache, Renew, Romania) under a **joint committee procedure**.
- The **Legal Affairs Committee** (JURI), the **Committee on Industry, Research and Energy** (ITRE) and the **Committee on Culture and Education** (CULT) are associated to the legislative work with **shared and/or exclusive competences**.



# AIDA Activity Report



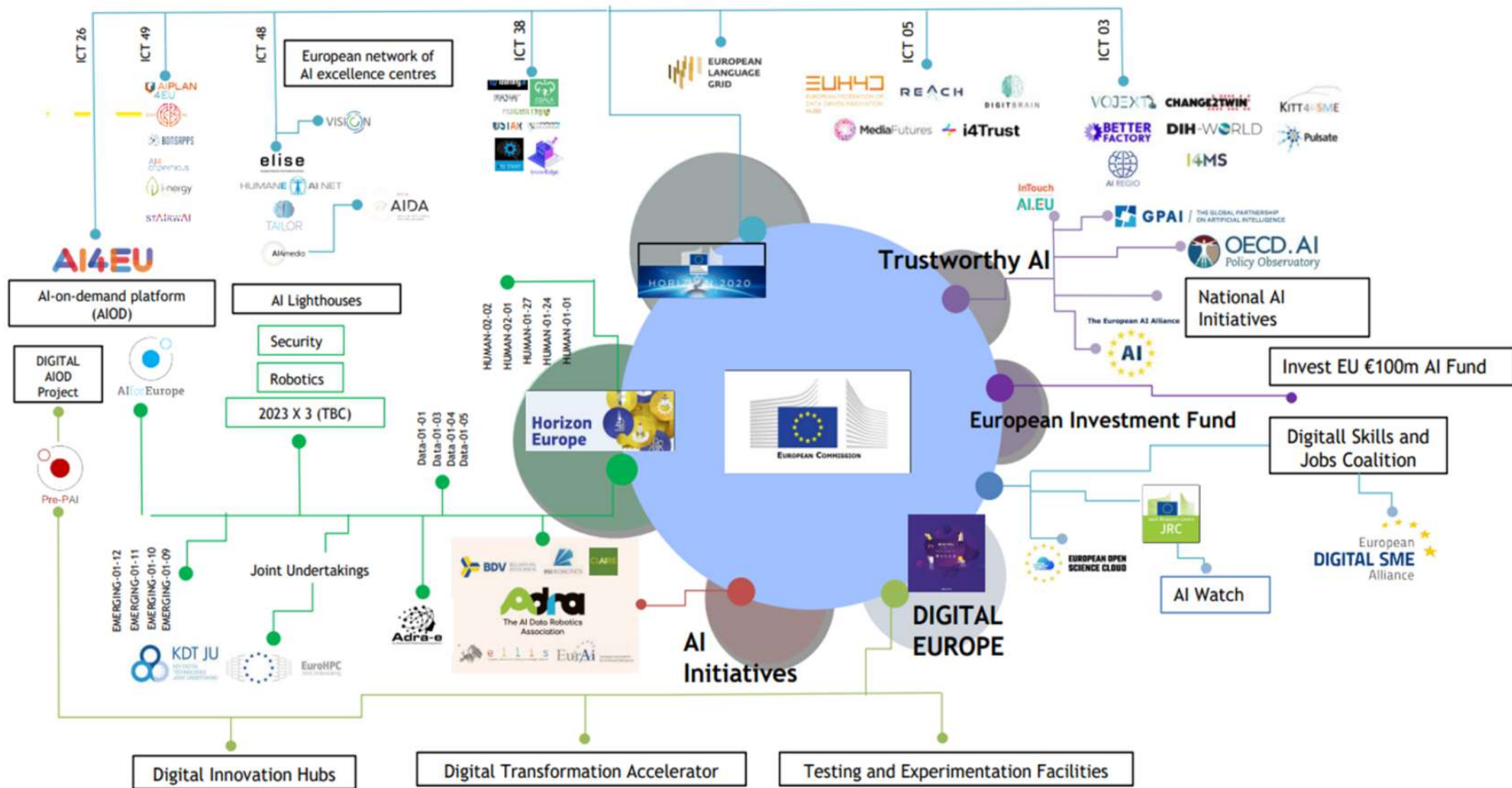
# Resolution on the ethical aspects of AI

**European Parliament resolution of 20 October 2020 with recommendations to the Commission on a framework of ethical aspects of artificial intelligence, robotics and related technologies (2020/2012(INL))**

Future laws should be made in accordance with several guiding principles, including:

- **a human-centric and human-made AI;**
- **safety, transparency and accountability;**
- **safeguards against bias and discrimination;**
- **right to redress;**
- **social and environmental responsibility;**
- **European certificate of ethical compliance;**

# Communities – The European AI Landscape



# The global landscape of AI ethics guidelines

This paper has been published in IEEE ETHAI 2020

## A Survey on Ethical Principles of AI and Implementations

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**Abstract**—AI has powerful capabilities in prediction, planning, targeting, and personalisation. Generally, it is assumed that AI can enable machines to exhibit human-like intelligence, and is claimed to benefit to different aspects of our lives. Since AI is fueled by data and is a distinct autonomous and self-learning agency, we are seeing ethical concerns related to AI uses. In order to mitigate ethical concerns, national and international organisations including governmental organisations, private sector research institutes have made extensive efforts in defining ethical principles of AI, and having active discussions of AI within and beyond the AI community. This paper investigates these efforts with a focus on the identification of fundamental ethical principles of AI and their implementation. The review found that there is a convergence around the principles and the most prevalent principles are trust, justice and fairness, responsibility, non-maleficence, privacy. The investigation suggests that ethical principles to be combined with every stages of the AI lifecycle implementation to ensure that the AI system is implemented and deployed in an ethical manner. An ethical framework used in biomedical and clinical research paper suggests checklist-style questionnaires as beneficial to the implementation of ethical principles of AI.

