

**Committee- UNGA (United Nations General Assembly.)**

**Topic- Regulating Artificial Intelligence to Prevent Digital Colonialism**

**Country- Sweden**

**School- Bal Bhavan Public School**

**Delegation- Represented by Suhana**



As the digital revolution accelerates, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming one of the most powerful tools shaping economies, politics, and society. While AI holds great promise, it also raises critical concerns about digital colonialism—a modern form of exploitation where powerful countries or corporations extract data, impose technologies, and dominate digital infrastructure in developing nations without fair consent or benefits. This practice not only threatens national sovereignty but also deepens existing global inequalities. Digital colonialism can manifest in various ways: unregulated data extraction, AI surveillance tools used by authoritarian regimes, and monopolies over digital platforms that marginalize local innovation. Without strong governance, AI risks being a force for control rather than empowerment.

The international community has taken initial steps to promote responsible AI development. Notable among these is UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of AI, which calls for human rights-centred governance. The OECD AI Principles provide further guidelines for trustworthy and transparent AI. The European Union, through its recently passed EU AI Act, has taken a strong stance by classifying AI systems based on risk and setting global benchmarks for regulation. Despite these efforts, there is still a lack of binding global frameworks that address the exploitation of data and technology in less developed countries. More cooperation is urgently needed to close this governance gap.

Sweden strongly opposes digital colonialism in all its forms and champions ethical, democratic, and transparent AI governance:

- **Cybersecurity & Sovereignty:** Sweden sees digital resilience as a core aspect of its national security. It works to counter cyberattacks and foreign influence operations, including those that exploit AI to undermine democratic processes.
- **International Cooperation:** Sweden actively collaborates with the EU, NATO, and the UN to promote international cyber norms and fair digital governance. Sweden hosted digital dialogues with the United States (May 2024) emphasizing joint cyber resilience and trustworthy 5G/6G development.
- **Promotion of Human Rights:** Sweden supports the ethical use of AI based on human rights, data privacy, and non-exploitation. It invests in foreign service skills and institutional capabilities to engage more effectively in international digital policymaking.
- **Inclusive Innovation:** Sweden believes that AI development must benefit all regions equitably. It supports capacity-building in developing countries, open digital standards, and partnerships that do not reinforce dependency.

Sweden further emphasizes the importance of inclusive multilateralism, where voices from the Global South are actively involved in shaping the rules of the digital future—not merely subjected to them. We support the establishment of international digital rights charters, transparent AI auditing mechanisms, and independent oversight bodies that can hold powerful actors—both state and non-state—accountable. In conclusion, Sweden envisions a future where technology bridges gaps rather than widens them, where innovation is not driven by dominance but by cooperation. Sweden stands ready to lead by example and work hand-in-hand with the international community to ensure that AI serves humanity—fairly, safely, and justly.