

**FOR RELEASE**

*Friday, April 4, 2025*

## Global Leaders in AI and Digital Policy Convene at CAIDP Roundtable Marking the Launch of 2025 Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values Index

CAIDP Recognizes Dr. Safiya Noble, Maya Wiley, Dr. Sasha Luccioni, and Amandeep Singh Gill with CAIDP AI Policy Leader Awards

The Center for AI and Digital Policy (CAIDP) released the ***Artificial intelligence and Democratic Values Index 2025*** (AIDV 2025) on Thursday (4/3) amid a day-long conference of presentations and panels on AI policies and practices by experts from around the world. More than 150 attended in person and online.

### *AI and Democratic Values Roundtable*

CAIDP President **Merve Hickok** set the tone for the AI and Democratic Values Roundtable on Thursday by marking CAIDP’s contributions to global efforts to create governance structures and frameworks, such as her own work in Japan on the Hiroshima Process Friends Group, aligned to CAIDP’s mission to ensure “technology promotes broad social inclusion based on fundamental rights, democratic institutions, and the rule of law.” “Unfortunately,” Hickok said, “today, all three of these core values are under fire. We have many challenges ahead of us. But today we also have the right group here, gathered to find solutions.”

**Stuart Russell’s** morning keynote stressed the need to “enact requirements that cause the companies to do the work that they haven’t done on guaranteed safety, on real safety engineering, in the same way that we require it from nuclear power companies, from aircraft manufacturers, from drug manufacturers, and so on.” He also charged us to rethink how democracy works in the present, to define the role of elected officials not as implementing the agenda supported by the election “winners” but “serving the interests of all the people in the country.”

The panel of academic experts—Drs. **Aziz Huq, Kutoma Wakunuma, Kyoko Yoshinaga**, and **Virginia Dignum**—moderated by CAIDP’s **Julian Theseira** and **April Yoder** discussed how to ensure, as Dr. Wakunuma said, the “engagement of different stakeholders, and then also to take seriously the different cultural values, the different norms of these different

stakeholders.” Much of the discussion centered on parallels between the administrative capacity and structures in the 80 AIDV countries. Dr. Dignum concluded, “It’s a call for action on all of us to also work on improving our democratic values and the quality of our democracies.”

A discussion among three of the four CAIDP AI Policy Leaders Award winners—**Dr. Saifya Noble**, **Maya Wiley**, and **Dr. Sasha Luccioni**—centered the urgency of acting against what Wiley identified as “hybrid authoritarianism” in her opening remarks. They charged us to work in community, communicate our messages and research clearly, and seek impact locally as we pursue relief, repair, and restitution against the harms caused by not only AI and tech but a broken system.

**Senator Richard Blumenthal** of Connecticut stepped up as a member of the community for AI that serves humanity in recorded remarks played at the start of the afternoon session. He promised to hold the administration and Big Tech accountable, working “to make sure that we can continue to innovate and benefit from advances. In AI. We need to also protect consumers, national security, civil rights and civil liberties. We can do both: [realize] the promise and avoid the potential pitfalls.”

The charge to act continued through the afternoon keynote by Democracy Forward President and CEO **Skye Perryman** and a three-segment AI Policy Roundtable on the State of US AI Policy at the Federal and State levels; Safeguards for AI Fairness and Safety, as they relate to challenges to democracy, AI safety, AI Fairness, Safeguards for Privacy, and Safeguards for the Workforce; and Transatlantic AI Policy.

Perryman highlighted action against the US administration in the courts by Democracy Forward and others, while reminding us of our power to act, including through her organization [Democracy2025.org](https://democracy2025.org). Professor Spencer Overton drew parallels between our current moment, where citizens and residents are being stripped of constitutional rights and systems are faltering, and the struggle to gain access to constitutional rights in the march from Selma. Nicol Turner Lee invoked the example of “traumatized data” that reflects the lived experiences of those excluded from the promises of multicultural democracy.

Other panelists provided information about how policies are taking shape and moving through federal and state legislatures in the United States, approaches to safety and equity in agencies including NIST, data privacy and AI, and how workers and unions could shape a better future with AI—or protect against job displacement and exploitation. Without dismissing the uncertainty of the moment, the panelists offered glimpses of a path to a better democracies and better futures. Community—local, regional, cross-Atlantic, global—is key.

