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**Country:** Ireland

**Committee:** EU Council on Artificial Intelligence

**Topic:** 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?

We all acknowledge that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming economies and societies worldwide. The AI sector is projected to contribute over \$19.9 billion to the global economy by 2030 according to IDC Research, with the European Union playing a crucial role in this growth. As Ireland, a country at the forefront of digital innovation, we recognize the immense opportunities AI offers. However, we also understand the ethical and legal challenges it poses, including data privacy risks, algorithmic biases, and the impact on employment. Our priority is to ensure that AI development is aligned with our values of transparency, fairness, and human-centric governance. To achieve this, we must implement comprehensive policies that promote responsible AI innovation while safeguarding the fundamental rights of our citizens.

As a European leader in technology and innovation, we advocate for a balanced and forward-thinking approach to AI regulation. We have actively participated in shaping the EU Artificial Intelligence Act to guarantee that AI systems respect fundamental rights and adhere to ethical principles. Our National AI Strategy underscores our commitment to responsible AI development by prioritizing research funding, ethical AI use, and compliance with EU standards. As a dedicated member of the European AI Research and Innovation Network, we have contributed significantly to fostering cross-border collaboration and knowledge sharing within the EU. Furthermore, we place a strong emphasis on GDPR compliance, AI transparency, and maintaining human oversight in automated decision-making processes. By supporting stringent regulations for high-risk AI applications while fostering an innovation-friendly environment, we aim to uphold digital rights and maintain our competitive edge in AI research and development.

To ensure the responsible development and deployment of AI, we advocate for the

implementation of AI literacy programs across all levels of education to enhance public understanding of AI's impact and citizens' rights. We also support the establishment of a robust EU-wide AI ethics committee to monitor and enforce ethical compliance across member states. Strengthening public and private sector partnerships is essential to drive responsible AI research, ensuring that technological advancements align with societal values. Moreover, we call for more rigorous enforcement of AI transparency requirements to guarantee accountability in automated decision-making processes. Enhanced cross-border cooperation among EU member states is necessary to harmonize AI regulations, prevent fragmentation, and create a unified European AI framework. Additionally, we encourage the development of AI-driven innovation hubs in Ireland, fostering collaboration between academic institutions, industry leaders, and policymakers to promote ethical AI advancements. Finally, we emphasize the importance of inclusive AI policies to ensure that marginalized communities benefit from AI advancements rather than being disproportionately affected by automation.

We firmly believe that AI should be developed and deployed in a manner that strengthens economic growth while safeguarding fundamental rights and societal well-being. As a pro-European nation, we actively support the European Union's efforts to implement responsible AI regulations that align with ethical principles and democratic values. Our commitment to collaborative policymaking, innovation-driven solutions, and human-centric AI governance remains unwavering. By prioritizing transparency, accountability, and cooperation, we seek to position Ireland as a leader in shaping a trustworthy, inclusive, and forward-thinking AI landscape. Through continuous engagement with our European partners, we strive to ensure that AI serves as a force for progress, benefiting all citizens and reinforcing Europe's leadership in ethical AI development.