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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN FOREIGN POLICY: SCIENTIFIC VIEW

Monograph



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Artificial intelligence in foreign policy: scientific view

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This book explores the intricate intersection of artificial intelligence (AI), human rights, and international law, offering a comprehensive analysis of normative frameworks, geopolitical strategies, and practical applications in the era of technological disruption traces the conceptual evolution of AI alongside the historical transformation of human rights doctrines. The research examines global regulatory adaptations, ethical paradigms, and protections for human rights amid AI proliferation, with a spotlight on Russia's contributions to recognizing AI as an international law subject and critical scrutiny of the EU AI Act (Regulation (EU) 2024/1689). This monograph delves into geopolitical competition, cognitive superiority, the U.S. «Genesis Mission» executive order, and models of responsible AI governance in national security contexts. It also operationalizes AI in financial security, comparing implementations in banking, anti-financial crime efforts, and national compliance systems, exemplified by the Turkish AML/CFT model. Supported by key appendices including the 2025 U.S. National Security Strategy, this volume provides policymakers, scholars, and practitioners with actionable insights for balancing innovation, ethics, and strategic advantage.

The monograph is intended for international relations scholars and experts in world politics who specialize in the study of artificial intelligence, for employees of the Russian Foreign Ministry, post-graduate and graduate students, as well as the broader public interested in the latest developments in the sphere of information resources and information warfare technologies.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THE BOOK	6
PART I. CONCEPTUAL AND HISTORICAL FOUNDATIONS: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS	12
CHAPTER 1. THE EMERGENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONCEPT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	13
CHAPTER 2. THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMATION OF THE CONCEPT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.....	21
PART II. LAW AND TECHNOLOGY GOVERNANCE: THE NORMATIVE REGIME OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	30
CHAPTER 3. NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND LAW: NORMATIVE ADAPTATION IN THE DIGITAL AGE.....	31
CHAPTER 4. NORMATIVE MEASURES AND ETHICAL ASPECTS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: TOWARDS A NEW GOVERNANCE PARADIGM	68
CHAPTER 5. PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE AGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: GLOBAL LEGAL AND NORMATIVE ANALYSIS.....	93
CHAPTER 6. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AS A SUBJECT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW: THE RUSSIAN CONTRIBUTION.....	112
CHAPTER 7. THE RUSSIAN CONCEPTION OF INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION SECURITY AS A NORMATIVE TEXT: ARTICULATION, CODIFICATION, AND FUNCTIONING	124
CHAPTER 8. GOVERNING THROUGH UNCERTAINTY: POWER, RISK, AND HIDDEN MECHANISMS IN THE EU ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ACT (REGULATION (EU) 2024/1689).....	147
PART III. GEOPOLITICAL COMPETITION AND STRATEGIC DOCTRINE: EMERGING FRAMEWORKS FOR TECHNOLOGICAL SUPERIORITY	169
CHAPTER 9. COGNITIVE SUPERIORITY IN THE CONTEXT OF MODERN THREATS: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE.....	170
CHAPTER 10. STATE INFRASTRUCTURE POWER IN THE AGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: DATA CENTERS, CLOUDS, AND INTERNET EXCHANGE POINTS AS A NEW RESOURCE OF INFLUENCE	181
CHAPTER 11. THE EXECUTIVE ORDER «GENESIS MISSION»: GEOSTRATEGIC ANALYSIS AND ASYMMETRIC RESPONSES FOR NON-U.S. STAKEHOLDERS	189

CHAPTER 12. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE GOVERNANCE IN THE UNITED STATES: A MODEL OF RESPONSIBLE INNOVATION AND TRANSFORMATION OF THE STATE SECTOR 214

CHAPTER 13. ANALYSIS OF THE 2026 US NATIONAL DEFENSE STRATEGY 225

PART IV. OPERATIONALIZATION AND SECTORAL APPLICATION: AI IN FINANCIAL SECURITY 236

CHAPTER 14. FROM PILOT PROJECTS TO PROFIT: MEASURING AND MAXIMIZING THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN BANKING AND FINANCE 237

CHAPTER 15. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF AI IMPLEMENTATION IN COMBATING FINANCIAL CRIME: TECHNOLOGIES, REGULATORY CHALLENGES, AND PROSPECTS 243

CHAPTER 16. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND COMPLIANCE SYSTEM: THE TURKISH MODEL FOR EFFECTIVENESS AND INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRATION IN AML/CFT 259

CONCLUSION 273

LIST OF SOURCES AND LITERATURE 276

APPENDIX 1. THE 2025 US NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY 299

APPENDIX 2. LAUNCHING THE GENESIS MISSION 332

APPENDIX 3. ENSURING A NATIONAL POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE 339

