

France

National AI Strategy

France's national Strategy on Artificial Intelligence³³² (AI) aims to make France a world leader in AI. "AI will raise a lot of issues in ethics, in politics, it will question our democracy and our collective preferences," stated French President Emmanuel Macron in 2018.³³³ "If you want to manage your own choice of society, your choice of civilization, you have to be able to be an acting part of this AI revolution."

France's AI strategy sets out four objectives³³⁴: Reinforcing the AI ecosystem to attract the very best talents, (2) Developing an open data policy, especially in sectors where France already has the potential for excellence, such as healthcare. (3) Creating a regulatory and financial framework favoring the emergence of "AI champions", and (4) Promoting AI regulation and ethics, to ensure to high standard and acceptability for citizens. This includes supporting human sciences research on ethics of use, making all algorithms used by the State public, including admission to higher education, and encouraging AI's openness to diversity.

The national AI strategy builds on the work of France Strategy,³³⁵ the work of the Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés³³⁶

³³² President of France, *France's new national strategy for artificial intelligence - Speech of Emmanuel Macron* (March 29, 2018), <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2018/03/29/frances-new-national-strategy-for-artificial-intelligence-speech-of-emmanuel-macron.en>

³³³ Nicholas Thompson, *Emmanuel Macron Talks to WIRED About France's AI Strategy* (Mar. 31, 2018), <https://www.wired.com/story/emmanuel-macron-talks-to-wired-about-frances-ai-strategy>

³³⁴ Government of France, *Artificial Intelligence: "Making France a leader"* (Mar. 30, 2018), <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/artificial-intelligence-making-france-a-leader>

³³⁵ France Stratégie, the strategy department attached to the French Prime Minister, released a synthesis *France intelligence artificielle* report in March 2017. <https://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/cid114739/rapport-strategie-france-i.a.-pour-le-developpement-des-technologies-d-intelligence-artificielle.html>

³³⁶ The CNIL (National Commission on Computer Technology and Civil Liberties) organized a public debate and produced a report on "the ethical stakes of algorithms and artificial intelligence" in December 2017 which recommends six concrete actions. <https://www.cnil.fr/en/algorithms-and-artificial-intelligence-cnils-report-ethical-issues>

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(CNIL), and the Villani³³⁷ report *For a Meaningful Artificial Intelligence: Towards a French and European strategy* (March 2018).³³⁸ The National Coordinator for AI works with all administrations, centers and research laboratories dedicated to AI.³³⁹

The Health Data Hub Controversy

In pursuit of the objective of an open data policy, France launched in December 2019³⁴⁰ the Health Data Hub³⁴¹(HDH) to facilitate data sharing and foster research. Pulling together 18 public databases of patient data, the HDH could, in the future, be connected with environmental, patient compliance and quality of life data to enable consideration of all the data surrounding a patient.³⁴² The HDH's compiled health data is hosted by Microsoft.³⁴³

Following the *Schrems II* decision in July 2020 that invalidated the Privacy Shield, France's highest administrative court (the *Conseil d'État*)

³³⁷ Cedric Villani is a French mathematician, Fields Medal winner and Member of Parliament. Part 5 of his report focuses on ethical considerations of AI and notably includes proposals to open the “black box”, implement ethics by design, and set up an AI Ethics Committee.

³³⁸ Cedric Villani, *For a Meaningful Artificial Intelligence: Toward a French and European Strategy* (March 2018),

https://www.aiforhumanity.fr/pdfs/MissionVillani_Report_ENG-VF.pdf

³³⁹ Government of France, Prime Minister, *Nomination de M. Renaud VEDEL. comme Coordinateur national pour l'intelligence artificielle* (Mar. 9, 2020),

https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/document/document/2020/03/communiqu_e_de_presse_de_m._edouard_philippe_premier_ministre_-_nomination_de_m._renaud_vedel_comme_coordinateur_national_pour_lintelligence_artificielle_-_09.03.2020.pdf

³⁴⁰ Government of France, Ministry of Solidarity and Health, *Création officielle du Health data hub* (Dec. 2, 2019), <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/creation-officielle-du-health-data-hub>

³⁴¹ *Health Data Hub* “(under reconstruction)”, <https://www.health-data-hub.fr/>; Government of France, Ministry of Solidarity and Health, *Le Health data hub est officiellement créé* (Dec. 2, 2019), https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/191202_-_cp_-_health_data_hub.pdf