**Keywords**—AI, ethical principles, implementation

### I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is typically defined as interactive, autonomous, self-learning agency with the ability to perform cognitive functions in contrast to the intelligence displayed by humans, such as seeing, moving, reasoning, learning, communicating, solving (see Figure 1) [1]–[3]. It has powerful capabilities in prediction, automation, planning, targeting, personalisation, and is claimed to be the driving force of the next industrial revolution (Industry 4.0) [4]. It is transforming our world, our life, and our society and affects virtually every aspect of our modern lives. Generally, it is assumed that AI can enable machines to exhibit human-like cognitive capabilities more efficient (e.g. higher accuracy, faster, working longer hours) than humans in various tasks. Claims about the benefits of AI are abundant and growing related to different aspects of our lives. Some examples are: in human's everyday life, AI can recognise objects in images, it can transcribe speech, it can translate between languages, it can recognise faces or speech; in traveling, AI makes self-driving cars possible, AI enables drones to fly autonomously, AI can predict parking difficulty by area in crowded places; in medicine, AI can discover new uses for existing drugs, it can detect a range of conditions from images, it can enable personalised medicine; in agriculture, AI can detect

## STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OECD AI PRINCIPLES

INSIGHTS FROM NATIONAL AI POLICIES

OECD DIGITAL ECONOMY PAPERS

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE (CEPEJ)

### European Ethical Charter on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Judicial Systems and their environment



Adopted at the 31th plenary meeting of the CEPEJ on 3–4 December 2018

## Recommendation on the ethics of artificial intelligence

### PREAMBLE

The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), meeting in Paris from 9 to 24 November 2021, at its 41st session,

Recognizing the profound and dynamic positive and negative impacts of artificial intelligence (AI) on societies, environment, ecosystems and human lives, including the human mind, in part because of the new ways in which its use influences human thinking, interaction and decision-making and affects education, human, social and natural sciences, culture, and communication and information,

Recalling that, by the terms of its Constitution, UNESCO seeks to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, the sciences, culture, and communication and information, in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world,

Convinced that the Recommendation presented here, as a standard-setting instrument developed through a balanced approach, based on international law, focusing on human dignity and human rights, as well as gender equality, social and economic justice and development, physical and mental well-being, diversity, interconnectedness, inclusiveness, and environmental and ecosystem protection can guide AI technologies in a responsible direction,

Informed by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Considering that AI technologies can be of great service to humanity and all countries can benefit from them, but also raise fundamental ethical concerns, for instance regarding the biases they can embed and exacerbate, potentially resulting in discrimination, inequality, digital divides, exclusion and a threat to cultural, social and logical diversity and social or economic divides; the need for transparency and understandability of the workings of algorithms and the data with which they have been trained; and their potential impact on, including but not limited to, human dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms, gender equality, democracy, social, economic, political and cultural processes, scientific and engineering practices, animal welfare, and the environment and ecosystems,

Recognizing that AI technologies can deepen existing divides and inequalities in the world, within and between countries, and that justice, trust and fairness must be upheld so that no country and no one should be left behind, either by having fair access to AI technologies and enjoying their benefits or in the protection against their negative implications, while recognizing the different circumstances of different countries and respecting the desire of some people not to take part in all technological developments,

Aware of the fact that all countries are facing an acceleration in the use of information and communication technologies and AI technologies, as well as an increasing need for media and information literacy, and that the digital economy presents important societal, economic and environmental challenges and opportunities of self-sharing, especially for low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), including but not limited to least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), requiring the recognition, protection and promotion of endogenous cultures, values and knowledge in order to develop sustainable digital economies,

Further recognizing that AI technologies have the potential to be beneficial to the environment and ecosystems, and in order for those benefits to be realized, potential harms to and negative impacts on the environment and ecosystems should not be ignored but instead addressed,

Concluding that addressing risks and ethical concerns should not hamper innovation and development but rather provide new opportunities and stimulate ethically-conducted research and innovation that anchor AI technologies in human rights and fundamental freedoms, values and principles, and moral and ethical education.

# TALOS-expectations

- To raise awareness about research ethics in the field of Humanities and Social Sciences
- To identify and highlight the ethical challenges that arise in relation to the use of AI in the field of SSH
- To propose sustainable and innovative ways and tools to address novel ethical challenges emerging in the field of digital humanities.
- To prepare the new generation of researchers who will support the responsible design of artificial intelligence and develop interdisciplinary solutions for the 'humanization' of artificial intelligence.
- To make the University of Crete an international point of reference on issue of responsible innovation.