

**Commission:** EU AI Council

**Subject:** “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 Intelligence systems?”

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Slovakia is a landlocked country in Central Europe that borders the Czech Republic and Poland to the North, Ukraine to the East and Hungary and Austria to the South-East. Our country joined the European Union in 2004 after the implementation of reforms that aligned with its standards. Slovakia constitutes one of the many parliamentary republics in the EU and the current Prime Minister’s — Robert Fico’s— government is an Euroskeptic-leaning coalition comprised of Smer-SD, Hlas-SD, and the Slovak National Party (SNS).

With Artificial Intelligence developing at an exponential rate and an equally growing concern about its dangers, the European Union has seen the need to create a commission dedicated to it. The overall objective of this committee is to address regulation of AI and frame the evolution of this technology full of potential. AI has come a long way since the earlier models of machine learning that required human intervention. Now, AI uses deep learning programs: algorithms that mimic the human brain to learn patterns from large data sets using neural networks. This innovation renders AI more accurate while handling more complex tasks, assures better performance with large-scale datasets, increases adaptability and improves decision-making in real-time applications. However, with deep learning, human mediation is nearly no longer necessary and in some cases AI surpasses human understanding. Additionally, the more notable AI technologies are arising outside of Europe and may not respect the EU’s norms and standards. To protect the user’s rights, legislation, and regulations are already in place. Nevertheless, our committee will strive to further improve them for the new EU 2030 agenda in sectors such as health and research, education, tourism, and agriculture.

Slovakia fully acknowledges AI’s importance and potential, thus we will support with ease its development. Nevertheless, this must not be done freely, and specific requirements must be met to guarantee AI’s responsible evolution. The use of AI must be based on demonstrably secure deployment of this technology and respecting international principles and guidelines, such as Principles of OECD for artificial intelligence (May 2019) or recommendations of the European Commission for trustworthy artificial intelligence.

The rise of AI is predicted to significantly transform the global economy, and our country recognizes the urgency of adapting to these changes. With industries at high risk of job displacement due to AI, Slovakia must respond quickly and effectively. However, AI also holds immense potential to enhance the competitiveness of the Slovak economy. According to PwC estimates, AI could contribute over USD 16 trillion globally by 2030, increasing global GDP by 26%. Slovakia is keen on supporting business investments in this field to remain competitive in the global market.

In agriculture, Slovakia’s workforce struggles with an aging population and labor shortages in our rural and mountainous regions. AI-driven automation could balance out these challenges while reducing the amount of strenuous exercise for the aging demographic. Equally, the use of AI can optimize farming practices, leading to greater productivity and reduced environmental impact. (only 2% of GDP but 8% of population employed)

Slovakia aims to provide the public with basic knowledge of AI principles and mechanisms through public education initiatives. This includes promoting subjects foundational to AI in primary and secondary schools, and establishing university programs focused on specialized AI topics. Slovakia also intends to foster cooperation with research institutions, involve them in projects, and provide access to essential data for research.

In terms of military, Slovakia was one of 161 states that voted in favor of Draft resolution L.77 on lethal autonomous weapons systems at a UN General Assembly First Committee in October 2024. This resolution emphasizes the need for human oversight in the use of force.

We have actively engaged in international efforts to regulate and promote ethical AI development. Recently (February 2025), Slovakia was among 58 countries that signed the Statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet at the AI Action Summit co-chaired by France and India. This declaration highlights key principles such as accessibility, transparency, ethics, safety, and international cooperation in AI development. Additionally, Slovakia is an invited member of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI), an initiative hosted by the OECD to guide responsible AI development. Though its membership is pending approval, Slovakia's inclusion is a show of our commitment to collaborating on global AI governance and extending beyond the EU.

The Slovak AI Digital Innovation Hub (SKAI-eDIH) is a government-backed initiative designed to facilitate and promote AI adoption among small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and support digital innovation. Coordinated by the Kempelen Institute of Intelligent Technologies, the hub provides businesses with access to AI expertise, training, and funding opportunities. This project is primarily financed through EU structural funds, particularly the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), which supports digital innovation initiatives. Additional funding comes from the Slovak Ministry of Economy, which allocates state budget resources to help SMEs transition to AI-powered business models. (overall 10-15 million euros)

Another project is the establishment of a task force by the Slovak National Security Council focused on AI's role in identifying and preventing fake news and misinformation. This initiative aims to strengthen national security by developing AI-driven tools to detect manipulated content and false narratives spread across digital platforms. This project is supported financially through Slovakia's participation in the European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO), which provides funding for research into AI's role in fact-checking and combating misinformation. Additionally, Slovakia benefits from grants under the EU's Digital Europe Programme, which supports AI-driven media integrity solutions across member states. (overall 2 million to 4 million euros)

Although Slovakia's government tends to be generally Euroskeptic, on the subject of AI, our country's desire is to pool the EU's resources and pave the way for a more ethical, transparent and beneficial use of AI.