³⁴² Opus Line, *Health Data Hub: An Ambitious French Initiative for Tomorrow's Health* (Mar. 25, 2019), <https://www.opusline.fr/health-data-hub-an-ambitious-french-initiative-for-tomorrows-health/>

³⁴³ Florian Dèbes, *L'Etat choisit Microsoft pour les données de santé et crée la polémique*, *Les Echos* (June 4, 2020) <https://www.lesechos.fr/tech-medias/hightech/letat-choisit-microsoft-pour-les-donnees-de-sante-et-cree-la-polemique-1208376>

considered a request for the suspension of the HDH. In October, the Judge rejected the request. The judge observed that “personal data hosted in the Netherlands under a contract with Microsoft cannot legally be transferred outside the European Union. While the risk cannot be completely excluded that the American intelligence services request access to this data, it does not justify, in the very short term, the suspension of the Platform, but requires special precautions to be taken, under the supervision of the CNIL.”³⁴⁴

Following the decision concerning data protection and the Health Data Hub, the CNIL announced it will advise public authorities on the implementation of appropriate guarantees and will ensure that use of the HDH for research projects related to the health crisis is really necessary.³⁴⁵

The press reported in October 2020 that the debates are far from over since the CNIL and the Conseil d’État do not have the same analysis of the situation. According to the CNIL, the end of the Privacy Shield requires an urgent change of host for the personal data. According to the Conseil d’Etat, the risks are hypothetical and not urgent.³⁴⁶ A recent CNIL’s draft determination, pending validation by a commissioner, would essentially prevent implementation of the HDH.³⁴⁷ According to Mediapart, at the end of November, the Minister of Health and Solidarity, Olivier Véran, responded to the President of the CNIL that he would put an end to Microsoft’s hosting of the Health Data Hub within two years.³⁴⁸

³⁴⁴ Le Conseil d’Etat, *Health Data Hub et protection de données personnelles: des précautions doivent être prises dans l’attente d’une solution pérenne* (Oct. 14, 2020), <https://www.conseil-etat.fr/actualites/actualites/health-data-hub-et-protection-de-donnees-personnelles-des-precautions-doivent-etre-prises-dans-l-attente-d-une-solution-perenne>

³⁴⁵ CNIL, *Le Conseil d’État demande au Health Data Hub des garanties supplémentaires pour limiter le risque de transfert vers les États-Unis* (Oct. 14, 2020), <https://www.cnil.fr/fr/le-conseil-detat-demande-au-health-data-hub-des-garanties-supplementaires>

³⁴⁶ Informatique News, *Divergences sur le Health Data Hub* (Oct. 19, 2020), <https://www.informatiquenews.fr/divergences-sur-le-health-data-hub-les-annonces-de-zoomtopia-cohesity-sassocie-a-aws-des-iphone-12-en-5g-le-teletravail-en-question-netapp-insight-74042>

³⁴⁷ Alice Vitard, *Les détails de la mise en œuvre du Health Data Hub ne conviennent pas à la Cnil*, L’Usine Digitale, (Nov. 14, 2020), https://www.usine-digitale.fr/article/les-detais-de-la-mise-en-uvre-du-health-data-hub-ne-conviennent-pas-a-la-cnil.N1024349_

³⁴⁸ Mediapart, *Health Data Hub: Véran s’engage à retirer l’hébergement à Microsoft d’ici «deux ans»* (Nov. 22, 2020),

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AI Cloud

In April 2020, France and Germany launched Gaia-X, a platform joining up cloud-hosting services from dozens of French and German companies, to allow business to move their data freely under Europe's data processing rules. "We are not China, we are not the United States — we are European countries with our own values and our own European interests that we want to defend" said French Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire. A prototype of "Gaia-X" is set to be released early 2021.³⁴⁹ Gaia-X will play a key role in the European data strategy, the Commission said, as its success lies in the ability to harmonize rules on data sharing to allow for upscaling.³⁵⁰

Gaia-X will be open to American, Chinese and Indian technology companies. Digital Europe, which counts among its members Google, Apple and Facebook, submitted his application to be a member of this collective of providers last October.³⁵¹

National Pilot Committee for Digital Ethics

With regard to AI regulation and ethics (objective 4), in July 2019, the Prime Minister asked the French National Consultative Committee on Bioethics (CCNE) to launch a pilot initiative dedicated to Digital Ethics. The National Pilot Committee for Digital Ethics (NPCDE) created in December 2019 "shall submit initial contributions on the ethics of digital sciences, technologies, uses and innovations and determine relevant equilibria for the organization of public debate on digital ethics and artificial intelligence." It is also tasked to maintain ethical oversight and to raise

<https://www.mediapart.fr/journal/france/221120/health-data-hub-veran-s-engage-retirer-l-hebergement-microsoft-d-ici-deux-ans>.

