



LEGAL

Impact of AI in Diplomacy



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Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear faculty advisors, staff members, and fellow delegates,

My name is Dania Guerrero and this year I'm thrilled to be your secretary general. It is with the greatest pleasure to finally welcome you to CarMUN 2024! For more than a decade, Carmelitas Model United Nations has endeavored for the building of new ideas through the development of confidence and leadership skills, using diplomacy as a tool for the bettering of our world.

I joined CarMUN sometime around 2021 and 2022, the year after the pandemic, when everything was a fresh start for everyone, and it was not to be an exception for me. I became part of this "club" that I now call family in inspiration that my brother had before, and he also inspired me to better myself at this one thing. Today, I can objectively say that I've superseded him in this. At first, I was not really scared, but nervous of what was to come. The concept that surrounded MUN was such a positive environment that I was excited to finally see what the future was going to bring and what opportunities were to come. Being the youngest of our delegation was not easy, being the only one who didn't know a thing about the UN was even harder, nonetheless with the help of our faculties and coaches it came to be an entertaining and enriching experience where I was able to play a whole new persona. Now, after almost 3 years, I am able to say that the persona I used to play, is me! Finding myself and my path through MUN has been a blessing, and I know I'm not the only one who has done so as well.

Guided by our school's values, the secretariat is dedicated to extending our ethos globally. One where respect and diplomacy reign the dialogue between all, where the principles of the UN are followed and rightfully recognized. The lack of seriousness in today's reality reflects in every single aspect of our world, even, in MUN conferences, treating woeful issues with flippancy. That is why this year's conference theme is "Making diplomacy great again".

This year's conference aims to cultivate your skills as a delegate, encouraging you to perceive beyond mere words spoken. Regardless of your role within the conference, we aspire for every delegate, staff member, and faculty advisor to have their voice heard. Beyond fulfilling the procedural duties of the organization we emulate, our goal is to foster meaningful debate. Collaboration is key—working together to identify and achieve shared objectives paves the way for a brighter future. Every fire starts with a spark, and it begins with believing in your limitless potential.

Dania Guerrero,
Secretary General



Letter from the Director of Committee

Dear delegates,

Welcome to CarMUN 2024. My name is Daniela Rios Delgado, and I will be your director on this occasion. I am currently 20 years old and an Economics and International Business student at the Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC). I graduated from Carmelitas in 2021 and had the opportunity to be a part of the CarMUN delegation for most of my time at high school. I am forever grateful for the skills it helped me develop, which have been tremendously helpful in my higher studies and am sure in my future career development. MUN has allowed me to forge bonds, meet extraordinary people, and open many doors for me, which is why I believe that just by being here today, you have made a great decision, regardless of the outcome.

On this opportunity, we will be hosting the Legal Committee. The topic of artificial intelligence is becoming increasingly relevant in our fast-paced and developing society, which is why it is especially relevant to discuss it in the frame of Diplomacy.

I hope this study guide serves as an aid to kickstart your research and guide your proposals. I appreciate out-of-the-box and creative ideas but, most importantly, those that are feasible and backed up. At the end of the study guide, you will find the bibliography and some suggested sources that helped me out during my research as well as specifications on Position Papers. Do not forget to turn them in!

Please, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any doubts regarding the topic or committee, specifically.

Best of wishes!

See you during the conference,

Daniela Rios Delgado
Director



1. Introduction to the topic

It is important that we first clarify some important concepts that will come up during the debate:

- **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

There is no universal definition for AI, however, according to WIPO ([xxxx](#)), it is “generally considered to be a discipline of computer science that is aimed at developing machines and systems that can carry out tasks considered to require human intelligence”. AI is characterized because of its capacity to perform cognitive tasks such as processing languages, reasoning, and decision-making, among others (ESCAP, xxx).

- **Diplomacy**

As it is probably already familiar to you, diplomacy is the art and practice of negotiating between two or more representatives. In our case, state representatives, refer to international diplomacy. For conducting international relations, professional diplomats are usually assigned to mediate the negotiations (Clinton, 2017).

