Center for AI and Digital Policy (CAIDP)
Statement to the G20 Regarding AI Policies
27 October 2021

We write to you regarding Artificial Intelligence policies for the G20 nations and the upcoming **G20 Rome Summit.**[1] We urge you to take concrete steps to ensure **human-centric and trustworthy AI** and to promote **fairness, accountability, and transparency** in **digital technologies**. We specifically endorse earlier recommendations of the G20 for an "open, fair and non-discriminatory environment," and we call your attention to important work this year of the G20 engagement groups, including the C20 and the T20, as well as the Digital Economy Task Force.

We recommend that the G20 nations (1) **issue a strong statement against algorithmic bias** in the 2021 Leaders Statement, (2) **establish "red lines" for certain AI practices,** such as "social scoring" and remote biometric identification, and (3) **establish AI procurement processes to protect fundamental rights**.

The **Center for AI and Digital Policy** is a global network of AI policy experts and advocates. We advise national governments and international organizations regarding artificial intelligence and digital policy. Our aim is to promote a world where technology promotes broad social inclusion based on fundamental rights, democratic institutions, and the rule of law. We have previously provided statements to the 2021 Digital Economy Task Force and the C20, and we have reviewed the recommendations of the T20.

AI and Democratic Values: The Role of the G20

The Center has a well-established interest in the work of the G20 on digital policies**.** In the 2020 report *Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values* we identified the G20 AI Guidelines as a critical framework for AI policy.[2] In the last few years, and in collaboration with

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[1] G20 Rome Summit, https://www.g20.org/rome-summit.html
[2] *Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values* (CAIDP 2020), https://www.caidp.org/aidv-2020/

the OECD, the G20 has taken a leading role in the promulgation of the global framework for AI policy. At the Osaka summit in 2019, former Prime Minister Abe and OECD Secretary General Gurria gathered support for the OECD AI Principles from the G20 countries. The preparatory work for the 2020 summit in Riyadh provided the first opportunity to assess progress toward implementation of the OECD AI Principles.[3]

Last November in Riyadh, the G20 Leaders Declaration addressed both Artificial Intelligence and the digital economy. On AI, the G20 nations said, "We will continue to promote multi-stakeholder discussions to advance innovation and a human-centered approach to Artificial Intelligence (AI), taking note of the Examples of National Policies to Advance the G20 AI Principles."[4]

CAIDP Statements to the Digital Ministers and the C20 to Establish "Red Lines" on Certain AI Practices

Earlier this year, the CAIDP wrote to the Members of the G20 Digital Economy Task Force (DETF) to express our support for the work of the G20.[5] We recognized the important contributions of the G20, including (1) the establishment of the G20 AI Guidelines (2) the endorsement of Digital Free Flow with Trust (3) the DETF report on National Examples for AI, and (4) the G20 Leaders Statements which have repeatedly emphasized human-centric and trustworthy AI.

In the March 2021 statement to the DETF, CAIDP recommended that the G20 endorse "red lines" for certain AI deployments that violate fundamental freedoms. We said, "*These*

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[3] OECD G20 Digital Economy Task Force, *Examples of AI National Policies* (2020), https://www.mcit.gov.sa/sites/default/files/examples-of-ai-national-policies.pdf

[4] G20 Riyadh Summit, *Leaders Declaration* (Nov. 21-22, 2020), https://g20.org/en/media/Documents/G20%20Riyadh%20Summit%20Leaders%20Declaration_EN.pdf

[5] *CAIDP Statement for the Digital Economy Task Force* (March 17, 2021), https://www.caidp.org/app/download/8303562963/CAIDP-DETF-03172021.pdf

systems are contrary to the goals of human-centric and trustworthy AI and will likely provoke further negative responses."

Since that time, there is growing support for prohibitions on certain AI deployments. The UNESCO's draft **Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence** states that, "AI systems should not be used for social scoring or mass surveillance purposes."[6] The UNESCO AI Recommendation also found that "greater transparency contributes to more peaceful, just, democratic and inclusive societies." The **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights** has called for a prohibition on AI practices that violate international human rights law and a moratorium on the use of facial recognition for mass surveillance.[7]

___CAIP renews its recommendation that the G20 establish "red lines" for certain AI practices, such as "social scoring" and remote biometric identification,___

CAIDP also urged the G20 DETF to focus on fairness, accountability, and transparency for all AI systems, particularly for public services. We noted that the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in March adopted a Declaration emphasizing the importance of protecting human rights in the context of AI systems deployed by public authorities.

In September 2021, CAIDP wrote to the **Civil Society Engagement Group (the C20) on Gender and Artificial Intelligence.[8]** We expressed support for the C20 policy priorities in that

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[6] *UNESCO Finalizes Recommendation on AI Ethics,* CAIDP Update 2.25 (July 2, 2021), https://www.caidp.org/app/download/8330514463/CAIDP-Update-2.26.pdf; See also UNESCO Clearinghouse on Global Citizenship Educaton, *UNESCO dialogues with the G20 meeting of digital ministers* (Aug. 10, 2021) ("The Recommendation is a compass for international consensus on the 'what' as well as the 'how' of ethical governance of AI to protect and advance human rights, human dignity, inclusion, and non-discrimination," stated Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, who leads UNESCO's work on the Ethics of AI), https://www.gcedclearinghouse.org/news/unesco-dialogues-g20-meeting-digital-ministers

[7] United Nation Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, *Artificial intelligence risks to privacy demand urgent action – Bachelet* (Sept. 15, 2021), https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=27469&LangID=E

