



HARNESSING OPPORTUNITIES OF THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE MILITARY DOMAIN

RESOLUTION 495*

The Assembly,

1. **Recognising** that Artificial Intelligence (AI) will transform the ways wars are fought and that leadership in AI is crucial for maintaining NATO's technological edge and ensuring the responsible use of AI in the military domain;
2. **Acknowledging** that the integration of AI into military systems will revolutionise warfare through, for example, advancements in decision-making support, the deployment of autonomous systems and the augmentation and adaptation of soldiers' roles;
3. **Reaffirming** the need to adopt an international convention governing the use of AI in lethal autonomous weapons systems;
4. **Recognising** the plethora of technical, operational, legal and ethical challenges that the implementation of AI may bring to future armed conflicts and the potential for AI in warfare to create concerns and mistrust among the wider public;
5. **Observing** that the pace of innovation and demand for rapid adaptation of AI by armed forces pose challenges for civilian oversight and regulatory processes, and that most international regulatory and government efforts do not apply to national defence and the military domain;
6. **Welcoming** the Alliance's revised AI Strategy and **reaffirming** the Principles of Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence in Defence;
7. **Applauding** NATO's efforts to foster an innovative AI ecosystem through the NATO Innovation Fund, its investments in promising start-ups, and the DIANA accelerator program, which emphasises AI as a cross-cutting enabling technology;
8. **Strongly supporting** the efforts and work of other NATO bodies, such as the NATO Data and AI Review Board, the NATO Science and Technology Organization, and the NATO Communications and Information Agency, in ensuring that the Alliance can reap the rewards whilst avoiding the pitfalls associated with AI;
9. **Welcoming** key efforts by national governments and international organisations to regulate and govern the development and use of AI, all aimed at creating frameworks for the ethical and democratic use of AI;
10. **Cautioning** that external actors, such as the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation, are ramping up efforts in this technological area to strengthen their armed forces with fewer democratic and ethical constraints than Allies;

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11. **Observing** that the People's Republic of China and Russia may not abide by internationally launched initiatives towards the ethical and responsible use of AI in the military domain, reflected in the fact that the People's Republic of China has not endorsed the Responsible AI in the Military Domain (REAIM) Blueprint for Action despite attending the Summit in Seoul, Republic of South Korea;
12. **Affirming** the need to maintain human control over the decision to use nuclear weapons, a core component of NATO's deterrence and defence capabilities;
13. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:
 - a. to advance joint efforts on AI in the civilian and military domains to ensure that NATO maintains its technological edge and its armed forces can leverage the technology's benefits whilst being cognisant of the operational, ethical, and legal challenges associated with the adoption of AI;
 - b. to continue developing and enforcing joint operational and tactical standards to strengthen collective defence and address future interoperability challenges, including misaligned data, data sovereignty issues, and system integration gaps;
 - c. to invest in fostering an innovative AI ecosystem that enables NATO to leverage commercial advancements for Allied forces and implement cross-functional risk assessments to apply civilian dual-use solutions in the military;
 - d. to actively raise public awareness of AI's role in the armed forces to build trust and legitimacy, and prevent mistrust and negative impacts on democracy and human rights by ensuring ethical use that upholds NATO's democratic values;
 - e. to work towards a proactive and coherent strategic framework and activities across NATO bodies and member countries, enabling governance to keep pace with technical developments and innovation and ensuring that ethical and legal guidelines are effectively implemented on the ground;
 - f. to ensure that all Allies build a minimum level of AI adaptation for future conflicts and consider how smaller Allies could contribute to standardisation and integration;
 - g. to build on existing approaches to regulate AI in the military domain and strive for a balance between military considerations and political priorities in the incorporation of AI in the armed forces enabling NATO to enhance its operational effectiveness while upholding democratic principles;
 - h. to foster ethical oversight by involving military, civilian, and regulatory representatives in integrating dual-use solutions, leveraging private sector expertise to minimise biases, promote workforce diversity, and prioritise funding for start-ups that align with NATO's ethical and legal principles;
 - i. to ensure that cooperation with the EU and other partners in this field includes a structured dialogue, so that the key AI documents of both institutions remain aligned, particularly regarding ethical standards;
 - j. to continue to strongly support the development of inclusive and universal norms and standards for the ethical, legal, and responsible use of AI in the military domain.