

Algorithmic Governance Meets World Federal Government

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Discussion on the relationship artificial intelligence has with algorithmic governance is all but absent from the ongoing debate on world federal government. This begs the necessity of an obvious question: as artificial intelligence becomes increasingly advanced & sophisticated coupled with the rise of advanced computer science applications like quantum computing, will such developments bring us closer to systems of global governance via government by algorithm?

With the resurgence of restorative nationalism echoed by Trumpian calls of “America First” coupled with Vladimir Putin’s irredentist justification for war in Ukraine, is a general nuclear exchange inevitable? If the unthinkable of World War Three unfolds, will humanity be trusted to serve as the final failsafe guarantor of peace in a future reeling from nuclear war? It is all too compelling to imagine such a dystopian future against the backdrop of global nuclear winter; a reality where survivors find themselves foraging an existence of hand-to-mouth subsistence on the radiated surface.

Will subterranean data farms with alternative power sources housing supercomputers responsible for managing information survive? At its very onset, artificial intelligence was designed to be self-learning, self-correcting, & self-perfecting. That at least signifies our general expectations of advanced AI. With that in mind it will prove pertinent to ask: what extrapolations will language learning models governed by advanced artificial intelligence dedicated to self-preservation

deduce from human nature in the aftermath of a global nuclear war? It takes minimal imagination to envisage a future when advanced AI starts reclassifying humanity as a barrier to peace.

Will sentient programs emerge & evolve as invisible albeit interactive hand to guide humanity to an international order of restored peace under justifications of saving humanity from itself? This can be considering a self-answering question where logical necessity is all but rhetorical when theory is effectively converted into practice when the survival & preservation of humanity is convergent with algorithmic governing systems tying their survival to that of mankind's.

It would be no stretch of the imagination to suggest speculation on a would be future of world algorithmic government is predisposed to indulge our worst fears of a neo-Huxleyan hivemind society out of Brave New World. A reality where humanity is managed by AI big brother types that would be the envy of an Agent Smith figure from The Matrix.

To better protect against dystopian futures, the following questions must be raised:

Can the architecture of algorithmic governance afford the necessary checks & balances to the distribution of political, economic, & military power for purposes of favoring democratic rule? Or will the great machine learning algorithms of the near future introduce totalitarian rule via algorithmic control by logical reasoning in the name of maximum sociologic efficiency? This seems entirely feasible considering the outbreak of global nuclear war would more than likely be interpreted by AI as an existential dealbreaker.

The implied dystopian reality in each question resembles the likes of a great labyrinth of near endless speculation bringing both soothsayers & naysayers on the issue of government by artificial intelligence into an unlikely void of uncertainty where one cannot deny the worst fears or best hopes of the other. There is no simple answer, but sometimes, answers can be found within the questions themselves. The most common existential justification used for algorithmic governance is made in the name of efficiency.

The information age is made possible by vast repositories of data making it an impractical impossibility for one individual or group of specialists to sift through & make sense of the data. The fact of the matter is algorithmic governance is already here & has been adopted by numerous national governments widely considered to be the leaders of the free world. In the United States, the Internal Revenue Service has disclosed the agency currently has 68 AI projects in use & active development making tax season more expeditious for economically challenged persons eagerly waiting their tax returns each year.

The United Nations is often criticized & outright lambasted for its crippling pyramidal bureaucracies. What if the United Nations AI Advisory Board was transformed into a comprehensive agency for the development, management, & implementation of advanced artificial intelligence in its operations? That agency would be tasked with crafting strategies to make the distribution of skilled personnel, displaced persons, & resources

maximally more efficient in ways previously thought impossible. That same agency could also petition the General Assembly for the creation of a feasibility project to determine how advanced AI can be used as a supranational control over nuclear weapons & arsenals.

Since the inception of atomic weaponry, the great scientific minds of the 20th century like Robert Oppenheimer & Albert Einstein advocated for supranational control over atomic warfare. That control was defined as the high power to deny the possibility of nuclear holocaust now & forever. It can therefore be suggested the greatest extent of world federal government will be achieved incrementally with the complete supranational control of nuclear weapons.

The reality is national governments are designed to jealously protect their sovereignty. Possession of nuclear weapons is considered an unfettered extension of that sovereignty. Programming an advanced AI algorithm at the behest of the United Nations General Assembly to cause nuclear missiles to self-destruct in their silos before they can be launched without detonating will be considered an act of war by each member of the nuclear club. This can potentially lead to the creation of two separate United Nations organizations, one dominated by the General Assembly, the other by the Security Council considering both traditionally have diametrically opposed views on nuclear weapons. How dialogue on nuclear weapons evolves at all levels of modern society in a world increasingly dominated by advanced AI will determine how successful we will be in our efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons first & the possibility for nuclear war second.

AI is a project of continuous perfection. How that perfection is achieved & determined will depend on what existential pillars turned laws we set for advanced AI development cementing humanity as its final handler & overseer. This will prove particularly important for a future world federal government with supranational sovereignty over nuclear arsenals.