

Commission : Artificial intelligence

Problématique : “How can we frame the development and use (of artificial intelligence) in the European Union, in order to maximize economic and social benefits while guaranteeing the respect for fundamental rights, the safety of all citizens and full transparency of these new Artificial Intelligences?”

Auteur : Czech Republic

The Czech Republic has been a member of the European Union since 2004 and part of the United Nations Secretary General since January 19th of 1993 and plays an important role in shaping discussions about technology and regulation in Europe. Led by Prime Minister Petr Fiala from the Civic Democratic Party (ODS), the Czech government is actively involved in developing policies for artificial intelligence (AI) in the EU. The goal is to maximize the economic and social benefits of AI while ensuring that fundamental rights are respected, citizens are kept safe, and AI systems are transparent. While the Czech Republic is becoming a growing tech hub, the government faces challenges related to security, ethics, privacy, and transparency. They are committed to making sure that AI development follows EU values and benefits society as a whole.

Economically and socially, the Czech government strongly supports AI as a tool for innovation and competitiveness, especially in areas like industry, healthcare, and green technologies. In 2021, the Czech Republic introduced programs to encourage digital innovation and AI development, working to create an environment that encourages collaboration between local and international businesses. The government views AI as an opportunity to modernize industrial infrastructure and improve public services while creating new economic opportunities. They also aim to make sure AI benefits everyone in society, including investing in digital education, creating jobs in the AI sector, and promoting digital inclusion. The government wants to ensure that AI's economic benefits are shared fairly, addressing social issues like job creation, improving education, and reducing inequality.

When it comes to political matters, the Czech Republic places great importance on creating strong regulations for AI. As an EU member, the country takes part in discussions about AI regulations, especially regarding the European Commission's proposed AI Regulation. The Czech government supports measures to ensure transparency in AI systems, particularly in sensitive areas like justice, healthcare, and public safety. They want to make sure citizens can understand and challenge decisions made by AI systems. The Czech Republic also believes in a balanced approach to regulation that protects fundamental rights while still allowing for innovation. They stress the importance of ensuring high standards for AI security, particularly with respect to data protection under the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Regarding security and fundamental rights, the Czech government considers citizens' safety and the protection of their rights as top priorities. They support strong security measures to reduce risks associated with AI, such as cyberattacks, privacy breaches, and harmful uses of AI. It is important to them that AI is used in a way that respects citizens' fundamental rights, including freedom of expression, privacy, and non-discrimination. The Czech government also focuses on promoting the ethical use of AI, tackling algorithmic biases that might lead to discrimination in areas like employment, education, and justice. They are committed to making AI technologies inclusive and accessible to everyone, especially vulnerable groups.

On environmental issues, the Czech Republic recognizes AI's potential in contributing to sustainability and fighting climate change. As part of its commitments within the EU, the Czech government is involved in efforts to use AI in energy management, reduce carbon emissions, and improve industrial processes for a greener economy. They see AI as a powerful tool for helping the EU achieve its climate goals in sectors like energy, transportation, and agriculture. The Czech Republic also wants to use AI to create a circular economy with low carbon emissions, while ensuring that environmental benefits do not come at the cost of citizens' rights or safety.

In terms of education and training, the Czech government is aware of the challenges of AI and is investing in digital education to help future generations prepare for these challenges. The country is working to develop a skilled workforce in technology-related fields by supporting educational programs and collaborating with tech companies. They are also focusing on improving digital skills for adults and reducing the digital divide between urban and rural areas. These efforts aim to ensure that the workforce is ready for a future increasingly driven by AI.

To conclude, the Czech Republic, as part of the European Union, is positioning itself as an active participant in the development and regulation of AI. The government is advocating for a balanced approach that maximizes the economic and social benefits of AI while ensuring security, the protection of fundamental rights, and transparency. By promoting responsible innovation, the Czech Republic aims to contribute to an inclusive and sustainable European society, where AI can drive progress while respecting human and democratic values.