

# Position Paper



**Kingdom of the Netherlands**

**Committee-UNGA**

## Background of the issue

AI, it is the latest of the global unresolved issues on our plates. With AI's sudden and dramatic rise, there is a global push to acquire mastery in this technology, yet in this global AI race, key questions still remain unresolved.

The Key problems include —

### **1. INCONSISTENT DEFINITIONS**

Key concepts like “ethical AI,” “human-centric AI,” or “responsible AI” are poorly defined and vary widely by region and culture.

Without clarity, companies and states can reinterpret ethics to fit their agendas, weakening enforcement.

### **2. LACK OF GLOBAL AI TREATIES**

Most laws are national or regional (e.g., EU AI Act-which Netherlands is a part of), but global deployment of AI knows no borders.

There is currently no binding international treaty or agreement that governs AI.

Existing efforts (like UNESCO's 2021 ethical AI recommendations-Netherlands being a signatory) are non-binding and voluntary.

### **3.Lack of National AI Laws in Various Countries**

Despite the growing impact of artificial intelligence, many countries still lack comprehensive national legislation to govern its development, deployment, and ethical use. This creates a fragmented, unregulated global AI environment. Most notably-USA, South Africa, India, Brazil and Indonesia

Here in Netherlands we already have some regulations and legal enforcement measure on AI and data use being implemented

### **4.Big Tech Operates Beyond National Control**

Large AI firms operate transnationally, often outside the reach of domestic regulators, especially in smaller countries.

These firms can deploy tools globally without local review or accountability, creating a governance mismatch.

The growing discrepancies are fueled by concentration of investments in few countries, with over 70% of foundational AI research centers being located in the USA, China and the United Kingdom. Stanford's 2024 AI index say 80% of "large language models" are developed in the above mentioned countries

Global south countries are forced to comply with the western and Chinese corporation's notions and data norms, as happened in Kenya where Microsoft and Open ai are testing AI tools in classrooms, possibly compromising some degree of sovereignty

A country's domestic data is at risk, due to no binding regulations on data use and transfer, as seen in the the Clearview AI scandal, Clearview AI, based in the US used biometric data from citizens across countries, mostly from the global south and small countries, this scandal reveals how consent can easily be bypassed in age of AI.

All this calls for not only regulating AI, but democratising it. It must serve people and not corporations, we have to balance regulation and innovation, with a global AI program to reduce dependency on foreign corporations, fostering a transparent and inclusive AI program

## Past UN actions

Though being one of the latest issues coming up –AI is problem very much on the international community's radar, proactive steps have already been taken, setting the tone for future discourses in the issue

UNESCO's "Recommendation on the Ethics of AI" (2021), is one step in that direction, it is to function as the provider of ethical standards. It advocates for data sovereignty and ownership by nations .It warns against "data extractivism" and technological domination that echoes colonial patterns.. It also says AI must be transparent, explainable, and accountable, in line with Dutch policy.Though non binding, with 193 countries being signatory, it still carries diplomatic weight.

The UN Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation (2020) aims to highlight high level international policy on the given issue. It focuses on reforming digital bodies for efficient enforcement , clearly proposes a future AI treaty, with the Netherlands actively supporting this roadmap, while not a treaty, it sets a clear vision going forward.

UN General Assembly Resolutions (e.g., A/RES/73/17, A/RES/74/197)

These resolutions are non binding,but explicitly talk about the growing AI tech discrepancies between the developed world and the developing global south, encouraging technology transfers to the global south, with Netherlands being an active supporter, planning to export its model to developing countries.

All these resolutions are the initial steps in ensuring equitable AI development, leaving a lot to still be desired. All these resolutions are non-binding, with no concrete rules to ensure inclusive AI development and protect people and small nations from non consensual data extraction. Newer issues have come up, with companies like Open AI, DeepSeak using large volumes of data internationally, newer resolutions explicitly framed for global data rules and compliance must come up.

Netherlands believes that newer actions need to be taken, Netherlands has taken serious measures domestically, but believes something global as AI needs multilateral cooperation. The Netherlands leaves itself open for collaboration. We believe participating

in international forums and prioritizing transparency will surely help in establishing an inclusive global AI regulations.

## National Policy

### 1. THE DUTCH AI PROGRAM

In 2023, the Netherlands committed €204.5 million through its National Growth Fund to strengthen the country's sovereign capabilities in artificial intelligence. This investment is not just financial—it's strategic. It aims to:

- Build indigenous AI capacity that with Dutch and European values.