APPENDIX 4. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STRATEGY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF WAR 343

APPENDIX 5. 2026 US NATIONAL DEFENSE STRATEGY 349

ABOUT THE BOOK

The advent of artificial intelligence (AI) marks one of the most transformative technological paradigms of the twenty first century, evolving from rudimentary computational theories to sophisticated systems capable of emulating human cognition. From Alan Turing's 1950 question «Can machines think?» to the Dartmouth Conference of 1956, symbolic AI, connectionism, and the deep learning revolution, each wave has pushed AI from laboratory curiosities toward infrastructures that silently organize markets, borders, and battlefields. American innovation, spearheaded by DARPA programs and private sector giants, has positioned the United States as the primary engine of AI development, with annual investments surpassing one hundred billion dollars by the mid-2020s. Yet this rapid ascent raises a question that is no longer merely technical: how does AI redefine power in international relations, and what kinds of legal and institutional frameworks can harness its potential without eroding the rule of law?

The parallel evolution of human rights from Enlightenment natural law theories through the postwar universalist project now confronts an AI-induced metamorphosis. Rights are increasingly framed not only as negative liberties against state intrusion but also as positive entitlements against opaque algorithmic harms, systemic bias, and automated exclusion. Some states, including Russia, explore doctrinal moves that treat advanced AI systems as quasi-subjects of international regulation, experimenting with hybrid responsibility regimes and new vocabularies for accountability. At the same time, geopolitical initiatives such as the U.S. «Genesis Mission» and rival governance models in Europe and the Global South signal that AI norms are becoming instruments of strategic competition, not neutral guardrails.

AI's impact is felt most sharply in the infrastructures that states use to keep promises financial systems, security tools, compliance architectures. In banking and asset management, machine learning models provide double-digit efficiency gains by concentrating side risks in black box systems that even their creators can hardly

verify. In anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism finance, graphical neural networks and anomaly detection tools identify suspicious patterns that no human team could detect, but they also raise questions of transparency, due process, and cross-border jurisdiction. Defense departments are experimenting with «cognitive superiority» doctrines, where advantages are measured by cycles of inference and decision-making, while regulators and legislatures are trying to adapt twentieth-century legal categories to twenty-first-century infrastructures.

This volume was born from a deceptively technocratic question posed at a closed workshop in 2023: *How do we measure what AI is doing to the rule of law?* If states can no longer anticipate the behaviour of the systems they deploy, they can no longer credibly guarantee the most elementary public good: predictable coercion. Contracts, rights, currencies, borders – all assume that tomorrow will resemble today closely enough for promises to be meaningful. AI is designed to break that presupposition by extracting weak signals from noise and exploiting non-intuitive correlations, making the future opaque even to its programmers. The core ambition of this book is therefore not to celebrate AI's promise or to rehearse its risks, but to trace how the technology rearranges the foundations of legality, sovereignty, and global order.

We have chosen the form of a collective, trans-disciplinary monograph because the phenomenon we study is itself polyphonic. The chapters that follow are written by sovereign-risk analysts, human-rights lawyers, central-bank technologists, Air Force officers, and theorists of international law and political economy. Together they examine AI through three intertwined lenses: as a concept and historical project, as an object of legal governance, and as an instrument of geopolitical and financial strategy.

The book is organized not as a linear checklist of use cases, but as a four-part inquiry into how artificial intelligence reshapes the normative, geopolitical, and operational fabric of global order.

Part I reconstructs the conceptual and historical foundations of AI and human rights: what «artificial intelligence» has meant since 1956, how its meaning has

shifted after major geopolitical shocks, and why any serious discussion of AI in foreign policy must begin with the genealogy of human dignity and legal personality.

Part II then turns to law and governance, tracing how export-control lists, procurement rules, classification guidelines, and emerging AI-specific regulations attempt often unsuccessfully to domesticate a technology whose diffusion outpaces the vocabulary of statutes and treaties. Within this legal turn, a dedicated chapter analyses the European Union's AI Act (Regulation (EU) 2024/1689) as a paradigmatic case of *governance through uncertainty*: risk-based and open-ended categories, extensive delegations to standard-setting bodies, and deferred «secondary» legislation relocate decisive power from parliaments to technocratic and private actors, turning regulatory indeterminacy itself into a tool of geopolitical influence. As for the Russian approach to the AI-systems, its legal framework, including the National Strategy for AI development and Federal Law No. 152-FZ, establishes a humanistic approach to artificial intelligence that prioritizes the protection of human rights by, for instance, prohibiting decisions affecting an individual's legal interests from being based solely on automated data processing.

