

Our Mission and Deliverables

Who We Are

[The IEEE Global Initiative for Ethical Considerations in Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems](#) (“The IEEE Global Initiative”) is a program of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Incorporated (“IEEE”), the world’s largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity with over 400,000 members in more than 160 countries.

The IEEE Global Initiative provides the opportunity to bring together [multiple voices in the Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems communities](#) to identify and find consensus on timely issues.

The Initiative contributes to a broader effort being launched at IEEE to foster open, broad and inclusive conversation about ethics in technology, known as the [IEEE TechEthics™](#) program.

What We Believe

To fully benefit from the potential of Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems (AI/AS), we need to go beyond perception and beyond the search for more computational power or solving capabilities.

We need to make sure that these technologies are aligned to humans in terms of our moral values and ethical principles. AI/AS have to behave in a way that is beneficial to people beyond reaching functional goals and addressing technical problems. This will allow for an elevated level of trust between humans and our technology that is needed for a fruitful pervasive use of AI/AS in our daily lives.

Eudaimonia, as elucidated by Aristotle, is a practice that defines human wellbeing as the highest virtue for a society. Translated roughly as “flourishing,” the benefits of eudaimonia begin by conscious contemplation, where ethical considerations help us define how we wish to live.

By aligning the creation of AI/AS with the values of its users and society we can prioritize the increase of human wellbeing as our metric for progress in the algorithmic age.

The Mission of The Initiative

To ensure every technologist is *educated, trained, and empowered* to prioritize ethical considerations in the design and development of autonomous and intelligent systems.

By “technologist”, we mean anyone involved in the research, design, manufacture or messaging around AI/AS including universities, organizations, and corporations making these technologies a reality for society.

The Output of The Initiative

This document represents the collective input of over one hundred global thought leaders in the fields of Artificial Intelligence, law and ethics, philosophy, and policy from the realms of academia, science, and the government and corporate sectors.

Our goal is that *Ethically Aligned Design* will provide insights and recommendations from these peers that provide a key reference for the work of AI/AS technologists in the coming years. To achieve this goal, in the current version of *Ethically Aligned Design* (EAD v1), we identify Issues and Candidate Recommendations in fields comprising Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems.

IEEE has also made *Ethically Aligned Design* (EAD) available under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial 3.0 United States License so any organization can begin to benefit from its collective wisdom right away.

A second goal of The IEEE Global Initiative is to provide recommendations for IEEE Standards based on *Ethically Aligned Design*. [IEEE P7000™ – Model Process for Addressing Ethical Concerns During System Design](#) was the first IEEE Standard Project (approved and in development) inspired by The Initiative. Two further Standards Projects, IEEE P7001™ – Transparency of Autonomous Systems and IEEE P7002™ – Data Privacy Process, have been approved, demonstrating The IEEE Global Initiative’s pragmatic influence on issues of AI/AS ethics.

Writing an Article?

You can [get in touch with our PR team here](#) and thanks for the interest.

Want to get involved?

[Drop us a line](#) and let us know.