- Promote safe, inclusive, and responsible AI aligned with public interest.

This initiative is structured around collaborative public-private hubs, involving:

- Top universities such as TU Delft, University of Amsterdam, and Radboud University.

- Research institutes like TNO (Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research).

### 2. GPT-NL: The Dutch Sovereign Language Model

A flagship component of the €204.5 million program is the development of GPT-NL—a Dutch-language large language model (LLM) designed to reduce reliance on American and Chinese AI tools.

### 3. "AI Factory" in Groningen

In June 2025, the Dutch government announced a bold investment of €70 million to establish an AI Factory in Groningen, in the the Netherlands. This facility is envisioned as a national infrastructure hub for developing, testing, and producing AI technologies, with the long-term aim of ensuring European digital sovereignty.

The project is funded by:

- The Dutch central government (€70 million)

- Regional governments (€60 million)

- A request for €70 million in EU co-financing, which if granted, will bring the total to ~€200 million

## DUTCH AI LAWS AND REGULATIONS

### 1. Implementation of the EU Artificial Intelligence Act (AI Act – 2024)

The Netherlands fully supports and implements the EU AI Act, adopted in 2024. This is a risk-based regulatory framework, which classifies AI systems into:

Unacceptable risk (e.g. social scoring)—banned

High-risk (e.g. facial recognition, biometric surveillance)—strictly regulated

Limited risk (e.g. chatbots)—transparency obligations

Minimal risk—allowed with few restrictions

## 2. Fundamental Rights and Algorithm Impact Assessment (FRAIA)

A Dutch government tool used by public agencies before deploying any algorithm or AI system. Evaluates whether an AI tool could infringe on privacy, human rights, or fairness. Promotes early-stage legal-ethical thinking, not just post-deployment auditing.

## 3. Algorithm Register

The Netherlands maintains a public-facing algorithm register, requiring transparency for algorithms used in public services.

Citizens can access descriptions of the algorithm's purpose, how it works, and what data it uses. It is seen as a model for AI transparency

## 4. Enforcement and Compliance

Autoriteit Persoonsgegevens (AP) has begun active enforcement against violations of the AI Act and GDPR.

Notably, it took action against DeepSeek AI, citing misuse of personal data and algorithmic opacity.

The Dutch government is also funding AI literacy and support systems for SMEs to comply with EU AI law.

The Dutch regulations follow a philosophy of regulation without creating barriers for innovation. The Netherlands has understood the priority of having an independent AI program, spending a total of around 270 million Euros on it. An AI hub in Groningen is planned, and the development of an indigenous dutch AI model, reducing dependence on foreign AI models.

The Netherlands's regulation policy is designed to balance control and freedom to innovate. AI as a resource must be democratized with transparency and people's right to information. Netherlands also participates in international resolutions, we have already implemented the EU's AI act, The Netherlands is a signatory to the OECD AI Principles, committing to inclusive growth, Transparency and robustness. The Netherlands is a full member of GPAI, a 29-nation initiative hosted by OECD to advance responsible AI, followed by the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI (2021).

International collaboration is important as AI affects affairs without regard for borders, for this, Netherlands has allowed funding from EU in its indigenous AI program, combined with local investments, to balance the people's sovereignty with international collaboration.

## Proposed Solutions

Ensuring sovereignty in the field of AI and creating a global AI order which is inclusive of all nations requires building a defined set of domestic and international regulations with proper implementation methods. It must begin with-

1. Drafting a new resolution as of 2025, with emphasis on the latest developments in AI- focusing on large language models and large data consuming AI
2. A UNDP-guided toolkit to help developing countries draft national AI regulations- Based on the EU AI Act but adapted for regional realities as many countries lack national AI laws.
3. Maintain a global public-facing algorithm register, requiring transparency for algorithms used in public services (already implemented in the Netherlands).
4. Creation of a UN-supervised Global AI Capacity Fund, Provide grants and low-interest loans to developing countries for building AI infrastructure , in partnership with the world bank and IMF
- 5 Digital Non-Aligned Movement (D-NAM), Inspired by the historic NAM, this is a coalition of digitally sovereign nations that resist dependency on Big Tech. This a more far fetched and long term idea, useful if the AI race becomes combative

The Netherlands stands as a nation which strives to be internationally useful and fiercely independent in each issue , including AI. The Netherlands has always been open to share expertise and funding to help out globally.