NATIONAL YOUTH ASSEMBLY ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE 2022

RECOMMENDATIONS

The National Youth Assembly on Artificial Intelligence took place on the 12th October 2022. 41 youth delegates aged 12-24 years from across the country attended, representing youth organisations and Comhairle na nÓg (youth councils). The delegates attended a preparation session in advance and then took part in a day of discussion.

They made twelve recommendations on four strands of the AI: Here for Good strategy for the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment to consider. These are outlined below:

STRAND 1: AI AND SOCIETY

Create legislation free from bias that makes AI accessible to all, to ensure diversity and the upholding of human rights. Encourage this across all Government departments who use AI.

Establishment of an Ombudsman/regulatory body, similar to the Data Protection Commission, which has oversight of adoption, development and deployment.

Government should fund accessible programmes where young people support others to use AI correctly e.g., groups with older people to educate and inform them on AI (what it is, and how to use it).

STRAND 2: GOVERNANCE AND TRUST

Ensure that equality and diversity is central in policy making by using a human rights approach which fulfils the government's human rights obligations.

Education in AI should be included in all education settings from primary schools through to 3rd level. It should be a key subject which is well funded, relevant and ongoing rather than a one-off talk. Education should also be provided to young people through other avenues such as sport and youth clubs.

The government should provide a universal basic income for all. Pay differences should be based on workloads and the stress of the work.

STRAND 4: AI SERVING THE PUBLIC

There should be an investment in technology and hardware used by public services to bring up the standards across the whole country so that access is more widely available to all. Utilise public buildings to upskill communities and conduct surveys to identify gaps e.g. in underdeveloped and rural areas.

AI to be used to predict pressure points to improve public transport and planning networks for traffic management.

Create a supportive infrastructure for immigrants to enable them to have access to services. E.g. online systems such as banking, personal medical information and other personal information.

STRAND 6: AI EDUCATION, SKILLS AND TALENT

We want to see all generations of society educated on AI. This should take place inside and outside formal education.

Help communities develop an understanding of AI and skills in AI. Use a balance of traditional and new methods of delivering courses both in-person and online.

To create a better-trained workforce which will help the economy, the government should provide free courses on AI for those who wish to work in AI environments. It should also be a new subject in schools.

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