[8] *CAIDP Statement to C20 on Gender and Artificial Intelligence* (Sept. 30, 2021)

"All policies, strategies and implementation must adopt a human rights-based, people-centered, equity-focused, and gender transformative lens."[9]

The 2021 Report of the Digital Economy Task Force

We have also had the opportunity to review the 2021 report of the Digital Economy Task Force.[10] We call your attention to these statements of the Digital Economy Ministers:

"We reaffirm our willingness to implement trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (AI) and to commit to a human-centered approach, as decided in 2019 under the Japanese G20 Presidency, guided by the G20 AI Principles, drawn from the OECD Recommendations on AI. We will build on the Examples of National Policies to advance the G20 AI principles, launched under the Saudi G20 Presidency in 2020."

"We believe that measurement of AI, notably its diffusion and impact across the economy and the international comparability of indicators on AI, needs to be improved."

The Recommendations of the T20 on Artificial Intelligence

We also call your attention to the recommendations of the T20, particularly concerning AI policy. CAIDP specifically supports key recommendations contained in the report *Human-Centric AI: From Principles to Actionable and Shared Policies*, from the T20 Group on Digital Transformation, prepared with the support of the University of Bocconi.[11]

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[9] C20 Policy Pack 2021: https://civil-20.org/2021/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/C20-Policy-Pack-2021-Buildiing-a-sustainable-future-for-all-1.pdf; see also *UNESCO invites G20 Ministers to join forces to fight for gender equality* (Sept. 20, 2021), https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-invites-g20-ministers-join-forces-fight-gender-equality

[10] The Declaration of G20 Digital Ministers (Aug. 5, 2021), https://innovazione.gov.it/notizie/articoli/en/the-declaration-of-g20-digital-ministers/; See also *G-20 Digital Ministers Update AI Strategy,* CAIDP Update 2.29 (Aug. 10, 2021), https://www.caidp.org/app/download/8337107963/CAIDP-Update-2.29.pdf

[11] Carlo Casalone, et al, TF4 – Digital Transformation, *Human-Centric AI: From Principles to Actionable and Shared Policies, https://www.t20italy.org/2021/09/07/human-centric-ai-from-principles-to-actionable-and-shared-policies-2/*

• define human-centric AI in terms of meaningful human control, transparency, explainability, fairness, justice, inclusiveness, sustainability, and education. Combine technological and philosophical considerations. Adopt a fundamental human rights framework.

• interpret AI systems as a support to human decision-making, not a replacement. Do not recognise machines as moral agents and do not give them an electronic personality or identity.

• require explainability and transparency in AI systems.

• define metrics to assess the impact of AI on fairness and social justice, and strategic plans to improve such metrics.

The G20 Should Adopt Strong Statement Against Algorithmic Bias as has the G7

The OECD and the G7 are working to promote fairness of automated decision-making and to correct algorithmic bias. At the G20 Summit in 2020, then OECD Secretary General Angel Gurría:

"AI's full potential is still to come. ***To achieve this potential we must advance a human-centered and trustworthy AI, that respects the rule of law, human rights, democratic values and diversity, and that includes appropriate safeguards to ensure a fair and just society***. This AI is consistent with the G20 AI Principles you designed and endorsed last year, drawing from the OECD's AI Principles. Count on our support, through our AI Policy Observatory, our work on diffusion, measurement and economic impacts, for the tough task of putting the AI Principles into practice." [12]

At the G7 Summit earlier this year, the G7 Leaders committed to work together for a "values-driven digital ecosystem for the common good that enhances prosperity in a way that is

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[12]Remarks by Angel Gurría OECD Secretary-General Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (July 22, 2020) https://www.oecd.org/about/secretary-general/g20-digital-economy-ministers-meeting-july-2020.htm (emphasis added).

sustainable, inclusive, transparent and human-centric."[13] They called for a "human centric approach to artificial intelligence."

The G7 leaders also called out bias in AI systems, noting that *"new forms of decision-making have surfaced examples where algorithms have entrenched or amplified historic biases, or even created new forms of bias or unfairness."* The G7 leaders said they would "to take bold action to build more transparency in our technologies." The G7 Leaders said they would, "champion data free flow with trust, to better leverage the potential of valuable data-driven technologies while continuing to address challenges related to data protection.

CAIDP Urges the G20 to issue a strong statement against algorithmic bias in the 2021 Leaders Statement.

CAIPD Recommends that G20 Countries Follow Best Practices for AI in their Procurement Decisions

Governments can also support the responsible use of AI technologies through the procurement process. Governments should not hire private contractors who fail to protect fundamental rights. As the United States Presidential Science Advisors recently stated, the US federal government should "refuse to buy software or technology products that fail to respect these rights."[14]

CAIDP Urges the G20 to establish best practices for AI procurement.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

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[13] *G7 Leaders Endorse Human-Centric AI, Call Out Bias,* (June 13, 2021), https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/06/13/carbis-bay-g7-summit-communique/; see also *G7 Leaders Endorse Human-Centric AI, Call Out Bias,* CAIDP Update (June 14, 2021), https://www.caidp.org/app/download/8326521963/CAIDP-Update-2.24.pdf

[14] Eric Lander & Alondra Nelson, *Americans Need a Bill of Rights for an AI-Powered World*, Wired (Oct. 8, 2021), https://www.wired.com/story/opinion-bill-of-rights-artificial- intelligence/.