Forum: Youth Assembly Third Committee

Issue: Seeking Ways to Utilize AI and Reinforce Political Stability

Chair: Rahaf Mohammed Elsayed & Mesk Khaled Abouzeid

Introduction

The key to steady and consistent growth for a country is political stability. Simply put, a government with political stability is one lacking internal conflict or significant disruptions for an extended period of time. Achieving political stability allows a country to consistently develop in many perspectives, and with the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) many more tools have emerged and provided opportunities to enhance governance, security, and decision-making. For this reason, it is of utmost importance to evaluate the advanced technology we have at hand and how it can provide benefits politically.

Definition of Key Terms

Artificial Intelligence (AI): Technology that imitates human intelligence through an algorithm that processes data and applies it to make decisions and perform certain tasks.

Political stability: The lack of internal conflict or significant disruptions for an extended period of time, allowing for consistent development of a country.

Background Information

For a nation to expand and develop steadily, political stability is essential because it lays the groundwork for social cohesiveness, institutional trust, and economic prosperity. With the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI), there are increasing opportunities to use technology to support governance and reinforce political stability. Governments and international organizations are investigating the use of AI in political domains due to its potential to improve governance, make decisions better, and solve complicated problems like disinformation, election integrity, and conflict avoidance. For instance, the UN Secretary-General's Roadmap on Digital Cooperation

(2019) highlighted the need for global collaboration on digital transformation, emphasizing the role of AI in fostering peaceful, inclusive societies. Similarly, the AI for Good Global Summit, established in 2017, has become a key event to promote the use of AI in achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), stressing AI's potential to enhance governance and contribute to global stability. As more countries adopt AI-driven policies, AI's benefits will present, strengthening public trust, improving governance transparency, and enhancing crisis management capabilities.

Major Parties Involved

The United States of America: USA has launched agencies like the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST) and DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) which fund AI research aimed at improving public governance, cybersecurity, and conflict prevention. In addition, the US government has engaged in initiatives using AI to combat misinformation and enhance electoral integrity

China: Pledging to be the top in AI development by 2030, China launched the AI Development Plan in 2017 alongside the AI Governance Principles, hoping to promote transparency, equality, and unbiased AI outcomes.

Singapore: As a pioneer in using AI, Singapore set the Smart Nation Initiative in which AI is used to improve public services, traffic management, and healthcare. Such initiative brought about ethical and effective ways to utilize AI, contributing to political stability by enhancing citizens' trust in government institutions.

Estonia: Estonia adopted the Digital Agenda 2030 in 2021 and has continued to utilize AI in governmental affairs. The country's e-government services leverage AI for e-residency, digital voting, and public administration, making it one of the most digitally advanced countries.

Timeline of Key Events

Date	Description of Event
2024	The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) first adopted the AI Principles in 2019; however, the five principles were revised and updated in 2024 with more strengthened principles.
2021	The Artificial Intelligence Act (AI Act) was proposed by the European Commission, addressing the risks of AI and, therefore, fostering responsible AI development. The AI Act introduces a framework across all EU countries.
2019	The UN Secretary General's Roadmap on Digital Cooperation was, essentially, an initiative developed to address the need for international cooperation in managing the digital transformation of societies and economies, emphasizing that technology is to be used for the common good and contribution to global stability.
2017	The AI for Good Global Summit was established in 2017 by the United Nations to encourage the usage of AI innovation and claimed it to be central to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Goals (SDGs).

Previous Attempts to Resolve this Issue

Artificial Intelligence has been used in ways to serve the government in political affairs to ensure unbiased and fairness such as the following:

1- During the 2018 presidential election in Brazil, AI tools helped track the spread of misinformation and defamation on platforms like WhatsApp and Telegram, enabling authorities to take action against fake news campaigns.

2- During the 2019 Indian elections, although plenty of AI-generated content regarding the candidates was made, the overall involvement of AI was a net positive for India. AI was employed to detect anomalies in voter data, preventing voter fraud and ensuring election integrity.

Possible Solutions to Resolve this Issue

1- **Conflict Detection and Prevention:** AI can be used to analyze data from various sources such as social platforms or economics to detect early signs of instability and prevent conflict. The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) could use AI to monitor emerging risks and provide early warnings to governments.

2- **Election Integrity**: AI tools can detect fraud, verify voter data, and monitor disinformation. The UN Electoral Assistance Division (UNEAD) can apply AI to ensure fair elections and reduce manipulation or cyber threats.

Bibliography

2024 AI for good global summit. SDG Knowledge Hub. (2024).

   https://sdg.iisd.org/events/2024-ai-for-good-global-summit/

Ai Principles. OECD. (n.d.). https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/sub-issues/ai-principles.html

Artificial intelligence, democracy and elections. Think Tank | European Parliament. (2023).

   https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_BRI(2023)751478

Benevenuto, F., & Melo, P. (2024, July). *Misinformation Campaigns through WhatsApp and*

   Telegram in Presidential Elections in Brazil. Communications of the ACM.

   https://cacm.acm.org/latin-america-regional-special-section/misinformation-campaigns-th

   rough-whatsapp-and-telegram-in-presidential-elections-in-brazil/

Directorate-General for Communication. (2024, August 1). *AI Act enters into force*. European

Commission. https://commission.europa.eu/news/ai-act-enters-force-2024-08-01_en

Shukla, V., & Schneier, B. (2024, June). *Indian election was awash in deepfakes – but AI was a*

net positive for democracy. The Conversation.

https://theconversation.com/indian-election-was-awash-in-deepfakes-but-ai-was-a-net-po

sitive-for-democracy-231795

Singha, K., & Singh, M. A. (2022, August). *Political stability and its effect on economy: Some*

lessons from Sikkim Himalaya. Journal of social and economic development.

https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9427090/

United Nations. (n.d.). *United Nations Secretary-general's roadmap for digital cooperation*.

United Nations. https://www.un.org/en/content/digital-cooperation-roadmap/