Furthermore, this part examines the Russian conception of International Information Security (IIS) as a coherent normative project, arguing that it is constructed and advanced primarily through language. By applying a text-centric methodology of «articulation-codification-functioning» to Russian strategic documents and UN negotiations, the analysis reveals how Moscow uses definitions, recurring formulas, and conceptual metaphors to frame the digital sphere as a domain of interstate relations governed by international law and state sovereignty, thereby distinguishing its approach from the Western, technocentric model of «cybersecurity».

Part III confronts the security dilemma created by AI as a strategic asset. One chapter examines «cognitive superiority» as a new axis of military and intelligence competition, in which advantage is measured less in troop numbers than in cycles of inference and decision. Another offers a geostrategic reading of the U.S. Executive Order *Genesis Mission*, unpacking asymmetric responses available to non-U.S.

stakeholders. A third dissects the American model of AI governance as an attempt to reconcile responsible innovation with the preservation of national decision advantage and alliance management. In this part, regulation and strategy explicitly converge: AI governance appears as a problem of power distribution rather than purely of ethics.

Part IV descends into the balance sheets and compliance dashboards where AI quietly rewires financial security and cross-border regulation. One chapter reconstructs the financial impact of AI in banking and asset management, asking when efficiency gains are outweighed by opacity-driven systemic risks. Another compares AI-enabled anti-financial crime regimes across jurisdictions, mapping technologies, regulatory challenges, and institutional prospects. A final chapter tests a modular governance toolkit against Turkey’s national AML/CFT architecture, showing how the same legal membrane can be localized by different states without sacrificing either sovereignty or accountability.

What this book does **not** do is as important as what it attempts. We do not predict the arrival of artificial general intelligence; we treat today’s frontier models as indefinitely powerful, but still narrow tools. We do not moralize about machine consciousness; we analyze legal personhood as a functional proxy for responsibility. We do not propose a universal code; we offer modular instruments that legislatures and regulators can adapt, reject, or amend. Above all, we refuse to separate technical from political questions. Every line of code that scores a credit-risk model is already a miniature statute; every statute that governs AI is already a line of code. Our task, in these pages, is to make that boundary layer visible before it calcifies into fact.

In Russian academic literature, the problematics of artificial intelligence in foreign policy are taking shape as an interdisciplinary field at the intersection of political science, international relations, information law, economic security, and the philosophy of technology. A key feature of the Russian approach is that AI is viewed not merely as a tool for optimizing diplomatic processes, but as a factor in the transformation of the international relations system—one capable of altering the very nature of information sovereignty, strategic stability, and the mechanisms

through which foreign policy decisions are made. Researchers from leading academic centers—primarily MGIMO and the Diplomatic Academy of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Primakov Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO) of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the HSE University, as well as specialized institutes of the Russian Academy of Sciences—converge on the view that the implementation of artificial intelligence technologies must be guided by national interests, the supremacy of human rights over AI, and the principle that human control over critically important decisions must not be forfeited. Within the Russian scientific tradition, emphasis is placed on three interrelated aspects.

The first concerns the sovereinization of digital and intellectual resources and the formation of a sovereign internet: scholars stress that dependence on foreign artificial intelligence platforms in the diplomatic sphere creates risks of technological subordination, making it a priority to develop domestic decision-support systems, analytical platforms, and secure communication channels operating within national infrastructure.

The second aspect relates to a reconceptualization of strategic stability under conditions where non-nuclear deterrents—above all, artificial intelligence systems employed in information-psychological operations—are beginning to play an increasingly significant role. Russian experts actively participate in discussions on the necessity of concluding international agreements to limit the use of autonomous weapons systems, yet they point to the absence of verifiable control mechanisms, which renders the issue of trust between states critically important.

The third aspect involves interpreting the role of AI as an instrument of “smart power”—the capacity of a state to combine hard and soft influence using advanced technologies to advance its narratives, counter disinformation, and shape a favorable international image. Russian researchers note that artificial intelligence algorithms are actively used to analyze global information flows, forecast conflict situations, automate consular work, and provide linguistic support for foreign diplomatic services, while at the same time emphasizing the need to preserve the human factor

as a guarantor of ethical responsibility and to account for political context, which cannot be fully formalized. A distinct place in the Russian scholarly discussion is occupied by the issue of regulatory and legal frameworks governing the use of AI in foreign policy: experts observe that existing international treaties, including documents of the UN and specialized agencies, do not cover the specificities of autonomous systems in diplomacy and interstate interaction, creating a need to develop new norms—including algorithmic transparency, accountability for decisions made on the basis of AI, and the inadmissibility of using technologies to destabilize the sovereign governance systems of other states. Thus, the Russian scientific perspective on artificial intelligence in foreign policy is coalescing around the ideas of technological sovereignty, maintaining the manageability of international processes, and the need for accelerated development of indigenous competencies so that Russia’s participation in shaping the global rules of the game in this sphere is not merely declarative but genuinely determinative.