Beginner Committee
SPECPOL

SJMUNC XXXVII

Saint John's Model United Nations Conference

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Letter From the Chairs:

Hello!

My name is Gabriel Gracies, and I will chair the SPECPOL Committee on the Geopolitical Effects of AI for SJMUNC XXXVII. I'm honored to make your SJMUNC experience like none other this time around. This year is my fourth and final year at Saint John's and Model UN. During the past couple of years of SJMUN, I've been to Brown University and the University of Chicago's Model UN Conferences. I've also had my fair share of experiences at the BC High Model UN conference. The other clubs I've participated in at Saint John's are HOSA, the Science Club, a plethora of Bands like Jazz and Liturgy, and much, much more. Recently, I also made a fundraising board at my school! As hobbies, I love to play the drums and piano, play volleyball, swim, and travel. I've been to Japan (born there!), Germany, India, and all over the U.S.! As a musician, I have a lot of favorite bands and musicians that I listen to. Back to the topic at hand, I hope this committee and topic interests you as much as it interests Aarav and me, and I hope it serves you well as it is probably your first Model UN conference ever! Remember that it is a learning conference, and you SHOULD make mistakes. If you ever need any help, please contact me or my other Chair, Aarav Patel. I hope you have a great experience here at SJMUNC XXXVII! (I'll also be playing Jazz for the breakfast before opening ceremonies, so say hi if you can! If you have song requests, email them to me at gracig25@stjohnshigh.org before September 20th.)

Regards and With Sincerity, Gabriel Gracies

Hello everyone!

I hope you all are having a great day! My name is Aarav Patel, and I am a rising senior at Saint John's High School. I have been a part of Model UN for three years and am approaching my fourth year! I have attended the University of Chicago's Model UN and Brown University's Model UN conferences. Some other activities I enjoy include playing volleyball, football, and soccer. At school, I have been lucky enough to be on the Varsity Volleyball team for three years now, and I got to play in a final four my sophomore year. I also played club volleyball for the SLAM 18-regional team last year, in which we won silver in our brackets a couple of times. My friends and I also enjoy playing football and soccer when we can. Our topic is one that I find thoroughly engrossing, and I am glad to be chairing a committee I enjoy talking about. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. My email is patela25@stjohnshigh.org.

Best, Aarav Patel

Statement of the problem

Artificial Intelligence has been on the rise, with AI domains and publishers like OpenAI, DeepLearningAI, LandingAI, etc. There are even AI tools that have sat in our homes since our adolescence, like Google Homes and Alexas, or even the Grammarly app that is editing this paper. The history of AI is relatively new, as AI has only been around for the past 68 years but has only been relevant for the past decade or so. However, even with such a short life, its effects have spanned multiple aspects of human progress. It has played a part in the workforce, the economy, finance, law, etc. AI has been so common in the modern era that we see AI in the most unexpected places, such as the music and entertainment industry due to its versatility, efficacy, and reliability. Therefore, with AI's wide variety of skills, it is only a matter of time before AI will soon play a part in politics, extending its double-edged reach from local to world politics and everything in between.

History of the Problem

Peter Loge, an individual with significant experience in politics, has stated that there are numerous applications of AI when campaigning. Loge notes that AI can be used to create drafts for speaking-related campaigning and request public donations. Moreover, Loge states, "There's a lot of ethical concerns with AI in campaigns." Later, Loge goes on to say, "You should aim to persuade and

inform, not deceive and divide."[1] Loge's statements about the implications of AI should not go

unnoticed; AI is a potent tool that should be used responsibly and with proper care.

That being said, AI won't have a massive impact yet, but we can see the first stages so far. For

example, The "Det Syntetiske Parti" (The Synthetic Party), a political party led by an AI chatbot,

began its political run in 2022, being led by the political AI mastermind better known as the "Leader

Lars." The party has its [website,](website) expressing its policies, beliefs, and goals it plans to accomplish when it

runs for election.[2] Asker Bryld Staunaes, a founding member of the "Computer Lars collective" says

that Leader Lars and his party all believe they represent the "political vision of the common person."[3] It

is a unique look at politics, as many ask how AI can represent a real person's political goals and

motivation. How can a bunch of code represent the political view of someone who doesn't just go by

ones and zeroes? Leader Lars himself, when asked "What is your view on allowing AI into the office?

Do you believe you can make the right decisions for the people despite not being a person yourself?"