³⁴⁹ Marion Simon Rainaud, *Gaia-X : où en est le projet de méta-cloud européen qui veut protéger vos données?* 01net (Nov. 13, 2020), <https://www.01net.com/actualites/gaia-x-ou-en-est-le-projet-de-meta-cloud-europeen-qui-veut-protoger-vos-donnees-1991857.html>

³⁵⁰ Janosch Delcker and Melissa Heikkilä, *Germany, France launch Gaia-X platform in bid for 'tech sovereignty,'* Politico (June 5, 2020), <https://www.politico.eu/article/germany-france-gaia-x-cloud-platform-eu-tech-sovereignty/>

³⁵¹ Alice Vitard, *Le projet de cloud européen Gaia-X ouvert aux entreprises américaines, chinoises et indienne,* L'Usine Nouvelle (Oct. 16, 2020), <https://www.usine-digitale.fr/article/le-projet-de-cloud-europeen-gaia-x-ouvert-aux-entreprises-americaines-chinoises-et-indiennes.N1017634>

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awareness, inform and assist individuals, companies, administrations, institutions, etc., in their decision-making process.³⁵² A recommendation for the formation of a permanent body is expected early 2021.

The 27-member multidisciplinary pilot Committee has started work, at the request of the Prime Minister on the ethical issues raised by chatbots, autonomous car and medical diagnosis and health AI. Since its creation the NPCDE has issued three watch bulletins on digital ethical issues in the COVID-19 health crisis.³⁵³ In July 2020, the NPCDE issued a call for public comments on the ethical issues of chatbots.³⁵⁴

However, civil society groups such as Access Now have objected to government studies that simply propose ethical guidelines rather than hard law. As the group explains, “There is solid and creative thinking in the advisory paper that informed the strategy around the ethical and regulatory challenges posed by AI, but at the moment the proposed solutions largely involve the creation of groups to study them rather than the proposal of new or modified norms.”³⁵⁵ Access Now continues, “France’s AI strategy generally cleaves to the ‘ethics’ framework and makes scant reference to hard legal constraints on AI development.” The group does note that the “The Villani report is considerably more detailed about the ethical and legal challenges posed by AI.”

Fundamental Rights

On another front, the French independent administrative authority *Défenseur des droits* (Defender of Rights) and the CNIL have “both, in their own area of expertise, voiced their concerns regarding the impact of

³⁵² Claude Kirchner, *The French National Committee for Digital Ethics* (Feb. 24, 2020), <https://ai-regulation.com/the-french-national-committee-for-digital-ethics/>

³⁵³ Comité Consultatif National d’Ethique, *Opinion* (Apr. 14, 2020), <https://www.ccne-ethique.fr/en/publications/national-pilot-committee-digital-ethics-ethics-watch-bulletin-no1>

³⁵⁴ Comité Consultatif National d’Ethique, *Ethical Issues of Conversational Agents* (Oct. 31, 2020), https://www.ccne-ethique.fr/sites/default/files/cnpen-chatbots-call-participation_1.pdf

³⁵⁵ AccessNow, *Mapping Regulatory Proposals for Artificial Intelligence in Europe* 18 (Nov. 2018), https://www.accessnow.org/cms/assets/uploads/2018/11/mapping_regulatory_proposals_for_AI_in_EU.pdf.

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algorithmic systems on fundamental rights.”³⁵⁶ Following a joint expert seminar in May 2020, they have called in June 2020 for a collective mobilization to prevent and address discriminatory biases of algorithms.³⁵⁷

Their report *Algorithms: preventing automated discrimination*³⁵⁸ stresses that bias can be introduced at every stage of the development and deployment of AI systems, discusses how algorithms can lead to discriminatory outcomes and includes recommendations on how to identify and minimize algorithmic biases. The Defender of Rights called on the government and relevant actors to take appropriate measures to avoid algorithms that replicate and amplify discrimination.³⁵⁹ In particular, The Defender of Rights recommends to: i) support research to develop studies to measure and methods to prevent bias; ii) reinforce algorithms’ information, transparency and explainability requirements; and iii) perform impact assessments to anticipate algorithms’ discriminatory effects.

