

Debate Pack
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By Elizabeth Rough,
Nikki Sutherland

Debate on Artificial Intelligence

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1 Background

A general debate on artificial intelligence will be held in the Commons Chamber on Thursday 29 June 2023. The debate will be opened by Matt Warman MP.

1.1 What is artificial intelligence?

There is no single, universally-agreed definition of artificial intelligence (AI). IBM notes that while AI takes many different forms, it is “increasingly used as shorthand to describe any machines that mimic our cognitive functions such as “learning” and “problem solving””.¹

AI can broadly be thought of as technologies that enable computers to simulate elements of human intelligence, such as perception, learning and reasoning. To achieve this, AI systems rely upon large data sets from which they can decipher patterns and correlations, thereby enabling the system to ‘learn’ how to anticipate future events. It does this by relying upon/creating rules – algorithms – based on the dataset, which it can use to interpret new data.

The original data may be ‘structured’ (for example bank transactions that have a date, time and amount) in such a way that the AI systems can easily identify if there is a sudden variation in the data that it normally receives. In the case of banking, this can prompt messages to be sent to the customer, asking about possible unusual activity on their account – for example when there is a transaction involving a large sum of money and/or taking place in another country.

Data may also be ‘unstructured’; for example, driverless cars and delivery robots need to navigate their surroundings (and thus respond to ‘unstructured’ data all around them) to reach their destination successfully.²

1.2 Different types of AI

There are multiple subcategories of AI, such as machine learning and deep learning, as well as narrow AI and general (‘strong’) AI. Further information

¹ [Artificial Intelligence \(ibm.com\)](#), accessed 22 May 2023

² [Taming unstructured data challenges for autonomous vehicles \(techhq.com\)](#), April 2022; [Tapping the power of unstructured data | MIT Sloan](#), February 2021

on the subcategories is set out at: Stanford University, [Artificial Intelligence Definitions](#) (PDF), September 2020.

- Narrow AI is designed to perform a specific task (such as speech recognition), using information from specific data sets, and cannot adapt to perform another task. These are often tools that aim to assist, rather than replace, the work of humans.
- Artificial general intelligence (AGI – also referred to as ‘strong’ AI) is an AI system that can undertake any intellectual task / problem that a human can. AGI is a system that can reason, analyse and achieve a level of understanding that is on a par with humans; something that has yet to be achieved by AI. The [US computer scientist Nils John Nilsson \(opens PDF\)](#), for example, proposed that one way to test if a system had achieved AGI was if it could successfully learn the skills to perform the different jobs “ordinarily performed by humans”, from “knowledge work” (such as a Library assistant) to “manual labour” (such as a roofer).
- Machine learning is a method that can be used to achieve narrow AI; it allows a system to learn and improve from examples, without all its instructions being explicitly programmed. It does this by finding patterns in large amounts of data, which it can then use to make predictions (for example what film or TV programme you might like to watch next on a streaming platform). The AI can then independently tweak its algorithm based on the accuracy of its predictions.³
- Deep learning is a type of machine learning whose design has been informed by the structure and function of the human brain and the way it transmits information. The application of deep learning can be seen in ‘foundation models’, of which ‘large language models (LLMs)’ such as ChatGPT, are one example. The term refers to those models that are trained on very large, unlabelled data sets and which can be adapted to do a wide range of tasks, despite not having been trained explicitly to do those tasks.⁴ In other words, the model can take information it has learnt about in one situation and apply it to another, different situation. Sometimes LLMs are refined or ‘fine-tuned’ (trained using additional data) to achieve a specific goal. ChatGPT, for example, has been fine-tuned to allow users to ask it a question, or make a request, and for it to generate “human-like text” in response.⁵

³ [Machine learning, explained | MIT Sloan](#), April 2021

⁴ Rishi Bommasani et al, [On the Opportunities and Risks of Foundation Models](#), July 2022 (PDF); Babar M Bhatti, [Essential Guide to Foundation Models and Large Language Models | Medium](#), February 2023

⁵ [ChatGPT: Everything you need to know about OpenAI's GPT-4 upgrade | BBC Science Focus Magazine](#), 20 June 2023

For further information see the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology briefing on [Interpretable machine learning](#) (October 2020).

1.3

What can AI do?