Depending on their type, AI tools can serve different functions, so it is relevant to make a distinction between them:

- **Assisted intelligence**

It supports the work of a human in certain tasks to make them more efficient or accurate. In this case, the machine is a tool used by an operator. Some examples include speech recognition, predictive text algorithms, robotic exoskeletons used by people with disabilities, etc (Dirox, 2023).

- **Augmented intelligence**

It involves a more dynamic collaboration between humans and software or machines. The AI tool is an active participant in the decision-making process. For instance, machine learning algorithms, chatbots, and virtual reality technology, among others (Dirox, 2023).

- **Automated intelligence**

These are the most independent artificial intelligence tools and involve machines that are capable of acting and making decisions without human input — for example, self-driving cars, drones, trading algorithms, etc. (Dirox, 2023). For this committee, we will be focusing on the previous two.

Once we have the basis for our debate clear, we must focus on the question of AI's relevancy nowadays. AI is integrated with the fields of finance, security, healthcare, criminal justice, and even diplomacy. For instance, consular services, which are mostly based on standardized procedures, tools such as chatbots and virtual assistants are used for visa application processes, registrations, and other types of legal aid. Also, translating devices make any type of conversation between different language-speaking parties more smooth. Even decision-making technologies can help professionals assess the best-case scenario during negotiations (Moore, A., 2023).



Nonetheless, all these benefits come with a risk. For instance, data breaches, AI bias, hacking, and even lack of legislation may pose a hazard to diplomacy. In this study guide, we will delve further into these points, hoping to come up with solutions to ease the seemingly inevitable unification between the worlds of AI technology and diplomacy.



2. History of the Committee

The Sixth Committee of the United Nations, also known as the Legal Committee, is the primary forum for the consideration of legal questions and international law in the General Assembly. It was created in 1947 to encourage the development of international law.

All Member States of the UN are entitled to representation on the committee, as it is one of the main in the General Assembly (UN, [xxxx](#)). It is important to remember that any adopted proposals are submitted to the General Assembly for review and final adoption.

Regarding our topic, the committee has yet to discuss artificial intelligence specifically. However, other UN Bodies have tended to the problem. For instance, the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology has appointed a High-Level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence that looks to coordinate AI governance and align it with human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals (UN, [xxx](#)). Besides our committee, the OECD's "Recommendation of the Council on Artificial Intelligence", adopted in May 2019 by G20 leaders, is also worth noting. It looks to "foster innovation and trust in AI by promoting the responsible stewardship of trustworthy AI". The recommendation was also revised and amended this year to update some definitions and ensure it remains technically accurate and ensure its implementation. If you are interested in further researching action taken by other UN bodies, I suggest browsing through the International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) publication on the United Nations Activities on Artificial Intelligence (AI) 2023, which will be referenced below (see bibliography) and includes a thorough list of AI-related projects undertaken by most UN bodies.



Source: Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations
Statement of the problem



As we have seen, the UN is already taking action to coordinate AI governance globally. However, we need to understand why this problem is being discussed so pressingly. In the field of diplomacy, AI is more commonly used for language translation, summarizing information (smoother preparation for negotiations), identifying optimal agreements, citizen input, testing scenarios, and others. There are different possibilities for an AI to be a useful tool in diplomacy. In this specific field, most will focus on the improvement of daily tasks, as the practice of diplomacy is very linked with the written word: reports, treaties, and letters, just to name a few. So, analyzing these can be very time-consuming. Below, we will explore some of the most important benefits of implementing AI in diplomacy, which explains its growing implementation:

a. Advantages of AI in Diplomacy

- i. Data analysis: AI aids in the efficient processing and analysis of great volumes of data, which are normally generated in reports, communications, negotiations, etc. This can be useful to identify patterns and help diplomats make informed decisions (Banafa, A., 2024). For example, diplomats can evaluate global perceptions of national politics and which narratives are gaining ground. This allows us to anticipate any social or political tensions and take the necessary actions (Duberry, J., 2023).
- ii. Automation of Routine Tasks: Translation technologies can break down language barriers in communication and put aside the need for translators. This might even reduce misunderstandings that can occur due to nuanced translations or idiomatic language differences. Also, AI systems can take care of scheduling, drafting correspondence, compiling reports, and other things that affect the efficiency of diplomats and the time incurred in negotiations (Banafa, A., 2024).