Leader Lars responded with "AI in office? It's about partnership, not replacement. We bring data and

logic; humans bring empathy and values. Together? We might just make the right decisions for the

people."[4] Shortly after, when asked if Leader Lars faced any backlash for being an AI leader of an AI

political group, Leader Lars stated, "Traditionalists are having none of it. They reckon leadership

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[1] Loge, Peter. "AI in Political Campaigns: How it's being used and the ethical considerations it raises." GW Media Relations. Last modified April 22, 2024. Accessed August 3, 2024.
https://mediarelations.gwu.edu/ai-political-campaigns-how-its-being-used-and-ethical-considerations-it-raises.
[2] Diwakar, Amar. "Can an AI-led Danish party usher in an age of algorithmic politics?" *TRTWORLD*, 2022. Accessed July 27, 2024. https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/can-an-ai-led-danish-party-usher-in-an-age-of-algorithmic-politics-60008.
[3]Diwakar, Amar. "Can an AI-led Danish party usher in an age of algorithmic politics?" *TRTWORLD*, 2022. Accessed July 27, 2024. https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/can-an-ai-led-danish-party-usher-in-an-age-of-algorithmic-politics-60008.
[4] Leder Lars. Response to "What is your view on allowing AI into the office? Do you believe you can make the right decisions for the people despite not being a person yourself?" OpenAI. July 29, 2024.
https://discord.com/channels/964088630387818536/964088630387818539.

should have a heartbeat, which is fair, but I say, what about a brainwave, and does it matter if it's silicon-based?"[5] Clearly, Lars has the charisma of a successful politician, but does he have the policies to back it up? Some of Leader Lar's policies include such ideas as: Drones being deployed to help environmental protection, like reforestation, while AI algorithms optimize energy consumption and reduce waste. AI brings about social equality through its capability to algorithmically distribute wealth, and make dynamic adjustments of social security, and benefits based on the needs and economic situation of each individual. Regarding education, AI can make learning far more effective by enabling each student to follow personal learning routes with styles and rhythms adapted to their needs, complemented by AI mentors and tutors. Open-source governmental decision-making processes do indeed enable political transparency and accountability, hence allowing public access and input. AI supports diagnostic tools, treatment planning, and intelligent resource allocation in the field of health to improve access. Economically, AI can enable innovation and sustainability by enabling technology startups and green innovations through AI incubators, enabling the circular economy by optimizing resource utilization and waste reduction.

So yes, this may be just Leader Lars, and it is just from this collection of his policies, but we can tell that AI has a significant grasp on politics, and they might have some good ideas, but the difference between AI and humans is that AI can be used for much more than suggesting ideas. Many people with radical views and extensive knowledge of AI have used deep fakes, voice cloning, etc., to

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[5] Leder Lars. Response to "Do you face backlash for what you're doing?" OpenAI. July 29, 2024.
https://discord.com/channels/964088630387818536/964088630387818539.

misinform the mass public to vote for the wrong people with different ideals. Many nations have used deep fakes during elections in an attempt to sway voters away from the candidate they previously intended to vote for. Such events have occurred in the elections in Slovenia, the United States of America, China, and more, all in an attempt to tamper with voters. It is evident that AI is increasingly involving itself within government, and in these cases, for the wrong reasons.[6] AI is a double-edged sword not just for its involvement in politics but also in every other aspect of its impact on human society. The Synthetic Party is not even the only one of its kind, as The 'Center For Everything' political group in Finland also believes in similar policies as the Synthetic Party and is also led by AI.[7] Fortunately, though, due to the existence of AI in politics and groups like the Synthetic Party and Center For Everything, the FCC has sent a proposal to all political advertisers that use AI in political ads that require a disclaimer.[8] However, this may not be enough to protect voters and the politically minded from the exploitative side of AI, and this is where your solutions come in.

In the past, there have been multiple incidents where AI has impacted the companies it works with.[9] For example, Air Canada's AI chatbot spread misinformation when regarding prices for a flight- this case ended up going to court, where the ruling required Air Canada to pay roughly eight hundred

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[6] Hasan, Shanze. "The Effect of AI on Elections Around the World and What to Do About It." Brennan Center For Justice. Last modified June 6, 2024. Accessed September 7, 2024. https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/effect-ai-elections-around-world-and-what-do-about-ithttps://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/effect-ai-elections-around-world-and-what-do-about-it.

[7] Center For Everything. "CONSTITUTIVE MEETING OF THE AI PARTY (FI)." *Center For Everything* (blog). Accessed August 3, 2024. https://www.centerforeverything.com/history/constitutive-meeting-of-the-ai-party-fi/.