Facial Recognition

Facial recognition is a processing of sensitive personal data prohibited in principle by the GDPR and the French data protection law, subject to exceptions such as individual’s consent or for important public interests. In the latter case, facial recognition can be authorized by a Decree of the Conseil d’État informed by an opinion from the CNIL.

Facial recognition has long been used in France, on a voluntary basis, for passport control in airports. Facial recognition is also implemented in some banks and tested in a number of colleges. The French government is considering the deployment of facial recognition for access to public services. The ID program, called Alicem,³⁶⁰ to be deployed in

³⁵⁶ <https://www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/sites/default/files/atoms/files/synth-algos-en-num-16.07.20.pdf>

³⁵⁷ CNIL, *Algorithms and discrimination: the Defender of Rights, with the CNIL, calls for collective mobilization* (June 2, 2020), <https://www.cnil.fr/fr/algorithmes-et-discriminations-le-defenseur-des-droits-avec-la-cnil-appelle-une-mobilisation>

³⁵⁸ Defender of Rights, *Algorithms: preventing automated discrimination* n. 19 (May 2020), <https://www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/sites/default/files/atoms/files/synth-algos-en-num-16.07.20.pdf>.

³⁵⁹ Inside Tech Media, *French CNIL Publishes Paper on Algorithmic Discrimination* (June 9, 2020), <https://www.insideprivacy.com/artificial-intelligence/french-cnil-publishes-paper-on-algorithmic-discrimination/>

³⁶⁰ <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Alicem-la-premiere-solution-d-identite-numerique-regalienne-securisee> (in French) - ; Charlotte Jee, *France*

November 2019, was however put on hold following an appeal of NGOs to the Conseil d'État requesting the annulment of the decree authorizing its creation. Early November, the Conseil d'État dismissed the appeal.³⁶¹

In November 2019, the CNIL published guidance on the use of facial recognition.³⁶² The document, primarily directed at public authorities in France that want to experiment with facial recognition, presents the technical, legal and ethical elements that need to be considered.

After recalling that facial recognition, experimental or not, must comply with the European GDPR and the "police justice" directive, the CNIL sets out three general requirements: (1) facial recognition can only be used if there is an established need to implement an authentication mechanism that ensures a high level of reliability, and there are no other less intrusive means that would be appropriate ; (2) the experimental use of facial recognition must respect the rights of individuals (including consent and control, transparency and security); and (3) the use of facial recognition on an experimental basis must have a precise timeline and be based on a rigorous methodology setting out the objectives pursued and the criteria for success.

In December 2019, the Observatoire des Libertés Numériques³⁶³ and 80 organisations signed an open letter calling on the French Government and Parliament to ban any present and future use of facial recognition for security and surveillance purposes.³⁶⁴

plans to use facial recognition to let citizens access government services, MIT Technology Review (Oct. 3, 2020), <https://www.technologyreview.com/2019/10/03/132776/france-plans-to-use-facial-recognition-to-let-citizens-access-government-services/>

³⁶¹ Marion Garreau, *Le ministère de l'Intérieur va pouvoir lancer l'application Alicem, basée sur la reconnaissance faciale*, L'Usine Nouvelle (Nov. 5, 2020), <https://www.usinenouvelle.com/editorial/le-ministere-de-l-interieur-va-pouvoir-lancer-l-application-alicem-basee-sur-la-reconnaissance-faciale.N1024754>

³⁶² CNIL, *Reconnaissance faciale - pour un débat à la hauteur des enjeux* (Nov. 2020), https://www.cnil.fr/sites/default/files/atoms/files/reconnaissance_faciale.pdf (in French).

³⁶³ The Observatoire des Libertés Numériques federates several French NGOs monitoring legislation impacting digital freedoms: Le CECIL, Creis-Terminal, Globenet, La Ligue des Droits de l'Homme (LDH), La Quadrature du Net (LQDN), Le Syndicat des Avocats de France (SAF), Le Syndicat de la Magistrature (SM).