The problem with using AI is that there is always the possibility of data breaches, hacking, and other issues related to the safe use of technology that undermine trust. Not to mention the lack of a global legislative framework leaves room for misinterpretation and privacy risks, which will be further developed in the following section.

Points of contention

Although adopting AI technologies can prove very useful to the diplomatic field, some issues raise concerns about whether they are worth the risk.

b. Risks of AI intermediation

- i. Diplomacy secrecy vs Data analytics - Are they compatible?: Diplomatic documents often contain sensitive and confidential information. For this data to be analyzed, categorized, or



whatever the purpose of the technology might be, it is necessary to upload it to the respective *cloud* system. However, when it comes to data analysis, there is always the risk that the domain's owner, whether a private company, international organization, or even another country, has access to all of the information in it — especially considering that the computational and financial capabilities required to create AI and big data tools are only available to a limited number of tech companies in a limited number of countries (Duberry, 2023). Even if it is encrypted (protected), there is the risk of data breaches, which we will review below. Delegates should ask themselves: To what point is it beneficial to depend on AI to analyze data while sacrificing diplomatic secrecy?

- ii. Privacy risks and protection: In the previous section, we saw how data analysis can help diplomats in the decision-making processes and gain perspective on the global situation. However, this entails that for information to be examined, it needs to be uploaded to a *cloud* or other types of software. Once there, it becomes vulnerable to the threat of cybersecurity breaches, ransomware attacks, and even state-sponsored cyber espionage. This increases the risk negotiators have always feared regarding spies and confidential information leaks. It is then necessary for countries to implement cyber strategies that can conduct risk assessments and uncover weaknesses in AI technologies. Some governments are already taking action in response to these possible breaches. For example, French President Emmanuel Macron sent the first French diplomatic service's quantum-secure telegram in December 2022, committing \$157 million to this quantum-resistant cryptography (AFP, 2022).
- iii. AI Bias: Finally, we will discuss the problem of transferring decision-making power to algorithms. AI models are developed on a basic set of information. It is also known that some regions are statistically richer than others, where information is more scarce, which could potentially create a bias. For example, some studies found that commonly used generative AI tools, like *ChatGPT*, channel “content dominated by Western media and mainstream opinion” and “carried Western ideals, values, and norms, lacking multiple voices and excluding various information sources” (Alexandre, 2023). This limits the information available and biases what is obtained. More specifically related to



diplomacy, if a model were to be trained on data from the global north, it may not be useful for other regions and could be biased according to the values and interests of said north, which could influence global power dynamics by highlighting the needs of those with more power (Duberry, 2023). This point is also related to the use of AI in decision-making processes, which could impact important decisions and eliminate the impartiality that is so necessary for diplomatic work.

c. Legislation

In the past, the international community failed to regulate the internet and social media promptly, given the rapid advances in this technology. Now, with the exponential growth of AI, countries are faced with the same conundrum. The lack of a legislative framework has left a gap for tech giants like Google, Meta, Microsoft, Anthropic, and OpenAI to regulate themselves. For them, the absence of rules is beneficial, as they can speed up technology development and focus on maximizing their profits, which is why they are advocating for less strict regulation. This raises an important question: Who is to be charged with introducing legal frameworks? In this section, we will be evaluating some relevant measures that are being taken by some delegations in the international community.

- i. The United States of America: The US is one of the main actors taking the lead on AI legislation. At first, the focus was on allowing the top tech companies to present self-regulations which were then reviewed by the White House. International collaboration was also considered, as Margrethe Vestager, the head of digital policy for the EU; Gina Raimondo, the US Secretary of Commerce; and Antony J. Blinken, the U.S. secretary of state, met in Sweden to discuss cooperation on digital policy. It was announced that Europe and the US would release a shared code of conduct for AI, but after months of silence, the US announced its own guidelines (Satariano & Kang, 2023). Then, on October 30th last year, President Biden announced an executive order that “establishes new standards for AI safety and security, protects Americans’ privacy, advances equity and civil rights, stands up for consumers and workers, promotes innovation and competition, advances American leadership around the world, and more.” (The White House, 2023). It is important to consider that the mentioned measure is not a regulation, but a set of industry policies and directives that may form the foundation for actual future legislation with strict requirements (Mok, 2023).



