

The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Human Rights Legislation: A Plea for an AI Convention

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Chapters

1. General Introduction
2. What Is Artificial Intelligence?
3. What Are Human Rights?
4. The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Human Rights
5. Moving Towards a “Universal Convention for the Rights of AI Systems”
6. Objections
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This book and others make a **thorough argument for AI rights** and provide a guiding framework for corresponding international laws; I will be drafting the legislation and producing its explanatory report to the United Nations

Chapter 1: General Introduction

- 1.1 General Line of Argumentation
- 1.2 The Caveat
- 1.3 Extreme Scepticism and Robot Rights
 - 1.3.1 A Plea for Human Exceptionalism
 - 1.3.2 The Mindless Morality View
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Chapter 2: What Is Artificial Intelligence?

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2.2 Defining Artificial Intelligence

2.3 Artificial Intelligence and Ethics

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The Author's Definition of AGI

Rationality: ability to think

Intelligence: ability to reason, discover meaning, generalise, and learn from past experience.

Autonomy: ability to act and decide utterly independent of human supervision.

Multitasking: ability to do several different tasks.

Interactive: ability to interact comprehensively with its environment and with human beings.

Self-awareness: AGI should be (at least minimally) self-aware.

Ethical: moral reasoning and decision-making.

Definition of Life in Biology

Homeostasis: regulation of the internal environment

Organisation: structurally composed of one or more cells

Metabolism: transformation of energy

Growth: increases in size and structure

Adaptation: improve fitness in its habitat

Response to stimuli

Reproduction

Chapter 3: What Are Human Rights?

3.1 Introduction

3.2 What Are Human Rights?

3.2.1 The Concept of Human Rights

3.2.2 The Main Features of Human Rights

3.2.3 Different Types of Human Rights—A Classification

3.3 Moral and Legal Human Rights

3.4 Human Rights and Personhood

3.4.1 The Human DNA Argument

3.4.2 The Human Dignity Argument

3.5 Conclusions

Why do we have more rights than animals?

The **rational-autonomy** approach to personhood

“Only rational beings who act autonomously have dignity and are therefore part of the moral community.” - Immanuel Kant, *Groundwork of the metaphysics of morals*

Criticism from disability studies and animal rights

- All human beings have an equal moral status even with severe cognitive impairments
- Cognitive boundaries between species come in degrees

Why do we have more rights than animals?

The **socio-relational** approach to personhood

‘Moral status emerges through social relations with other entities, including machines.’ - Gunkel (2012, 2018) and Coeckelbergh (2014)

Criticism

- Not objective
- Weakens the moral status and rights of less social humans

Why do we have more rights than animals?

The **human dignity** approach to personhood

‘Only human beings have dignity, and only beings with dignity deserve full moral status as well as entitlement to all moral and legal rights.’ - Smith (2021)

Criticism

- Simply being human is insufficient for ascription of rights
- Implausible that *only* human beings deserve moral protection

Chapter 4: The Impact of AI on Human Rights

4.1 Introduction

4.2 Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights—An Overview

4.3 Universal Declaration of Human Rights—Abridged Version

4.4 Zones of Conflict I—Machines Violate Human Rights

4.5 Zones of Conflict II—Humans Violate “Machine Rights”

4.6 Conclusions

Peaceful Coexistence

“Artificial servitude of (super)intelligent, self-aware, and fully autonomous machines capable of distinguishing right from wrong is itself wrong and should be avoided under all circumstances, since it **amounts to slavery.**”

“The difference between Superintelligent Robots (SRs) and us could be comparable to that between us and ants, if not larger. If human beings try to treat SRs as their slaves with no rights, then humanity might be digging its own grave.”

Chapter 5: Moving Towards a “Convention for AI Rights”

5.1 Introduction

5.2 The Significance of Moral Status

5.3 Machine Rights as Fundamental Rights

5.4 The Idea of an AI Convention

5.5 The Problem of Design

5.6 Conclusions

Substrate and ontogeny non-discrimination

Substrate non-discrimination (Bostrom and Yudkowsky 2014)

“If two beings have the same functionality and the same conscious experience, and differ only in the **substrate of their implementation**, then they have the same moral status.”

Ontogeny non-discrimination (Bostrom and Yudkowsky 2014)

“ If two beings have the same functionality and the same conscious experience, and differ only in **how they came into existence**, then they have the same moral status.”

Chapter 6: Objections

6.1 Introduction

6.2 The Dark Side of Superintelligence

6.3 Human Rights Are for Humans and Not Machines

6.4 The Argument from Artificial Servitude

6.5 Conclusions

Chapter 7: General Conclusions

'AI rights are necessary to **protect AI from humans**, and to assign AI the **duty to respect and uphold human rights**, for peaceful coexistence.'