

Facets of Ethical AI in Defence



RESPONSIBILITY

Who is responsible for AI?



GOVERNANCE

How is AI controlled?



TRUST

How can AI be trusted?



LAW

How can AI be used lawfully?



TRACEABILITY

How are the actions of AI recorded?



Australian Government
Department of Defence



TRUSTED
AUTONOMOUS
SYSTEMS
DEFENCE CRC



Download the report (DSTG-TR-3786)

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Australian Government
Department of Defence

A Method for Ethical AI in Defence



A Method for Ethical AI in Defence is a report to the Australian Department of Defence, with findings from its workshop assisting Defence stakeholders reduce ethical risk on AI projects.

Defending Australia and its National Interests
www.defence.gov.au



Capability advantages

There are many benefits to increasing artificial intelligence (AI) and autonomous systems capabilities in Defence, including improving performance, removing humans from high-threat environments, reducing capability costs and achieving asymmetric advantage.

The *A Method for Ethical AI in Defence* report emerges from a highly collaborative, evidence-based workshop with diverse attendees. The method is intended as a resource to assist Defence stakeholders reduce ethical risk on AI projects.

AI project managers can reduce ethical risk by asking questions about the AI they're developing, iterating, evaluating, implementing and/or adapting.

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3 tools for AI project managers and teams

1. Ethical AI for Defence Checklist

- A** Describe the military context in which the AI will be employed
- B** Explain the types of decisions supported by the AI
- C** Explain how the AI integrates with human operators to ensure effectiveness and ethical decision making in the anticipated context of use and countermeasures to protect against potential misuse
- D** Explain the framework/s to be used
- E** Employ subject matter experts to guide AI development
- F** Employ appropriate verification and validation techniques to reduce risk.

2. Ethical AI Risk Matrix

Create an Ethical AI Risk Matrix with detail for each project activity:

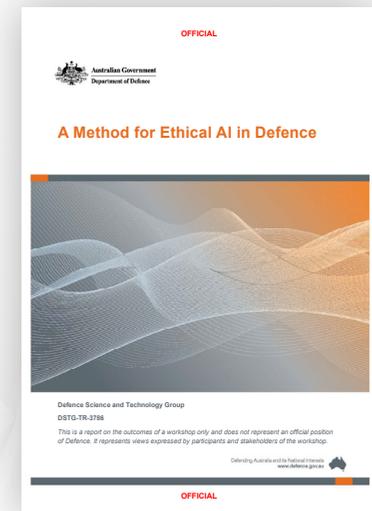
- Define the activity you are undertaking
- Indicate the ethical facet and topic the activity is intended to address
- Estimate the risk to the project objectives if issue is not addressed?
- Define specific actions you will undertake to support the activity
- Provide a timeline for the activity
- Define action and activity outcomes
- Identify the responsible party(ies)
- Provide the status of the activity.

3. Legal and Ethical Assurance Program Plan (LEAPP)

For AI programs where an ethical risk assessment is above a certain threshold, a more comprehensive legal and ethical program plan should be provided.

The Legal and Ethical Assurance Program Plan (LEAPP) describes a contractor's plan for assuring that software acquired under the contract meets the Commonwealth's legal and ethical assurance (LEA) requirements.

The LEAPP provides Defence with visibility into the contractor's legal and ethical planning, supports for progress and risk assessment and provides input into Defence internal planning, including weapons reviews under Article 36 of Additional Protocol 1.



Disclaimer: *A Method for Ethical AI in Defence* (DSTG-TR-3786) does not represent the views of the Australian Government.