Country: Australia

Topic: Developing International Legal Frameworks For The Use Of Artificial Intelligence

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Committee: Legal

Australia is an island country and continent located between the Indian and the Pacific Oceans. Australia's population is currently around 26 million. Australia’s history spans over 65,000 years. British colonization began in 1788, leading to the creation of penal colonies. Australia became a nation in 1901 and gained full independence from Britain by 1986. Today, it’s a multicultural country with global influence.

Australia and AI laws are connected through several existing and proposed legal frameworks, aimed at regulating the use of artificial intelligence. In Australia, AI is mostly used for beneficial purposes. For example, healthcare, education, security and finance. To ensure safety, there’s face recognition features. There are security cameras placed almost everywhere. Imagine there’s a criminal on the loose, the government authorities can track the criminal down from the security cameras and the face recognition feature. Although, people are complaining about privacy issues. The use of AI in surveillance and data analysis has raised concerns about privacy violations. Another problem is cyberbullying. This may cause mental effects on the people involved in the argument. AI can be used to develop hacking tools, potentially harming individuals and organizations. Some fear that rapid advancements in AI without proper regulation could lead to misuse, either intentionally or unintentionally.

Due to these complaints, The Government of Australia has made an important decision.

The Australian government continues to undertake consultative processes into reforms required to laws to regulate AI technologies,13 March 2024, the European parliament approved the AI Act. The new laws prohibit certain AI systems which are considered as contravening the values of the European Union and violating the fundamental rights of its citizens.The Australian Government came up with laws against misuse of AI. Such as, The Australian Competition and Consumer Laws, Corporations Laws, Data Protection and Privacy Laws and Online Safety Laws.

The UN can develop a universal AI framework, similar to Australia’s approach, that ensures AI is used responsibly while protecting human rights, such as privacy and safety. Countries can work together under UN guidance to study AI’s risks and benefits. This will help share knowledge and best practices globally. It would be so much better if the UN promoted safeguards for people who are most affected by AI misuse, such as those facing cyberbullying or biased algorithms. The UN could create treaties or agreements, like the European Union's AI Act, that ban harmful uses of AI, such as mass surveillance or hacking tools.

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