AI is currently being used across different industries, from finance to healthcare. NHS England, for example, provides the following [examples of AI](#) which are “currently being used to benefit people in health and care”:

Analysing [X-ray images, for example mammograms](#), to support radiologists in making assessments. This frees up radiologists to spend more time with patients, or to screen greater numbers of people more quickly.

Supporting people in [virtual wards](#), who would otherwise be in hospital to receive the care and treatment they need in their own home or usual place of residence. Remote monitoring technology such as apps and medical devices can [assess patients’ health and care](#) while they are being cared for at home.

[Helping clinicians read brain scans more quickly](#). This shortens the time it takes for patients to be treated, giving them a better quality of care.⁶

In banking, AI is used to detect and flag suspicious activity to a bank’s fraud department for further investigation, such as unusual debit card usage and large account deposits.⁷

IBM provides the following list of the most common tasks that AI currently performs:

- Extracting information from pictures (computer vision).
- Transcribing or understanding spoken words (speech to text and natural language processing).
- Pulling insights and patterns out of written text (natural language understanding).
- Speaking what’s been written (text to speech, natural language processing).
- Autonomously moving through spaces based on its senses (robotics).
- Generally looking for patterns in heaps of data (machine learning).⁸

Concerns have also been raised about current, and potential, risks that may arise from, or be exacerbated by, the proliferation of AI. These include:

⁶ [Artificial Intelligence - NHS Transformation Directorate \(england.nhs.uk\)](#), February 2023

⁷ Investopedia, [Artificial Intelligence: What It Is and How It Is Used](#), April 2023

⁸ IBM, [Artificial Intelligence](#), accessed 27 June 2023

- social and ethical harms, including jobs displaced by automation, as well as algorithmic bias and discrimination (for example in employment practices, where discrimination can be replicated/amplified through recruitment algorithms that rely on partial data);⁹
- privacy and surveillance (and particularly the use of identifiable and sensitive datasets to train algorithms);¹⁰
- unintended / unforeseen consequences;
- a lack of AI transparency (meaning it is unclear how certain AI tools work and how, for example, they have produced a specific result);
- the existential risks of AGI (though views are mixed as to whether AGI is possible and, if it is, whether it will pose an existential threat).¹¹

1.4 Government policy

National AI Strategy

The UK's [National AI Strategy](#) was published by the Government in 2021. It is a 10-year plan to make the UK a “global AI superpower” by focusing on the following aims:

1. **Invest and plan for the long-term needs of the AI ecosystem** to continue our leadership as a science and AI superpower;
2. **Support the transition to an AI-enabled economy**, capturing the benefits of innovation in the UK, and ensuring AI benefits all sectors and regions;
3. **Ensure the UK gets the national and international governance of AI technologies right** to encourage innovation, investment, and protect the public and our fundamental values.¹²

The [Office for Artificial Intelligence](#), a unit within the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the National AI Strategy. There is also an '[AI Council](#)', a “non-statutory expert committee of independent members set up to provide advice to the Government”. [The Times newspaper](#) reported on 19 June 2023

⁹ [Algorithmic bias detection and mitigation: Best practices and policies to reduce consumer harms](#) | Brookings Institute, May 2019; [Realising the potential of algorithmic accountability mechanisms](#) | [Ada Lovelace Institute](#), February 2022

¹⁰ [Artificial intelligence design must prioritize data privacy](#) | [World Economic Forum](#), March 2022

¹¹ [Artificial General Intelligence: can we avoid the ultimate existential threat? - OECD.AI](#), January 2023; [‘Godfather of AI’ Geoffrey Hinton quits Google and warns over dangers of misinformation](#) | [Google](#) | [The Guardian](#), May 2023

¹² DSIT, BEIS and DCMS, [National AI Strategy](#), updated December 2022

that the AI Council would be replaced by the ‘Foundation Model Taskforce’.¹³

The Taskforce was [first announced by the Government in March 2023](#) and given the task of developing the “safe and reliable use” of AI “across the economy” while also ensuring that the “UK is globally competitive in this strategic technology”.¹⁴ On 24 April 2023 the Prime Minister and the Science, Innovation and Technology Secretary announced £100 million in initial start-up funding for the Taskforce.¹⁵

More recently, the Prime Minister announced that the UK would host the “first major global summit on AI safety” in autumn 2023.¹⁶

1.5 Governance and regulation

The UK does not have any AI-specific regulation or legislation; instead, AI is currently regulated “through existing legal frameworks like financial services regulation”.¹⁷ Over the past year or so, much of the Government’s focus has been on aim 3 in the National AI Strategy – getting the “national and international governance of AI technologies right”.

