**Artificial Intelligence Governance and Human Rights**

*Fall 2019 Study Group*

Carr Center for Human Rights Policy

Harvard University | John F. Kennedy School of Government

Convened and Moderated by Mark Latonero, PhD

**Description**

The last year has seen a surge of interest in AI and human rights. Governments have included human rights obligations in their AI strategies, the IEEE lists human rights as a first principle for ethical AI design, and tech companies have appealed to international human rights law in their AI policies. At the same time, tensions have emerged around AI ethics vs. human rights; the value of human rights for AI policy and practice; and the ability for emerging technologies to be governed. This study group will examine these developments through key readings and discussions. Participants will develop a deeper understanding of technology and human rights, the potential for rights-based policy solutions, and related challenges in the AI space.

Spots are limited. Please send your resume to along with a short paragraph of your academic or professional interest to Pradeepan Parthiban, Tech + Human Rights RA, at [pradeepan\_parthiban@hks.harvard.edu](mailto:pradeepan_parthiban@hks.harvard.edu) by **September 16th**. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis—earlier submissions will have a higher chance of acceptance. *If applying, please ensure your availability for the entirety of* ***all three session dates******and times*** *listed below.*

**Location/Time**

The study group will take place three times over the Fall 2019 semester on the following dates:

Session 1: October 1st WEX 102

Session 2: November 12th WEX 102

Session 3: December 3rd R-229

All sessions will take place from 11:45am to 1pm and lunch will be provided.

1. **Oct 1: What do human rights have to do with AI?**

Mark Latonero (2018). *Governing Artificial Intelligence: Upholding Human Rights & Dignity. Data & Society*. <https://datasociety.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/DataSociety_Governing_Artificial_Intelligence_Upholding_Human_Rights.pdf>

Filippo A. Raso, Hannah Hilligoss, Vivek Krishnamurthy, Christopher Bavitz, and Levin Kim (2018). *Artificial Intelligence & Human Rights: Opportunities & Risks*. Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University. <https://cyber.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/2018-09/2018-09_AIHumanRightsSmall.pdf?>

Mathias Risse (2018). *Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence: An Urgently Needed Agenda*. HKS Faculty Research Working Paper Series. https://research.hks.harvard.edu/publications/getFile.aspx?Id=1664

1. **Nov 12: AI Ethics and Human Rights: Friends or Foes?**

Alison Berthet (2019). *Why do emerging AI guidelines emphasize “ethics” over human rights? It’s clear that regulation of AI must start now, but why do emerging frameworks primarily talk about ethics rather than law and human rights?* Open Global Rights. <https://www.openglobalrights.org/why-do-emerging-ai-guidelines-emphasize-ethics-over-human-rights/>

Cansu Canca (2019). *AI & Global Governance: Human Rights and AI Ethics – Why Ethics Cannot be Replaced by the UDHR*. UN University. <https://cpr.unu.edu/ai-global-governance-human-rights-and-ai-ethics-why-ethics-cannot-be-replaced-by-the-udhr.html>

Vidushi Marda (2019). *Governance with teeth: How human rights can strengthen [Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency] FAT and ethics initiatives on artificial intelligence*. Article 19. <https://www.article19.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Governance-with-teeth_A19_April_2019.pdf>

1. **Dec. 3: Are human rights a practical framework for tech companies, researchers, and AI developers?**

Dunstan Allison-Hope and Mark Hodge (2018). *Artificial Intelligence: A Rights-Based Blueprint for Business: Implementing Human Rights Due Diligence*.

BSR. <https://www.bsr.org/reports/BSR-Artificial-Intelligence-A-Rights-Based-Blueprint-for-Business-Paper-03.pdf>

Evan Selinger (2019). *A.I. Ethics Boards Should Be Based on Human Rights: Tech companies should ensure their ethics boards are guided by universal human rights and resist bad faith arguments about diversity and free speech*. One Zero.

<https://onezero.medium.com/a-i-ethics-boards-should-be-based-on-human-rights-2b4323b394e4>

**Mark Latonero** is a Technology and Human Rights Fellow at the KSG Carr Center for Human Rights Policy. He also leads the human rights program at the Data & Society Research Institute. He is a fellow at Berkeley Law’s Human Rights Center and USC’s Annenberg Center for Communication Leadership & Policy. Previously he was a research director and research professor at USC where he led the Technology and Human Trafficking Initiative; and he served as Innovation Consultant for the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. His research focuses on the social and policy implications of emerging technology and examines the benefits, risks, and harms, particularly for vulnerable populations. His recent reports include: [*Governing Artificial Intelligence: Upholding Human Rights & Dignity*](https://datasociety.net/output/governing-artificial-intelligence/); [*Digital Identity in the Migration and Refugee Context: Italy Case Study*](https://datasociety.net/output/digital-identity-in-the-migration-refugee-context/)*;* and [*Refugee Connectivity: A Survey of Mobile Phones, Mental Health, and Privacy at a Syrian Refugee Camp in Greece*](https://datasociety.net/output/refugee-connectivity/) (with the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative). He has led field research in over a dozen countries including Bangladesh, Cambodia, Haiti, Pakistan, the Philippines, Serbia, and Sri Lanka. He has published in journals such as Computer Mediated Communication and Information Communication & Society in addition to opinion pieces in the New York Times, Foreign Affairs, and Harvard Business Review. He completed his PhD at the University of Southern California and was a postdoctoral scholar at the London School of Economics.