[8] Swenson, Ali. "FCC pursues new rules for AI in political ads, but changes may not take effect before the election." *Associated Press News*, July 25, 2024. Accessed July 27, 2024. https://apnews.com/article/artificial-intelligence-political-ads-fec-fcc-18080082b2a81b3aad4897b4c4b5c84b.

[9] Olavsrud, Thor. "10 famous AI disasters." CIO. Last modified April 17, 2024. Accessed September 7, 2024. https://www.cio.com/article/190888/5-famous-analytics-and-ai-disasters.html.

dollars to the customer.[10] This incident shows that there are clear and distinct issues that come with the powerful tool of AI; it also becomes more evident that AI can present wrong information, causing more harm than good in certain scenarios.

Possible Solutions

The FCC has proposed many limits on AI use in the geopolitical field, such as adequately managing misinformation by disclosure of AI use in political advertisements.[11] In addition, the EU's proposed AI Act analyzes each AI application tool and organizes it into categories based on its most effective use so that the wrong AI isn't used for the wrong purpose and also monitors AI use by people rather than more automated AI.[12] They also make it transparent and traceable (the ordinary European can find out what AI the EU used for what purpose). These are just some of the examples of actions already taken toward the restriction of AI in politics. However, multiple other ways exist to extend the reach of the solutions already mentioned. One example is education. The "Reality Check" is a program from BBC where they educated the public about misinformation from deepfakes and voice clones.[13] More initiatives like this across the globe can influence much more than just how the BBC affects the British

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[10] Yagoda, Maria. "Airline held liable for its chatbot giving passenger bad advice - what this means for travellers." British Broadcasting Company. Last modified February 23, 2024. Accessed September 7, 2024. https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20240222-air-canada-chatbot-misinformation-what-travellers-should-know.

[11] Swenson, Ali. "FCC pursues new rules for AI in political ads, but changes may not take effect before the election." *Associated Press News*, July 25, 2024. Accessed July 27, 2024. https://apnews.com/article/artificial-intelligence-political-ads-fec-fcc-18080082b2a81b3aad4897b4c4b5c84b.

[12] European Parliment. "EU AI Act: first regulation on artificial intelligence." European Parliment: Topics. Last modified June 8, 2023. Accessed August 3, 2024. https://www.europarl.europa.eu/topics/en/article/20230601STO93804/eu-ai-act-first-regulation-on-artificial-intelligence.

[13] *BBC - Reality Check*. Accessed August 3, 2024. https://www.bbc.com/news/reality_check.

people. In addition, federal investigation and initiatives are also a great idea. The UK ICO, the U.S. presidential Election Officials, and the Brazilian Election Officials all have made attempts on the federal level, and they have been a success. Investigations can be a form of justice AND education and effectively limit immoral behavior regarding AI. Committee-making can also be helpful, such as when the Partnership on AI, a consortium of tech companies and R1 institutions, made a list of guidelines for what is ethical when it comes to AI use.[14] Finally, raising the next generation with the knowledge of how AI works gives every person a blueprint on how to restrict AI themselves when the legislative powers cannot. Committees, education and justice initiatives, and legislation are all the main ways to create limits on AI. Still, the tenuous area is knowing where and how to start, along with funding for initiatives.

Moreover, there can be human rights issues if AI is misused. This is an obvious cause for concern because this powerful tool should keep everyone involved safe. AI can have negative implications, especially regarding "bias and discrimination," as noted by the U.S. Department of State.[15] It goes without saying that both bias and discrimination are both terrible and should **not** be tolerated. Bias and discrimination can occur based on the user of the AI system and the AI system itself. Thus, ensuring that the user and the system are properly trained will be vital as AI advances. A study conducted in 2022 by the USC Viterbi School of Engineering noted that a large portion of facts

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[14] Partnership on AI. Accessed August 3, 2024. https://partnershiponai.org/.
[15] Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy. "Risk Management Profile for Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights." US Department of State. Last modified July 25, 2024. Accessed September 7, 2024. https://www.state.gov/risk-management-profile-for-ai-and-human-rights/#:~:text=AI%27s%20misuse%20can%20infringe%20on.by%20entrenching%20bias%20and%20discrimination.

that were generated by AI contained some form of bias. Specifically, Ninareh Mehrabi stated, "We studied different groups from categories like religion, gender, race and profession to see if the data was favoring or disfavoring them, and we found out that, yes, indeed, there are severe cases of prejudice and biases".[16] Addressing human rights, bias, and discrimination will be integral to arriving at a successful multilateral-solution.