Science and Technology Framework

In early March 2023, DSIT published the [Science and Technology Framework](#) setting out the Government’s approach to “making the UK a science and technology superpower by 2030”. Five “critical technologies” were identified in the document, including artificial intelligence. The Government emphasised in the Framework document that it was aiming to develop a “pro-innovation approach to regulating AI”.¹⁸

White Paper: A pro-innovation approach to AI regulation

A [White Paper setting out the Government’s approach to AI regulation](#) followed later in March 2023, informed by the feedback received in its [public consultation in 2022](#). Building on the consultation, it was stated in the White Paper that AI in the UK will be overseen by existing regulators, covering

¹³ [End of the road for AI advisers ‘blindsided’ by latest tech \(thetimes.co.uk\)](#), 19 June 2023 [subscription required]

¹⁴ [Initial £100 million for expert taskforce to help UK build and adopt next generation of safe AI - GOV.UK](#), 24 April 2023

¹⁵ [Initial £100 million for expert taskforce to help UK build and adopt next generation of safe AI - GOV.UK](#), 24 April 2023

¹⁶ [UK to host first global summit on Artificial Intelligence - GOV.UK](#), 7 June 2023

¹⁷ DSIT, [A pro-innovation approach to AI regulation](#), updated 27 June 2023, para 27

¹⁸ Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, [The UK Science and Technology Framework](#), March 2023

specific sectors, so that rather than regulating the technology itself, it is instead regulated in the context within which it is used (for example financial services). The Government proposed that regulation, and the “responsible development and use of AI in all sectors of the economy” will be informed by five, cross-sector principles:

- Safety, security and robustness
- Appropriate transparency and explainability
- Fairness
- Accountability and governance
- Contestability and redress¹⁹

It was also proposed in the White Paper that the principles will not, at least initially, be placed on a statutory footing, to avoid “hold[ing] back” innovation, but instead will be “issued on a non-statutory basis and implemented by existing regulators”.

To assist businesses, it was suggested in the White Paper that:

After the implementation of the UK’s new AI regulatory framework, the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) and the Information Commissioner Office (ICO) will be supported and encouraged to work with the Employment Agency Standards Inspectorate (EASI) and other regulators and organisations in the employment sector to issue joint guidance [which could address] the use of AI systems in recruitment or employment.²⁰

[A further consultation accompanied the publication of the White Paper.](#) In particular, feedback was sought on the (revised) cross-sector principles for regulating AI, namely safety, transparency/explainability, fairness, accountability and contestability. The consultation closed on the 21 June 2023.

¹⁹ DSIT, [A pro-innovation approach to AI regulation](#), updated 27 June 2023, para 10

²⁰ DSIT, [A pro-innovation approach to AI regulation](#), updated 27 June 2023, case study 3.5

2 Parliamentary material

2.1 Debate

Lords Question for Short Debate: [Artificial Intelligence](#)

HL Deb 26 June 2023 | Vol 831 c460-

2.2 Committee Inquiry

House of Commons Science, Innovation and Technology Committee Inquiry: [Governance of artificial intelligence \(AI\)](#)

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) has increased significantly in recent years. It offers a range of potential benefits such as quicker analysis of large datasets allowing more accurate information, forecasts and predictions, and more personalised public services. However, there are a number of concerns, such as the possibility of biased algorithms, a lack of transparency and unexplained decision-making. The Government is expected to publish a white paper on AI governance later this year to address these issues.

The Committee will examine the effectiveness of AI governance and the Government's proposals.

2.3 PQs

[Artificial Intelligence: Human Rights](#)

Asked by: Blackman, Kirsty

To ask the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, what steps the Government is taking to help ensure that (a) foreign states and (b) bad actors cannot access people's neuro-data.

Answering member: Sir John Whittingdale | Department: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

The Government welcomes the recent reports from the Regulatory Horizons Council and the Information Commissioner's Office, and agrees on the importance of appropriately protecting neurodata. The UK's data regime already provides enhanced protection for personal neuro-data when it takes the form of biometric, genetic, or health data. The Government is keeping protections under review and will not hesitate to take action in future as needed.

