AI, Labor, and the Economy: Charter

Technological advances in artificial intelligence (AI) promise to inject great value into the global economy. They have also shown the capacity to influence the nature of work and the distribution of jobs, wealth, and well-being. The **AI, Labor, and the Economy Working Group'**s diverse, international membership is uniquely positioned to contribute to understanding these trends and ultimately influence how AI technologies affecting labor and the economy can benefit people and society.

Despite AI's possible value, the adoption and incorporation of AI and adjacent technologies may create disruption, as new and additional demand for work is created and demand for other work decreases (e.g., changes in tasks, occupations, or other endeavors). The number of discussions on the best approaches to achieve ethical outcomes on labor and the economy from AI is growing. These outcomes should aim to achieve the most good and the least harm, distribute impact fairly, protect the rights and dignity of individuals, preserve common conditions that are important to the welfare of everyone using reasoning with respect and compassion, particularly for the most vulnerable, and enable individuals and society to act to the highest potential of their character and prosocial values.

While we—a group of individuals working in civil society, technology, and academic AI communities—understand that there are multiple views on what constitutes good outcomes when implementing intelligent systems affecting labor and the economy, it is our goal to empirically and analytically consider AI's positive impacts and challenges. We will study economic impacts by looking at factors such as productivity, production and consumption, hiring, labor supply and workplace laws, economic growth, incomes, wealth distribution, and more; we will also study related societal effects by looking at impacts on human dignity, personal fulfillment, security, equality, rights, and perceptions in the context of labor and economy. Further, it is our goal to contextualize economic impact within global political, social, and cultural transformations, using metrics that comprehensively capture human well-being and perceptions.

We also hold the following principles to be important in our work:
- Comparative factors, such as cultural contexts, diverse geographies, global demographics, education systems and differing perspectives need to be considered while ensuring the fruits of AI advances are cultivated and widely shared;

- Innovation should be encouraged and not stifled; and
- The subsequent responses (e.g., forms of regulation or other interventions) from key stakeholders must be assessed through both evidence-based research and robust, forward-looking analytical techniques.

We therefore seek to study, understand, and deliberate about best paths forward for guiding AI adoption and achieving broadly-distributed, positive impacts for society, the labor force, and the economy, through research, best-practice generation, recommendations, and multistakeholder collaboration and experimentation.