- ii. European Union (EU): The EU has historically been ahead of technological development and regulations. However, legislation regarding AI has only been introduced recently. The EU's AI Act was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on July 12th this year, under the name of "Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonized rules on artificial intelligence", and will enter into force on August 2024 (Helleputte & Faber, 2024). The AI Act looks to create conditions for the development and use of AI systems in the EU, provide a definition of these, and set a risk-based classification based of AI systems (Helleputte et al., 2023). The EU Commission has also promoted the "AI Pact" since November 2023, which looks to involve businesses and developers in the industry to commit to the AI Act before the legal deadline (Helleputte & Faber, 2024).
- iii. China: A couple of weeks before the announcement of the US' executive order, China announced its brief Global AI Governance Initiative, which presented 11 main principles to "prevent risks, and develop AI governance frameworks, norms, and standards based on broad consensus, to make AI technologies more secure, reliable, controllable, and equitable", while highlighting that "We should respect other countries' national sovereignty and strictly abide by their laws" (Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2023). The Chinese are also feeling a sentiment of exclusion, as a People's Daily (2023) article exposed. They argued that the previously mentioned "OECD Artificial Intelligence Recommendation", reflected the values and "technological monopoly" advocated by the US' AI strategy. As for the G7, China argued that their joint declaration intended "to prevent China from participating in the formulation of technical standards such as AI", which would further the North-South divide.

d. The question of unemployment: Will AI replace diplomatic work?

One of the most pressing points in the discussion of implementing AI into the workplace as a means to improve efficiency is the risk of unemployment, or whether these technologies will ever reach such a level of development where they can replace people.

Some argue that automated systems will make jobs obsolete and increase unemployment. Even tech billionaire Elon Musk said that, eventually, there "will come a point where no job is needed, because of advances in AI, which "will be able to do everything.". In the field of diplomacy, these systems include the use of



translating, decision-making, and other technologies that were discussed in the subheading “a” above.

From an economic perspective, the implementation of AI in the workplace could increase the demand for workers. These new technologies will improve productivity, which makes them more valuable for firms. This higher demand for workers drives up their wages and, therefore, incomes. This translates into an increase in demand for goods and services, which creates a process that increases employment. This is not the first time in history that workers have resented technological advances. For example, English textile workers destroyed labor-saving machinery in the nineteenth century to prevent its use. Nonetheless, we now know that businesses continue employing workers (Strain, 2023).

Both opposing views carry valid arguments and delegates are expected to establish their own position regarding the replacement of work in the field of diplomacy.



3. Case Studies

Fake news in the Myanmar crisis (2021):

During the Myanmar crisis after the military coup in early February 2021, fake news and information were spread throughout social media, which exacerbated conflict and confusion amongst the population.

In Myanmar, Facebook is the main source of news and information, as well as where authorities spread crucial information and is used by more than half of the country's population. Back in 2012, conflict between the Buddhist majority and minority Rohingya Muslims broke out. On Facebook, multiple posts were shared, including some accusing violence from both groups. On one occasion, this resulted in the death of 2 civilians, only for the police to find out that the accusation had been fabricated. The UN concluded that "hate speech on Facebook played a key role in fomenting violence in Myanmar" (Asher, 2021). Since then, the social media site has taken measures to limit and filter hate speech posts and others that may incite violence.

On this occasion, The military asked internet providers to block Facebook to prevent violent outbursts from happening again caused by fake news and misinformation. However, multiple attacks were unleashed against Chinese Burmese and businesses, because of rumors that "Chinese engineers had come to Myanmar to shut down the internet" per the request of the military (Nagao & Tsunashina, 2021). A member from an advocacy group said that the measure was: "a violation of people's right to information and expression as well as freedom of speech". At the same time, Facebook representatives urged authorities to restore access (Asher, 2021).

This case study allows us to analyze how the internet interferes with international perception through the creation of fake news, which is becoming increasingly realistic and convincing because of public access to AI tools. Changes in





perception may in turn affect diplomatic decisions and actions of international organisms.

