

## Declaration of Rabat

# Artificial Intelligence and Digital Citizenship: For an Artificial Intelligence respecting Human Rights.

We, national and international experts, participants in the International Seminar on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, organized in Rabat, on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, by the National Council for Human Rights CNDH, while welcoming the initiative, express our adherence to:

- The recommendations of the annual reports of the National Human Rights Council:
  - « Opening a public debate on freedom of opinion, expression, and the press, with the participation of all stakeholders, taking into account the changes in this field, **notably in the digital space and in particular social networking platforms**, for the consecration of the practice of this freedom without violating the privacy of individuals » (2019 annual report);
  - « Opening a public debate on **the protection of human rights in the field of technology and artificial intelligence** ... [and] the necessity of taking into account the protection of human rights, including the rights to privacy, personal data protection and security in the design of artificial intelligence applications and algorithms – **Human Rights by design** » (2020 annual report).
- Taking note of the broad and inclusive consultations undertaken by the National Human Rights Council with stakeholders in Morocco for the purpose of:
  - Establishing a digital platform (April to December 2020) « taabirat raqmya » (Digital Expressions), which received contributions from experts and Moroccan citizens on the issue of the practice of freedoms in the digital space ;
  - Organizing workshops (December 2019, January 2020) to exchange with journalists, publishers, unions, associations, and human rights defenders on the protection of all human rights in the digital space ;
  - Editing a special issue of the National Human Rights Council scientific journal (Arribat) on Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence ;
  - Holding a national consultation seminar (April 2021) with technology companies, academics, professional associations, and research centers on human rights protection within the artificial intelligence environment.
- Taking into consideration the international and national initiatives on regulatory frameworks for artificial intelligence based on the protection of human rights presented at the international seminar, and taking note of:
  - The recommendations on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence of the UNESCO's World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology COMEST<sup>1</sup>;
  - The Global Initiative on the Ethics of Autonomous and Intelligent Systems, IEEE<sup>2</sup> (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) ;
  - The Council of Europe's recommendations Towards regulation of AI Systems (the Council of Europe Ad hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence CAHAI<sup>3</sup>) ;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://en.unesco.org/themes/ethics-science-and-technology/comest>

<sup>2</sup> <https://standards.ieee.org/industry-connections/ec/autonomous-systems.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.coe.int/en/web/artificial-intelligence/cahai>

- Human Rights and Technology, final report<sup>4</sup>, Australian Human Rights Commission;
- University initiatives and academic research (Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, Benguerir, Morocco; Ibn Tofail University, Kenitra, Morocco; National Center for Scientific and Technical Research, Rabat, Morocco; George Washington University, Washington, USA; International University in Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland; Harvard University, Cambridge, USA; Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; University of Technology Sydney, Sydney, Australia; National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania).

We recommend to the National Human Rights Council to:

- Continue its work in protecting human rights in the artificial intelligence environment;
- Expand the broad national consultations with stakeholders, in order to propose guiding principles regulating the development of artificial intelligence for the respect of human rights;
- Share its findings and recommendations with its partners and public opinion at the regional and international levels.

Welcoming the National Human Rights Council's commitment to organize an international colloquium, in Morocco, in July 2022, we hereby declare the constitution of a scientific committee to advise in the implementation of the above recommendations.

**Composition of the scientific committee:**

Chairperson :

- Amina Bouayach, Chairperson of the National Human Rights Council ;

Members :

- Peter-Paul Verbeek, Chairperson of the UNESCO World Commission for the Ethics of Science and Technology (COMEST), Professor at Twente University, The Netherlands;
- John C. Havens, Executive Director of the IEEE Global Initiative on Ethics of Autonomous and Intelligent Systems, Member of the World Economic Forum Global Future Council on Human Rights and Technology, USA;
- Azzeddine El Midaoui, President of Ibn Tofail University, Morocco;
- Elizabeth D. Gibbons, Chairperson of the Sustainable Development Committee, IEEE Ethically Aligned Design, Senior Fellow and Director of the Child Protection Certificate Program at Harvard University, USA;
- Jamila El Alami, Director of the National Center for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST), Professor, Morocco;
- Sidi Mohammed Drissi Melyani, Director General of the Digital Development Agency (ADD), Morocco;
- Leila Hanafi, Professor at George Washington University, USA;
- Workineh Kelbessa, Professor of Philosophy, former member of COMEST/UNESCO (2012-2019), Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia;
- Narjis Hilale, Professor at the International University in Geneva, Author, Member of Morocco's Special Commission on the Development Model, Switzerland;
- Emmanuel Goffi, co-Founder and co-Director at the Global AI Ethics Institute, Philosopher and ethicist, France;

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<sup>4</sup> <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/rights-and-freedoms/publications/human-rights-and-technology-final-report-2021>

- Edward Santow, Industry and Responsible Technology Professor at the University of Technology Sydney, Former Australia's Human Rights Commissioner, Australia
- Alina Bârgăoanu, Professor, Dean of the College of Communication and Public Relations, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Romania
- Younes Alami, Vice-President of the National Federation of Electricity, Electronics and Renewable Energies FENELEC, Morocco ;
- Mohamed Douyeb, President of the Digital Act Collective (NGO), Morocco;
- Mohammed Rhachi, President of Mohammed V University, Morocco;
- Bouchta Moumni, President of Abdelmalek Essaadi University, Morocco;