The Government is also actively monitoring threats to UK data, including neuro-data, and will not hesitate to take further action if necessary to our national security.

HC Deb 27 June 2023 | PQ 190111

[Radiotherapy: Artificial Intelligence](#)

Asked by: Baroness Merron

To ask His Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to exploit artificial intelligence in radiotherapy treatment services.

Answering member: Lord Markham | Department: Department of Health and Social Care

The Department has provided £123 million to 86 artificial intelligence (AI) technologies through the Health and Care Award. The Award is accelerating the testing and evaluation of the most promising AI technologies likely to meet the aims set out in the NHS Long Term Plan.

Two of these AI technologies, Mirada Medical and project OSAIRIS, specialise in assisting clinicians with segmenting radiotherapy scans. This process, which is currently done by hand by clinicians, outlines healthy organs so they can be avoided during radiotherapy treatment. These technologies have been testing the feasibility of AI tools that could automatically identify healthy organs and segment scans. This could speed up the segmentation process and help patients start radiotherapy treatment sooner and reduce workloads for clinicians.

HL Deb 26 June 2023 | PQ HL8506

Artificial Intelligence: Public Sector

Asked by: Lord Clement-Jones

To ask His Majesty's Government, further to their White Paper A pro-innovation approach to AI regulation, published on 29 March, and following the introduction of the Algorithmic Transparency Recording Standard, what assessment they have made of the case for statutory transparency obligations for public sector use of automated decision-making.

To ask His Majesty's Government further to the six algorithmic transparency reports published under the Algorithmic Transparency Recording Standard, how many automated decision-making tools are currently used by public authorities that have not submitted reports under the Algorithmic Transparency Recording Standard; and what steps they are taking, or intend to take, to increase compliance with that Standard.

Answering member: Baroness Neville-Rolfe | Department: Cabinet Office

The government has made transparency around automated decision-making a priority through the publication of the Algorithmic Transparency Recording Standard (ATRS).

The ATRS is a maturing standard which is being progressively promoted and adopted across the public sector. It is still evolving alongside policy thinking and government understanding of the complexities, scope, and risks around its use. Enshrining the Standard into law at this point of maturity might hinder the ability to ensure it remains relevant in a rapidly developing technology field. We remain committed to reevaluating our position on legislative change in the future, once the policy and the Standard have matured further.

While the government currently has no comprehensive view of the full range of automated decision-making tools currently used by public authorities, several steps have been taken to increase compliance with the Standard in the absence of legislation. The ATRS has been endorsed by the government's Data Standards Authority. Since its publication, it has been piloted with a variety of public sector organisations across the UK and the published records can be openly accessed via GOV.UK. It is currently being rolled out more widely across the public sector with a view to embedding it into internal governance processes and increasing compliance.

HL Deb 26 June 2023 | PQ HL8376; PQ HL8377

Artificial Intelligence

Asked by: Cairns, Alun

To ask the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, what steps her Department is taking to scrutinise the activities of artificial intelligence companies.

Answering member: Paul Scully | Department: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

The rapid acceleration of AI foundation models represents enormous opportunities for productivity and public good, bringing an estimated \$7 trillion in global growth over the next 10 years. However, this technology could also pose significant national security and safety risks. It is important to ensure the right guardrails are in place, as doing so will let us realise this technology's huge opportunities.

The Government has published its White Paper setting out its proposed approach to AI regulation that is context-based, proportionate and adaptable, drawing on the expertise of regulators and encouraging them to consider AI in their own sectors. A central risk function will undertake horizon scanning to identify new and emerging AI risks.

The government has also committed an initial £100 million to set up the Foundation Model Taskforce to build UK capabilities in foundation models and leverage our existing strengths, and be a global standard bearer for AI safety.

The UK is well positioned to lead the world in AI safety. We have announced plans to host a global AI safety summit later this year to convene leading nations, industry and academia to drive targeted, rapid international action to guarantee safety and security at the frontier of this technology.

HC Deb 26 June 2023 | PQ 189935

[Government Departments: Artificial Intelligence](#)

Asked by: Whitford, Dr Philippa

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, whether any Departments are using artificial intelligence-based systems to make automated decisions.