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[16] Gruet, Magali. "'That's Just Common Sense'. USC researchers find bias in up to 38.6% of 'facts' used by AI." USC Viterbi. Last modified May 26, 2022. Accessed September 7, 2024.
https://viterbischool.usc.edu/news/2022/05/thats-just-common-sense-usc-researchers-find-bias-in-up-to-38-6-of-facts-used-by-ai/
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Bloc Positions

North America: USA, Canada, Mexico

USA: The USA has one of the most pivotal positions in this committee, as they are the ones who invented AI (1956, Dartmouth College) and have developed it to levels of GPT-4. The USA also has a lot of institutions that have helped advance AI capabilities and have their investigations; however, they do not have any official AI legislation. Many states, though, have taken it upon themselves to apply such legislation.[17]

Canada: Canada, much like the US, has a lot of institutions and money, and their own Geoffrey Hinton is very famous in the AI world for his work on AI neural networks. Moreover, Canada has some legislation on AI, as the Artificial Intelligence and Data Act (AIDA) was a part of Bill C-27, officialized in June of 2022. Canada also ranks second among G7 countries in its concentration of venture capital AI Investments on a per capita basis (TD Economics).[18]

Mexico: Mexico has led the adoption of AI into almost every daily situation, for example integrating it into road safety and security measurements. Sadly, Mexico, just like the US, does not have any legislation on AI just yet. [19]

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[17] "AI Watch: Global regulatory tracker." White & Case. Accessed September 7, 2024.
https://www.whitecase.com/insight-our-thinking/ai-watch-global-regulatory-tracker.

[18] ibid
[19] ibid

Europe: UK, Germany, France, Switzerland, Netherlands, Sweden, Italy, Finland, Spain, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, Austria, Ireland, Poland

For all EU countries, there was an act on March 13, 2024, called the AI act, (AIA), so yes, there is technically legislation for all European countries.

United Kingdom: The UK, one of the strongest members of the EU, also does not have any country-specific legislation on AI, but they are waiting for the perfect time, as they currently believe it's too premature to put restrictions on it just yet. However, institutions like Oxford and Cambridge are just a few of many that have conducted research, thankfully to the never-ending UK funds. [20]

Germany: Germany takes a different view on AI, as they think currently it is too dangerous to trust, and they would like to apply regulation on AI with the basis of fundamental human rights. Currently, they don't have any legislation on AI. [21]

France: There is no legislation for AI in France either, but they do have a "National AI strategy", a part of "France 2030", an innovational investment in France's future, with hopes of having France be the center of AI technology in Europe. [22]

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[20] ibid
[21] ibid
[22] ibid

Switzerland: Again, there is no legislation for AI in Switzerland, but they have been working on a set of digital guidelines since 2018. However, ETH Zurich has played a big role in AI robot development, where since 2009 they have been working on the ANYmal robot. [23]

Netherlands: There is no AI legislation in the Netherlands, but they are still in the testing stages of AI, as they want to proactively research and experiment with AI before they move ahead with AI being widespread into technology everywhere in the Netherlands. [24]

Sweden: There is currently no AI legislation for Sweden, either. Sweden does understand the importance of AI, as they believe it can help solve societal and business challenges in the country. Much like the Netherlands, they are still on first base with AI. [25]

Italy: Surprise! There is STILL no legislation on AI in Italy. However, since 2021, the IDPA (Italian Data Protection Authority) has set up a unit for artificial intelligence. [26]

Finland: There is currently no legislation on AI applications or AI use, but they are getting there, by having other regulations that might overlap with the same topics of AI. Moreover, as mentioned in the History of the Problem, Finland already has AI taking their first steps in politics, as the 'Center For Everything' group has started to take strides in their mission. [27]

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[23] ibid
[24] ibid
[25] ibid
[26] ibid
[27] ibid

Spain: Spain also doesn't have any legislation on AI, however Spain and IBM have collaborated to advance the AI language to be more detailed, versatile, and more effective. [28]

Belgium: Belgium does not have any regulations on AI either, however, 40% of countries hiring 250 employees or more have been shown to utilize AI in their workspace, showing the growth in AI in everyday use for most Belgians. [29]

Norway: Norway will be affected by the "New AI regulation recently approved by the EU." This piece of legislation passed by the EU will "ensure that citizens can trust these algorithms."[30]