Recorded remarks by CAIDP AI Policy Leader Award winner, UN Under Secretary-General and Special Envoy for Digital and Emerging Technologies **Amandeep Singh Gill**, appropriately closed the day-long conference: “This isn’t just about an award. It’s about this moment. AI is going to have a profound impact on our future. It has the power to make the world a better place—or a much more difficult one. AI isn’t just about algorithms, compute, and data. It’s about power. Who has it? How is it distributed? How is it used? And how do we ensure it’s used to empower people? We must prevent a world of AI haves and have nots.”

## ***AI and Democratic Values Index (AIDV 2025)***

The ***Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values Index*** is a comprehensive review of AI policies and practices worldwide. Prepared by the Research Group from CAIDP’s policy clinics, the AIDV provides the basis to compare national AI policies, assess progress, and identify emerging trends.

The fifth edition covers 80 countries in almost 1500 pages and more than 7000 footnotes. More than 1000 CAIDP AI policy-clinic participants representing 120 countries have contributed to the report since the first AIDV in 2021. Dr. April Yoder is the Editor-in-Chief of the fifth edition.

In addition to a qualitative report on each country’s AI strategy, data protection policies, and handling of AI applications such as facial recognition, the AIDV offers comparison via 12 metrics. The metrics measure alignment with key AI governance frameworks—OECD AI Principles, UNESCO Recommendation on AI Ethics, and Council of Europe International AI Treaty—and other practices supporting human rights, democratic values, and the rule of law. The metrics align with CAIDP’s mission to *promote a better society, more fair, more just—a world where technology promotes broad social inclusion based on fundamental rights, democratic institutions, and the rule of law.*

Canada, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom led in CAIDP’s rankings for 2025. The change in metrics to substitute endorsement of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI for national signature of the first international AI treaty caused a number of countries to fall in rankings. European countries rank highly in the metrics, boosted by the guarantee of algorithmic transparency in GDPR and the EU AI Act and endorsement of the AI treaty. Support for the AI treaty boosted the US score this year, though the country remains in Tier III. China, the other leader in AI development, moved to the top of Tier IV. The thirteen countries that completed the UNESCO Readiness Assessment Methodology (RAM) in 2024—Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Gabon, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, and Uruguay

From the findings in the report, CAIDP identified action-steps the organization will promote for the coming year in international meetings, education and outreach, and comments on proposed policies and governance strategies.

- Endorse the International AI Treaty
- Prohibit AI systems that undermine human rights and democratic values
- Mandate human oversight of AI systems across the lifecycle
- Implement and enforce AI governance frameworks, such as the EU AI Act and the Hiroshima AI Process
- Establish a UN Special Rapporteur for AI and Human Rights

- Codify Algorithmic Transparency, including the Accountability to contest adverse outcomes
- Establish Liability rules for AI systems

Several members of CAIDP's Global Academic Network endorsed the ***AI and Democratic Values Index***.

As the development and use of AI continues to increase exponentially, governments and civil society have struggled to keep pace. However, in recent years there has been unprecedented growth in law and policy. This report is essential reading for anyone looking to grasp the key trends that link how nation states are responding to the rise of AI, and for anyone looking to understand the key developments in specific states. It is both thoroughly researched and the product of deep and broad expertise.

– *Edward Santow, Human Technology Institute, UTS (2025)*

The AIDV Index is an incredibly impressive and valuable compendium. The country reports themselves offer an extremely valuable collection of case studies.

– *Justin Longo, University of Regina (2025)*

The AI and Democratic Values 2024 report is a well-developed and highly technical work that provides essential insights into the intersection of artificial intelligence and democratic governance. This report serves as a crucial tool for understanding how nations can effectively promote and safeguard democratic values in the age of AI. It is an invaluable resource for countries seeking to strengthen democratic principles while leveraging AI responsibly.

– *Armando Guio Español, Affiliate, Berkman Klein Center (2025)*

It is always encouraging to see the progress in AIDV and its contribution to the formation of AI policies around the world.

– *Wonki Min, KAIST (2025)*

The report seeks to shed light on the broad landscape of AI regulation and governance. Accordingly, it seeks to explicate both the challenges and opportunities surrounding the adoption of AI systems, making the AIDV a useful reference document that points towards more inclusive digital futures.

– *Bulelani Jili, Harvard University (2025)*

I endorse this report for its clear and diverse inclusion of countries in both the Global North and the Global South. The report gives an important insight into AI-related activities globally. This is important because AI does not operate in a vacuum, nor does it operate in silos: its impact is intertwined across the globe.

– *Kutoma Wakunuma, De Montfort University (2025)*