Answering member: Alex Burghart | Department: Cabinet Office

The Central Digital and Data Office (CDDO) in the Cabinet Office is working with departments to establish the frameworks and policies to guide the responsible adoption of new technologies, including artificial intelligence.

The requested information relating to specific departmental use of artificial intelligence systems to make automated decisions is not centrally held.

HC Deb 22 June 2023 | PQ 189772

[Diplomatic Relations: Artificial Intelligence](#)

Asked by: Rosindell, Andrew

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether he has made an assessment of the (a) efficacy and (b) potential value of using artificial intelligence in diplomacy.

Answering member: Anne-Marie Trevelyan | Department: Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

As outlined in the Integrated Review, the UK is taking steps to secure our status as a Science and Tech Superpower by 2030, including by establishing a leading edge in critical areas such as artificial intelligence (AI).

The art of diplomacy has always been shaped by technological advances. The Foreign Secretary recognises the potential of AI and adjacent technologies to radically transform how the FCDO operates and delivers diplomatic, development and consular outcomes internationally. These same technologies will also present new threats and risks for which the FCDO and our partners must also prepare.

HC Deb 22 June 2023 | PQ 189535

[Artificial Intelligence: Public Sector](#)

Asked by: Lord Taylor of Warwick

To ask His Majesty's Government, following the announcement by the Prime Minister on 7 June regarding plans for the UK to host the first major global summit on AI safety, what steps they are taking to ensure that the conference includes appropriate representation from civil society, academia, and those who have experienced algorithmic harm.

Answering member: Viscount Camrose | Department: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

The first major global summit on AI safety, hosted by the UK, will bring together key countries, as well as leading technology companies and researchers, to agree on the safety measures needed to evaluate and monitor the most significant risks emerging from the newest developments in AI technologies.

Decisions are ongoing regarding preparations for the Summit. We have received interest from multiple organisations including academia and civil

society and we are currently exploring how best to ensure representation from these groups and others.

HL Deb 21 June 2023 | PQ HL8419

[Health Services: Artificial Intelligence](#)

Asked by: Smith, Greg

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether he plans to commission research on the potential impact of artificial intelligence on (a) diagnostics, (b) health economics and (c) clinicians' workloads.

Answering member: Will Quince | Department: Department of Health and Social Care

Since 2017, the Department has invested £148 million through the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) and an additional £123 million through the AI in Health and Care Award to research artificial intelligence in healthcare. This is funding research into the potential impact of artificial intelligence on diagnosis and treatment for major conditions, including cancer and cardiovascular diseases, and research into how the technology can be used to improve NHS services and reduce the burden of clinicians' workloads.

HC Deb 21 June 2023 | PQ 189416

[Economic Situation: Artificial Intelligence](#)

Asked by: Hancock, Matt

To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what recent assessment he has made of the potential impact of artificial intelligence on the economy.

Answering member: Gareth Davies | Department: Treasury

AI will have a genuinely transformative impact on the economy, spurring innovation across sectors. This brings huge potential for productivity and economic growth, and the government is making large investments to support AI advancement. Given the rapid pace of AI development, we must also ensure AI is developed and adopted safely and responsibly. The government's recent whitepaper outlined a pro-innovation approach to AI regulation, and the PM announced that the UK will host the first global summit on AI safety this autumn.

HC Deb 20 June 2023 | PQ 905517

Artificial Intelligence

Asked by: Thompson, Owen

To ask the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, whether her Department (a) is taking steps to (i) monitor and (ii) regulate and (b) has made a recent assessment of the implications for her policies of the development of artificial consciousness technology.

Answering member: Paul Scully | Department: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

[The AI Regulation White Paper](#) proposes a proportionate, collaborative approach to AI regulation, and aims to promote innovation while protecting the UK's values. Our approach is designed to ensure the Government is able to adapt and respond to the risks and opportunities that emerge as the technology develops at pace.

It is important to distinguish between AI as we define and understand it today, and concepts such as Artificial Consciousness and Artificial General Intelligence (AGI). As our AI Regulation White Paper sets out, AI systems are 'trained' – once or continually – and operate by inferring patterns and connections in data which are not always easily discernible to humans. This includes a spectrum of AI systems that perform specific and less-specific tasks, and includes forms of generative AI that are in use and under development currently. This is not the same as AGI, and there are different views amongst experts regarding the feasibility and timescales associated with AGI becoming a reality. Whilst people have argued that AGI and Artificial Consciousness are theoretically possible, many researchers disagree.

