

14 February 2025

**COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO  
THE INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON AI  
FROM THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR DIGITAL  
AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES**

The Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) is the world’s longest established professional society of individuals involved in all aspects of Computing. It annually bestows the ACM A.M. Turing Award, often popularly referred to as the “Nobel Prize of Computing.” ACM’s Europe Technology Policy Committee (“Europe TPC”) is charged with and committed to providing sound **technical information** to policy makers and the general public in the service of sound public policymaking. Europe TPC has responded to the European Union stakeholder’s consultations in the past in the context of the AI Act<sup>1</sup>, the Data Act<sup>2</sup>, the Digital Services Act<sup>3,4</sup>, the Digital Citizen Principles<sup>5</sup>, the Cyber Resilience Act<sup>6</sup>, amongst others<sup>7</sup>. ACM and Europe TPC are non-profit, non-political, and non-lobbying organisations.

Europe TPC is pleased to respond to the United Nations Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies’s call for evidence launched concerning the establishment and functioning of the “**Independent International Scientific Panel on AI**”. Europe TPC supports the European Commission’s intent on establishing such a panel, and is pleased to provide comments related to the consultation questions, as outlined below.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/public-policy/europe-tpc-comments-ai-consultation.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/public-policy/acm-eur-tpc-data-act-comments-13may22a.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/public-policy/europetpc-digital-services-act-comments.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/public-policy/acm-europe-tpc-dsa-comments.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/public-policy/europetpc-comments-digital-principles.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/public-policy/acm-europe-tpc-cyber-resilience-comments-pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.acm.org/public-policy/public-policy-statements>

**Please provide your feedback on the following guiding questions concerning the establishment and functioning of the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI**

*(If you have no input for a specific question below, you may leave it blank)*

**What should be the mandate of the multidisciplinary Independent International Scientific Panel on AI, to be established within the United Nations?**

**(Maximum 3,000 characters)**

EuropeTPC recommends that the responsibility of such an Independent International Scientific Panel on AI encompass the following mandate:

- Share evidence-based, human-centric approach to assessing AI risks and benefits
- Provide Governance Frameworks
- Carry out Security assessments of AI impact globally and regionally.
- Inform Sustainable Development
- A multidisciplinary approach to ensure a holistic, balanced, and well-informed approach to AI development and governance

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**What should be the size, composition and governance structure of the Panel?**

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EuropeTPC recommends that the panel should consist of the following:

- No more than 30 top experts
- Diversity in members (geographical, gender, etc)
- Diversity in expertise throughout the AI fields (for example, according to ACM Computing Classification system [<https://dl.acm.org/ccs>], AI covers the following 8 fields: Natural language processing, Knowledge representation and reasoning, Planning and scheduling, Search methodologies, Control methods, Philosophical/theoretical foundations of AI, Distributed AI, Computer vision) and in AI related fields such as statistics operational research and decision sciences
- Academia and industry should have some representation, not necessarily in the same ratio

- Multidisciplinary, including humanities and social sciences. In particular, members that are able to bridge across tech and non-tech disciplines
- Clear selection criteria and nomination process, enabling periodic renewal of expertise.
- A dedicated secretariat should handle coordination and stakeholder engagement, ensuring the panel can focus on delivering rigorous, timely reports.
- While not formal panel members, external advisors from government, civil society, and the private sector should provide additional perspectives to strengthen the panel's output.
- Regular independent reviews, disclosure of conflicts of interest.

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### **How should the nomination and selection process of the Panel be?**

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EuropeTPC recommends that the nomination and selection of the selection process considers the following:

- A nomination committee should be elected to take part of the process
- Candidates should be nominated or apply with CV and Cover letter
- Candidates should be shortlisted and selected based on selection criteria outlined above
- Both self-nominations and nominations by research institutions, civil society, and industry
- Panel membership should be periodically reviewed and renewed, with a sunset clause to enable broader participation and engagement from all UN stakeholders
- Selection criteria should emphasize technical AI expertise alongside ethical, legal, and policy perspectives

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**What types of evidence-based impact, risk and opportunity assessments should the Panel deliver, and with what frequency?**

**(Maximum 3,000 characters)**

EuropeTPC recommends that the evidence-based impact, risk and opportunity assessments that the panel should deliver should be as follows:

- A clear outline of the remit of the assessment, justification and approach to the assessment, parameters of assessment, and duration of assessment.
- Given the current pace of AI development, the assessments should be delivered at least twice a year, or even more frequent if required by the UN
- There should also be a provision for ex-ante assessment should a high-risk, high-impact event take place, enabling the panel to convene at a short-notice and to establish the UN's position / response in a timely manner.
- UN-Led AI Risk & Impact Reports (biennial, inspired by IPCC): regular, science-backed assessments on AI's societal, economic, and security risks, ensuring global coordination and policy legitimacy under UN.
- Targeted reports on high-risk AI (as needed): Deep dives into autonomous systems, misinformation, cybersecurity threats, and geopolitical risks, providing timely insights for UN decision-making
- Sustainability and energy usage, global understanding of resources being used
- Solicited and unsolicited advice, briefs and research reports. IPCC-like.

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**Please provide your feedback on the following guiding questions concerning the establishment and functioning of the Global Dialogue on AI Governance (If you have no input for a specific question below, you may leave it blank)**

**What should be the mandate of the Global Dialogue on AI Governance, to be established within the United Nations?**

**(Maximum 3,000 characters)**

EuropeTPC recommends that the mandate of the Global Dialogue on AI Governance should consider the following:

- Produce inclusive AI governance, not just industry led
- To facilitate inclusive, multidisciplinary, and multi stakeholder cooperation to develop global norms, promote responsible AI governance, address risks, support capacity-building, and ensure AI aligns with human rights, transparency, and sustainable development goals.

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### What types of outcomes should the Dialogue achieve?

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EuropeTPC recommends that the outcomes from the dialogue encompass the following:

- Identify and promote the role of AI in enabling the UN's missions, including maintaining international peace and security, protecting human rights, delivering humanitarian aid, supporting sustainable development and climate action, and upholding international law.<sup>8</sup>
- Identify and promote the role of AI in the field work carried out by various UN agencies, facilitating better co-operation and effective responses as part of the UN's missions.
- A global AI governance framework, risk and safety standards, multilateral policy recommendations, capacity-building initiatives, an AI-for-SDGs roadmap, monitoring and accountability mechanisms, public engagement reports, and a coordination mechanism for long-term international cooperation.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.un.org/en/our-work>

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## How should Governments and all relevant stakeholders be involved?

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EuropeTPC recommends that governments and all relevant stakeholders involved should consider the following:

- Include not only governments but also civil society, academia, industry leaders, and Global South representatives to ensure diverse perspectives and equitable decision-making.
- Contributing to policy discussions, aligning national AI regulations with global frameworks, committing to ethical and safety standards, supporting capacity-building for developing nations, fostering international cooperation, and ensuring accountability through transparent implementation and periodic progress reviews.

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## What should be the format of the Dialogue?

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EuropeTPC recommends that the format of the dialogue considers the following:

- at steering the discussion aligned with the mandate of the panel and the focus of UN's overarching mission
- Design clear mechanisms for engagement, such as regional forums, working groups, and periodic global summits, to encourage sustained participation and actionable outcomes.

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Please provide your feedback on the following guiding questions concerning the establishment and functioning of the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and the Global Dialogue on AI Governance  
*(If you have no input for a specific question below, you may leave it blank)*

What should be the relationship between the Panel and the Dialogue?

**(Maximum 3,000 characters)**

EuropeTPC recommends that the relationship between the Panel and the Dialogue considers the following:

- The Panel should inform the basis of the dialogue

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How can the Panel and Dialogue effectively draw on and leverage existing initiatives within the United Nations? How can the UN system best support the Panel and Dialogue in a coordinated manner?

**(Maximum 3,000 characters)**

EuropeTPC recommends that the UN system supports the dialogue and panel in the following manner:

- The UN should establish formal partnerships with ACM, IEEE, and AI safety institutes, ensuring the Panel has access to top AI researchers.
- Integration of work into SDGs, the Global Digital Compact, and UN AI policy discussions. Long-term funding mechanisms from UN agencies and member states must be secured to maintain independence and operational sustainability.
- The **Panel and Dialogue** should align with existing UN initiatives, engage with multilateral forums, leverage UN research bodies, collaborate with sustainable development efforts, and coordinate with UN peace and security agencies, while the UN should support them through a dedicated secretariat, political and financial backing, cross-agency consultations, integration into policy agendas, and the creation of a centralized AI resource hub.

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