³⁶⁴ *Joint Letter from 80 organisations: Ban Security and Surveillance Facial Recognition* (Dec. 19, 2019), <https://www.laquadrature.net/en/2019/12/19/joint-letter-from-80-organisations-ban-security-and-surveillance-facial-recognition/>

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Earlier this year the administrative tribunal of Marseille rendered a decision on facial recognition that ruled illegal a decision by the South-East Region of France (Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur) to test facial recognition at the entrance of two High schools.³⁶⁵ Following an analysis from the CNIL,³⁶⁶ the court ruled that there was no opportunity for free and informed consent and also that there were other, less intrusive means to manage entrance to high schools. The French NGO La Quadrature du Net brought the successful challenge to the regional program.³⁶⁷ This was the first decision ever by a court applying the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to Facial Recognition Technologies (FRTs).³⁶⁸

In 2020, real-time facial recognition on public roads in France is still not authorized. However, many experiments are already taking place, and companies are positioning themselves, with the Olympic Games in Paris in 2024 in their sights, and a market of seven billion euros at stake.³⁶⁹

Consumer Perspective

According to BEUC, the European consumer association, more than 80% of those polled in France are familiar with Artificial Intelligence and over 50% respondents agreed that companies use AI to manipulate consumer decisions.³⁷⁰ BEUC also reported that there is little trust over authorities to exert effective control over organizations and companies

³⁶⁵ Tribunal Administratif de Marseille, *La Quadrature du Net*, No. 1901249 (27 Nov. 2020), https://forum.technopolice.fr/assets/uploads/files/1582802422930-1090394890_1901249.pdf

³⁶⁶ CNIL, *Expérimentation de la reconnaissance faciale dans deux lycées : la CNIL précise sa position* (Oct. 29, 2019), <https://www.cnil.fr/fr/experimentation-de-la-reconnaissance-faciale-dans-deux-lycees-la-cnil-precise-sa-position>

³⁶⁷ La Quadrature du Net, *First Success Against Facial Recognition in France* (Feb. 27, 2020), <https://www.laquadrature.net/en/2020/02/27/first-success-against-facial-recognition/>

³⁶⁸ AI Regulation, *First Decision of a French Court Applying GDPR to Facial Recognition* (Feb. 27, 2020), <https://ai-regulation.com/first-decision-ever-of-a-french-court-applying-gdpr-to-facial-recognition/>

³⁶⁹ France Culture, *Quand la reconnaissance faciale en France avance masquée* (Sept. 4, 2020), <https://www.franceculture.fr/societe/quand-la-reconnaissance-faciale-en-france-avance-masquee>

³⁷⁰ BEUC, *Artificial Intelligence, what consumers say: Findings and policy recommendations of a multi-country survey on AI*, (Sept. 7, 2020) https://www.beuc.eu/publications/beuc-x-2020-078_artificial_intelligence_what_consumers_say_report.pdf

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using AI. More than 60% of respondents in France said users should be able to say “no” to automated decision-making.

The Global Partnership on AI

In June 2020, Canada and France, and a dozen other countries announced the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence to support “support the responsible and human-centric development and use of AI in a manner consistent with human rights, fundamental freedoms, and our shared democratic values . . .”³⁷¹ According to the statement, the “GPAI will be supported by a Secretariat, to be hosted by the OECD in Paris, as well as by two Centres of Expertise – one each in Montréal and Paris.” The first expert’s plenary session was held in Montreal December 2020.

Algorithmic Transparency

France is subject to the General Data Protection Regulation which established rights to “meaningful information about the logic involved” as well as about “the significance and the envisaged consequences.”³⁷² The French data protection agency (CNIL) has published several papers on AI. A 2018 report followed extensive public outreach in 2017. More than 3,000 people took part in 45 debates and events, organized by 60 partners, including research centers, public institutions, trade unions, think tanks, companies).³⁷³ The report set out two founding principles – fairness and vigilance -- six recommendations, and six concerns. The work of the CNIL also contributed to the Declaration on Ethics and Data Protection in AI, adopted by the Global Privacy Assembly in 2018, which emphasized fairness and accountability.³⁷⁴ In the 2020 paper with the Defender of

³⁷¹ France Diplomacy, *Joint Statement from founding members of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence* (June 15, 2020), <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/digital-diplomacy/news/article/launch-of-the-global-partnership-on-artificial-intelligence-by-15-foundingdevelopment/news/2020/06/joint-statement-from-founding-members-of-the-global-partnership-on-artificial-intelligence.html>

³⁷² [GDPR Art. 22, Art. 13.2.f]