The Government is working with international partners to understand emerging technologies and AI trends, while promoting the UK's values, including through key multilateral fora, such as the OECD, the G7, the Global Partnership on AI (GPAI), the Council of Europe, and UNESCO, and through bilateral relationships.

The AI Regulation White Paper proposes a range of new central functions, including a horizon scanning function intended to support the anticipation assessment of emerging risks. This will complement the existing work undertaken by regulators and other government departments to identify and address risks arising from AI.

As set out in the white paper, the Government will continue to convene a wide range of stakeholders – including frontier researchers from industry – to ensure that we hear the full spectrum of viewpoints.

HC Deb 20 June 2023 | PQ 189319

Artificial Intelligence and Life Sciences: Research

Asked by: Hardy, Emma

To ask the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, pursuant to her Answer of 8 June to question 187868 on Artificial Intelligence and Life Sciences: Research, what proportion of UK Research and Innovation funds does research involving (a) humans, (b) human materials, (c) animal models and (d) non-animal technologies receive; and what steps UKRI is taking to increase the proportion of funding for non-animal technologies in relation to animal models.

Answering member: George Freeman | Department: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

It is not possible to break down UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) funding data in this way. The Government actively supports and funds the development and dissemination of techniques that replace, reduce, and refine the use of animals in research (the 3Rs), primarily through funding from UKRI for the National Centre for the 3Rs (NC3Rs). UKRI provide around £10 million funding per annum to the NC3Rs for research to develop 3Rs technologies.

The NC3Rs has committed to increase funding for technologies that replace the use of animals, including through their £4.7 million joint funding call with UKRI's Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council for next generation non-animal technologies.

HC Deb 20 June 2023 | PQ 189016

Artificial Intelligence: Regulation

Asked by: Lord Taylor of Warwick

To ask His Majesty's Government whether they have any plans to promote the UK AI Regulatory Model to other governments.

Answering member: Viscount Camrose | Department: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

We have been actively promoting the UK AI Regulatory Model - as set out in the [AI Regulation White Paper](#) published in March 2023 - to other governments through both bilateral engagements and multilateral fora. For example, this has included presenting the white paper at the OECD's Working Party on AI Governance meeting in Paris. In the same month, the Minister for Tech and the Digital Economy attended the G7 Digital

Ministerial meeting in Japan, where the UK agreed to the G7 Digital Ministerial Declaration. Crucially, the Declaration endorses an Action Plan for promoting global interoperability between tools for trustworthy AI - a key component of the AI Regulation White Paper. Building on these efforts, on 7th June 2023, the Prime Minister announced that the UK will host the first major [Global Summit on AI Safety](#) this autumn. The Summit will consider the risks of AI, including frontier systems, and discuss how they can be mitigated through internationally coordinated action. It will also provide a platform for countries to work together on further developing a shared approach to mitigate these risks.

As examples of bilateral activity, on 8th June 2023, the UK government agreed to the [Atlantic Declaration](#) with the United States. In lockstep with the UK's AI Regulatory Model, both the UK and U.S. have agreed to accelerate cooperation on AI with a focus on ensuring its safe and responsible development. Similarly, on 18th May 2023, the Government agreed to the [Hiroshima Accord](#) with Japan, which pledges to focus future UK-Japan AI discussions on promoting human-centric and trustworthy AI and interoperability between AI governance frameworks.

Active international engagement on AI is a key priority for the Government. We are working closely with many international partners to both learn from, and influence, regulatory and non-regulatory developments. In line with the UK's International Tech Strategy, we will continue to shape global AI activities in line with UK values and priorities, protecting against efforts to adopt and apply AI technologies in the service of authoritarianism and repression.

HL Deb 19 June 2023 | PQ HL8369

[Artificial Intelligence: Creative Industries](#)

Asked by: Pete Wishart

What discussions she has had with representatives of the creative industries on the impact of artificial intelligence on that sector.

