



Ivan Bartoš

Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalisation and Minister of Regional Development

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Dear Minister,

I am pleased to invite you as a speaker to the **Global Forum on the Ethics of AI**, hosted by the Czech Republic in the framework of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, under the patronage of UNESCO, **on 13 December 2022 in Prague**.

The Global Forum will be a great occasion to discuss the potential role of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI – the first global normative instrument in this field – in guiding our domestic digital agenda, complementing the strong regulatory framework that is taking shape in the digital domain for the European internal market. **The Recommendation, adopted in November 2021 by 193 Member States of UNESCO**, is an ambitious, bold, and visionary document, offering a comprehensive framework for the ethical development and use of artificial intelligence.

This instrument represents a major achievement for the European countries who actively shaped the document and defended its substance during the global inter-governmental negotiations. It aligns perfectly with the European vision for a well-regulated AI that protects human rights, promotes innovation, and avoids the discriminatory outcomes we have observed all too often. It will also help channel more investment towards the development of AI-based solutions for complex social, economic and environmental challenges related to climate change, access to quality education and healthcare, and equitable economic recovery, among others.

In this regard, we would be delighted if you could contribute to the **High-Level Ministerial Session I: Ethical Development and Use of AI in the EU**, as a Panellist, together with the other EU Ministers in charge of the digital agenda.

We would be particularly interested in your perspectives on the ways to reinforce national regulatory frameworks and institutions for the ethical development and use of AI, in the context of the implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation and the emerging EU legal framework on AI. Outcomes of this session will be fed into the discussion on a possible UNESCO - EU partnership over domestic reform agendas on AI governance at the national level.

In addition to the High-Level Ministerial Session that you will be contributing to, the Global Forum will also feature a high-level ministerial session on the emerging collaboration between EU and UNESCO for the global implementation of the Recommendation on the Ethics of AI. A series of expert roundtables will also be organized to explore the state of AI from different angles such as gender equality, environmental protection, readiness and ethical impact assessment, and transparency and non-discrimination. You will find detailed information in the concept note and programme attached.

While it is my hope that you will be able to join us in Prague in person, you also have the option of joining the Global Forum virtually. Please confirm kindly by **17 November 2022** if you can accept my invitation to act as a speaker at the event by registering at the link that will be sent to your email box in a separate communication. In case you need any assistance regarding your participation, you can contact Ms Zuzana Hlavičková, Cyber Security Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (*okb@mzv.cz*).

Yours sincerely,

Ivan Bartoš

Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalisation and Minister of Regional Development