³⁷³ CNIL, *Algorithms and artificial intelligence: CNIL’s report on the ethical issues* (May 25, 2018), <https://www.cnil.fr/en/algorithms-and-artificial-intelligence-cnils-report-ethical-issues>

³⁷⁴ Global Privacy Assembly, *Declaration on Ethics and Data Protection in AI* (Oct. 23, 2018), http://globalprivacyassembly.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/20180922_ICDPPC-40th_AI-Declaration_ADOPTED.pdf

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Rights, the CNIL went into more details concerning the transparency obligations of those who are responsible for AI systems.³⁷⁵

Following the assassination in October 2020 of history professor Samuel Paty, the Secretary of State for digital, Cédric O, wrote in a blog that “the opacity of the functioning of (social media) algorithms and their moderation is a societal and democratic aberration.” He added “it is also essential that full transparency be observed vis a vis the public authorities as regards the principles governing in detail the choices made by their moderation algorithms, whether it is about online hatred or dissemination of false information.”³⁷⁶

OECD/G20 AI Principles

France endorsed the OECD and the G20 AI Principles. France is also co-hosting the Global Partnership for AI.³⁷⁷ France is a signatory to many international human rights treaties and conventions.

Human Rights

France typically ranks among the top nations in the world for the protection of human rights and transparency.³⁷⁸ Freedom House reports, “The French political system features vibrant democratic processes and generally strong protections for civil liberties and political rights. However, due to a number of deadly terrorist attacks in recent years, successive governments have been willing to curtail constitutional protections and empower law enforcement to act in ways that impinge on personal freedoms.”

³⁷⁵ CNIL, *Algorithmes et discriminations : le Défenseur des droits, avec la CNIL, appelle à une mobilisation collective* (May 2020), <https://www.cnil.fr/fr/algorithmes-et-discriminations-le-defenseur-des-droits-avec-la-cnil-appelle-une-mobilisation>

³⁷⁶ Cédric O, *Régulations*, Medium.com (Oct. 20, 2020), <https://medium.com/@cedric.o/r%C3%A9gulations-657189f5d9d2>

³⁷⁷ The Government of France, *Launch of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence* (June 17, 2020), <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/launch-of-the-global-partnership-on-artificial-intelligence>

³⁷⁸ *Freedom House Report: France* (2020), <https://freedomhouse.org/country/france>

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Lethal Autonomous Weapons

President Macron declared in an interview that he is “dead against” the deployment of lethal autonomous weapons.³⁷⁹ “You always need responsibility and assertion of responsibility.” However, the French government has only proposed the adoption of a nonbinding declaration to curtail Lethal Autonomous Weapons (LAWS), and is opposed to the idea of a new international treaty on the issue,³⁸⁰ though an earlier French initiative led to annual international discussions on LAWS) within the framework of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.³⁸¹

Evaluation

France is among the leaders in national AI policies. France has endorsed the OECD/G20 AI Principles and is a co-host for the Global Partnership on AI. French authorities in charge of human rights, data protection and ethics are actively involved in AI policy and have published practical guidance regarding facial recognition and algorithmic transparency. However, public information about progress toward the national strategy on AI is not readily available. While there is, at the moment, no express support for the Universal Guidelines for AI or the Social Contract for the Age of AI, France’s policies are similar to those recommended in these documents.

³⁷⁹ Nicholas Thompson, *Emmanuel Macron Talks to Wired About France’s AI Strategy*, Wired (Mar. 31, 2018), <https://www.wired.com/story/emmanuel-macron-talks-to-wired-about-frances-ai-strategy/>

³⁸⁰ *Armes : Il faut négocier un traité d’interdiction des armes létales autonomes* [Weapons: We Must Negotiate a Treaty to Ban Lethal Autonomous Weapons], Human Rights Watch (Aug. 27, 2018), <https://www.hrw.org/fr/news/2018/08/27/armes-il-faut-negocier-un-traite-dinterdiction-des-armes-letaales-autonomes>, archived at <https://perma.cc/JC23-3BFB>

³⁸¹ *Presentation and Position of France*, MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA FRANCE AUPRÈS DE LA CONFÉRENCE DU DÉSARMEMENT À GENÈVE [PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF FRANCE TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT IN GENEVA] (Aug. 3, 2016), <https://cd-geneve.delegfrance.org/Presentation-and-position-of-France-1160>, archived at <https://perma.cc/6XD3-U82R>.