Answering member: The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport (Lucy Frazer) | Department: Culture, Media and Sport

AI has enormous potential to deliver better public services, and high-quality jobs and opportunities, but it is really important that, while we recognise its benefits, we also manage the risks. There are particular risks to our creative industries, as in the domain of copyright. I recently met my colleague from the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Viscount Camrose, and the Intellectual Property Office on this very issue. I have also met stakeholders across the media and creative industries, including UK Music,

Universal, the Alliance for Intellectual Property, the British Phonographic Industry and the News Media Association, among others.

HC Deb 15 June 2023 | Vol 734 c423

Artificial Intelligence: Creative Industries

Asked by: Pete Wishart

All these engagements are always important and valuable, and I thank the Secretary of State for that. She will know that the creative sector is always at the forefront of technical innovation, but it has always somehow managed to lose out, and the potential for this happening with AI is profound. AI firms are already saying that they do not need permission or licences from rights holders to ingest their content, so can I ask her a very direct question: does she believe that the ingestion of content without permission is copyright infringement and is therefore illegal?

Answered by: Lucy Frazer | Department: Culture, Media and Sport

The hon. Member is absolutely right to recognise how the creative industries are at the forefront of some of our industries, and I hope he welcomes the sector vision that we announced yesterday, with an additional £77 million to support them to continue to grow. As he will know, the IPO is talking to industry and to AI firms. I know that the first working group meetings were held last week and that it is considering this very issue.

HC Deb 15 June 2023 | Vol 734 c423

Artificial Intelligence Regulation

Asked by: Alex Davies-Jones

The rapid growth of AI has the potential to revolutionise the economy and our public services, but with no industrial strategy to speak of and their White Paper already out of date, this Government are behind the curve and risk leaving our workforces behind as AI becomes more prevalent. Exactly what is the Secretary of State doing to ensure that nobody is left behind, and that workers are trained in the digital skills needed to gain high-quality jobs that harness AI's potential and opportunities?

Answering member: Chloe Smith | Department: Science, Innovation and Technology

I think the hon. Lady is on the wrong track here. I must say that I have not seen any substance to Labour's approach in this field either, which perhaps

will not come as a surprise—no doubt it will be covered more in 10 minutes' time. What I would say is that we are taking the approach of ensuring that we do have the skills of the future: for example, we are investing £30 million in conversion courses to enable people from disadvantaged backgrounds to come into AI, so that they can be part of the technologies of the future, and there is a great deal more besides.

HC Deb 14 June 2023 | Vol 734 c284

[Artificial Intelligence: Intellectual Property](#)

Asked by: Onwurah, Chi

To ask the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, whether her Department has had discussions with the artificial intelligence sector on ensuring that (a) the ingestion of content does not infringe IP rights and (b) companies seek licensing when using licensed material.

Answering member: Paul Scully | Department: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

The Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) speaks to representatives of the artificial intelligence sector on a regular basis.

Following the recommendation of the Pro-innovation Regulation of Technologies Review on generative AI, the Intellectual Property Office is working with the artificial intelligence sector and the creative industries to produce a code of practice on AI and copyright. This includes discussions on licensing copyright-protected material and the ingestion of protected content.

HC Deb 13 June 2023 | PQ 187637

Commons exchange of questions: [AI and Diplomacy](#)

HC Deb 13 June 2023 | Vol 734 c144-

3

News and press releases

Guardian

28 June 2023

[Time running out for UK electoral system to keep up with AI, say regulators](#)

Computerworld

27 June 2023

[UK's AI strategy does not address equality concerns, regulator says](#)

Guardian

27 June 2023

[TechScope: Can the EU bring law and order to AI?](#)

Computer Weekly

27 June 2023

[UK AI plans offer 'inadequate' human rights protection, says EHRC](#)

Nature

27 June 2023

[Stop talking about tomorrow's AI doomsday when AI poses risks today](#)

UK in a Changing Europe

26 June 2023

[AI in the EU and UK: Two approaches to regulation and international leadership](#)

Department of Health and Social Care press release

23 June 2023

[£21 million to roll out artificial intelligence across the NHS](#)

Department for Science, Innovation and Technology policy paper

22 June 2023

[A pro-innovation approach to AI regulation](#)

Wired

15 June 2023

[Why AI bias can hurt your business](#)

Department for Science, Innovation and Technology press release

14 June 2023

[£54 million boost to develop secure and trustworthy AI research](#)

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