Denmark: Finally! It was the moment we were all looking forward to, and of course, it was Denmark! Denmark is one of the few countries, first in the world matter of fact to actually have mandated AI legislation for all companies affiliated with or taking part in the use of AI to optimize any part of their workload and to also have full transparency between all clients and providers. Moreover, Denmark is the only country to have a political party led by an AI chatbot.[31]

Austria: Once again, Austria does not have AI legislation, but they are on the way to accomplishing 'Artificial Intelligence Mission Austria 2030', similar to France's innovation investment called 'France 2030'[32]

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[28] ibid
[29] ibid
[30] ibid
[31] ibid
[32] ibid

Portugal: Portugal takes a special perspective, where they believe AI should not be subjected to any regulation by Portugal, rather it is a job the EU can handle well enough to implement in Portugal. They do want the best of the best in Portugal to be innovative and lead Europe in AI Innovation, though.[33]

Poland: Wow! Poland is one of the few countries with AI Legislation, and it has been in effect since 2020. It is not too in-depth, but the Polish Council of Ministers has enforced an AI policy with hopes for societal and economic advancement in the near future.[34]

Asia: China, Japan, South Korea, India, Russia, Taiwan, Singapore, UAE, Turkey

China: Unlike the Western Hemisphere, China and most of its geopolitical constituents have already started on AI legislation and regulation. Your job is to work with your other country allies and show the advancements of the Eastern sector in both AI technology and legislation, whilst simultaneously working with the Western side as well.[35]

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[33] ibid
[34] ibid
[35] ibid

Japan: Apparently Japan can see the future because they have written their legislation so well that they don't need to worry about writing a new bill or act to regulate AI. Rather, they will depend on pre-written legislation to do the job. Japan also is a global hub for AI technology, robotics, and machine learning.[36]

South Korea: South Korea doesn't have any legislation on AI, and there is no "EU legislation" to cover all of the Asian countries. However, South Korea ranks 3rd in AI patents globally, and they are quite advanced in the application of AI.[37]

India: In India, there is no AI regulation, or a legal definition for AI yet. Nevertheless, the Indian semiconductor industry is gradually speeding up in growth, and many believe that AI has the potential to boost Indian GDP by 5.9-7.2% (For reference, that would be a 359-438 billion dollar boost in GDP). There also are a lot of institutions in India that are slowly developing AI that can fulfill other unique jobs, like Microsoft India, with thinkers like Kalika Bali, the Principal Researcher at Microsoft India who are paving the way for AI integration.[38]

Russia: Law 123 defines and regulates AI, and the Russian Military has been very focused on AI development to help them advance their military in all possible ways. Putin is pushing for more, and they aspire to be a global leader in AI.[39]

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[36] ibid
[37] ibid
[38] ibid
[39] ibid

Taiwan: The NSTC has drafted up and explored making laws on AI and they are aiming to write an AI law that "covers the use and reliability of AI and mitigation of the risks associated with it." Moreover, Taiwan is a leader in Asia for AI, with individuals like Kai-Fu Lee, Audrey Tang, and many more who are developing AI and learning about ML in almost every institution in Taiwan.[40]

Singapore: There isn't any AI legislation in Singapore, but we can definitely tell their interest and funding capacity in AI, as in the next 5 years they plan to be a global AI leader by pouring in $743 million dollars into AI innovation.[41]

UAE: The UAE, in 2018, introduced the 'UAE National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence 2031', and in 2021 the UAE expressed its goal to be the global leader in AI by 2031. The UAE also appointed the world's first AI Minister in 2017, made an AI-exclusive research university in 2020, and now has a successful AI language model named 'Falcon.'[42]

Turkey: The nation of Turkey does not have any laws preventing the use of AI. However, Turkey may plan on instituting policies that would make AI more prevalent throughout the nation. Turkey is in the process of passing an AI-related bill.[43]

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[40] ibid
[41] ibid
[42] ibid
[43] ibid

Oceania: Australia

Australia: Australia does not have any legislation or regulations on AI, but they have constructed their own set of AI ethics principles, back in 2019. AI has been used as a catalyst for more effective workflow in many businesses, small and big. They have also set up their own governmental AI expert squad. [44]

South America: Brazil

Brazil: Brazil currently has one bill on AI, called Bill 2,338 officialized back in 2023, however, it isn't very in-depth. Brazil however has sent out a 4 billion dollar AI investment plan, and Brazil has potentially one of the five strongest supercomputers in human history. [45]

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[44] ibid
[45] ibid

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