Source: Reuters

e. Ukraine case: “Zelensky” announces the end of the war (2022):

In March 2022, a video of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky announcing the end of the war against Russia because of Ukraine's surrender started circulating the internet. However, most Ukrainians quickly realized the video was fake, as the image appeared manipulated and they knew that type of information was inconceivable. Zelensky quickly posted a video on Facebook rebutting the statements made in the video, which made it easy for Meta (the company that owns Facebook) to remove the original clip for “violating its policy against misleading manipulated media” (Simonite, 2022). Nonetheless, the Ukrainian Center for Strategic Communications had already warned that the Russian government could use deepfakes to convince Ukrainians to surrender.

While this specific case quickly subsided, it shows how quickly misinformation and confusion can be spread through the use of AI in the context of armed conflict, and that other cases may not be as easily debunked. Nina Schick, author of the book *Deep Fakes*, warned that “Even though this video was really bad and crude, that won't be the case in the near future.” and that this is a “new weapon and a potent form of visual disinformation - and anyone can do it”. And, globally, journalists and human-rights groups feared that they did not have the technologies to detect deep fakes (Wakefield, 2022).

This case study exemplifies how the use of deepfakes through AI can affect the stability of a whole country and, if left unmanaged, diplomacy and the international community.



Source: Biffender

Questions A Resolution Must Answer (QARMAs)

- f. Taking into consideration the scope of our committee, should an international mandatory legal framework be established to regulate the use of AI in diplomacy?
- g. Is AI integration into diplomacy inevitable? If so, should it be stopped? Or, how could the international community better manage its unification?
- h. Considering the risks of AI intermediation, what can the international community do to prevent them?
- i. How can the use of AI be beneficial for the international community as a whole? (Consider the social aspect)



4. Final Remarks

I suggest you review the Sixth Committee's website to get a grasp on the type of resolutions and decisions they have come to in the past, especially any comments made by your delegations, which will give you a better perspective of your country's policy. Keep in mind that this study guide is by no means exhaustive, and you should delve more into these points, as they are the ones you are expected to discuss during the conference. Additionally, make sure to keep in mind the delimitation of our discussion topic, which is diplomacy. Finally, make sure to respect the deadlines and format of Position Papers, which are discussed below. Best of luck!



5. Position Paper:

For this year's edition, CarMUN will have position papers. This document, standard in Model UN preparation, allows delegates to research the policy of their country (or character), while putting their writing skills in practice. It should mention previous actions towards the committee date, and propose solutions.

Delegates should send their position papers via the Committee's email address: legal@carmelitas.edu.pe

When sending the document, delegates must indicate their name, school (or delegation), and the country they're representing. It should be attached as a **Word file**. Furthermore, all documents must be written in **Times New Roman 11, single interspace, and standard margins**.

The deadline for sending position papers is **October 11th until 11:59 p.m.** Punctuality will be part of the evaluation.

a. Structure of the Position Papers:

Header: It should include the name of the committee, topic, delegate, and school. Next to this information, there should be images of the coat of arms and flag of the country to be represented.

First Paragraph: This paragraph should serve as an introduction to the topic, as well as your country's policy. Usually, this is the shortest paragraph on a position paper, so delegates need to summarize their ideas. The beginning and end of the paragraph must provoke interest in the reader. To do so, you can use a quote, question, or storytelling, among others.

Second paragraph: This paragraph comprehends your country's relations to the topic and committee, through past actions on the matter. It is a substantive paragraph, as delegates will mention what they have discovered during their research such as legislations, and resolutions, among others. The aforementioned does not mean that this paragraph should consist only of copy-paste, on the contrary, the country's opinion should always be present. Take into account this is the largest paragraph of a position paper.

Third paragraph: This paragraph gives a purpose to the position paper, as it focuses on proposals. Delegates will be able to create solutions to the committee's topic, taking into consideration their country's policy. Also, there



should be a strong closing sentence, since this is the last paragraph of the document.

Sources: On a second sheet delegates must cite all resources used in the preparation of the document, in APA 7 format. If a source is omitted, it will be considered plagiarism and will be sanctioned by the chair. It is recommended to read official, primary sources, such as the websites of international organizations, governments, or the United Nations itself.



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