

# AI FORUM NEWSLETTER

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**Prompt:** On August 8, 2025, we reflect on the 26th International Youth Day by recognizing the challenges young people face and emphasizing the importance of creating supportive environments for their growth and development.

**Photo Credit:** ChatGPT

01/12

## 1. India's AI-driven tech firings could derail middle class dreams

បញ្ហាសិប្បនិម្មិត AI បណ្តាលឱ្យមនុស្សជាច្រើននៅឥណ្ឌាបាត់បង់ការងារ ដែលធ្វើឱ្យគ្រួសារខ្នាតមធ្យមពិបាកសម្រេចក្តីសុបិន្ត

Source: [BBC](#)

India's major tech firms, like TCS, are laying off thousands of middle and senior-level employees as AI reshapes the industry. These changes are not just cost-cutting measures—they reflect a deeper transition driven by AI automation, which is replacing routine jobs and creating a skills mismatch in the workforce. Although companies are hiring in emerging tech areas like AI, cloud, and cybersecurity, the hiring rate isn't fast enough to offset widespread job losses. With only 20% of IT workers AI-skilled, India faces a critical talent gap despite needing 1 million AI professionals by 2026. This AI-driven disruption is threatening India's middle class and economic model, which once thrived on stable IT jobs. The future of India's services-led economy and its global tech position now depends on how quickly its workforce can upskill and adapt to AI.



Source: iStoke

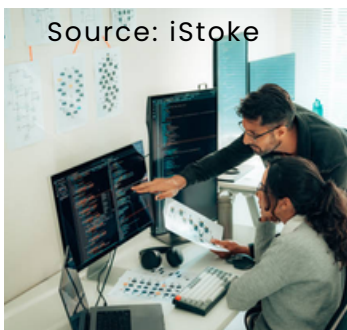
Reference:

Inamdar, N. (2025, July 29). India's AI-driven tech firings could derail middle class dreams. *BBC*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2p4nqgd352o>

## 2. China calls for global AI cooperation days after Trump administration unveils low-regulation strategy

ចិនបានអំពាវនាវឱ្យបណ្តាប្រទេសធ្វើការសហការជាមួយគ្នាផ្នែកបញ្ហាសិប្បនិម្មិត (AI) បន្ទាប់ពីរដ្ឋាភិបាលលោក Trump ប្រកាសយុទ្ធសាស្ត្រថ្មីមួយដែលមានការគ្រប់គ្រងបទបញ្ញត្តិកម្រិតទាប

Source: [The Guardian](#)



Source: iStoke

Chinese Premier Li Qiang has called for global coordination on AI development and security, proposing an international body to guide AI governance. He stressed the need to balance AI innovation with security risks and urged consensus on responsible AI use. This comes after the Trump administration's low-regulation AI strategy aimed to boost US dominance. Li critiqued unilateral approaches, urging AI not to become an "exclusive game" for a few nations or corporations. China's emphasis on open-source AI and sharing with developing countries reflects its strategic bid for ethical and inclusive AI development.

Reference:

Guardian staff and agencies. (2025 July 26). China calls for global AI cooperation days after Trump administration unveils low-regulation strategy. *The Guardian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/jul/26/china-calls-for-global-ai-cooperation-days-after-trump-administration-unveils-low-regulation-strategy>

### 3. Germany Is Taking the Lead in Military AI ប្រទេសអាល្លឺម៉ង់កំពុងនាំមុខគេផ្នែក AI ក្នុងវិស័យយោធា

Source: [The Trumpet](#)



Germany is gaining prominence in military artificial intelligence (AI), leading to a significant shift in global defense dynamics. Europe is projected to outspend the U.S. in military procurement in 2025, with Germany developing AI-powered drones, robots, and bio-engineered surveillance tools. Chancellor Friedrich Merz's government is prioritizing AI and startup innovation, planning to triple its defense budget to \$175 billion annually by 2029. Germany's AI talent, including startups Helsing and Quantum, is being utilized in autonomous systems and smart weaponry, potentially reshaping Europe's global power role.

Reference:  
Michels, J. (2025, July 30). Germany Is Taking the Lead in Military AI. *The Trumpet*.  
<https://www.thetrumpet.com/31965-germany-is-taking-the-lead-in-military-ai>

### 4. Iran-Israel AI War Propaganda Is a Warning to the World ការប្រើ AI ដើម្បីផ្សព្វផ្សាយសង្គ្រាមរបស់អ៊ីរ៉ង់ និងអ៊ីស្រាអែល គឺជាការព្រមានដល់ ពិភពលោកអំពីគ្រោះថ្នាក់នៃការប្រើប្រាស់ព័ត៌មានមិនពិត

Source: [Carnegie Endowment For International Peace](#)



The 2025 Iran-Israel conflict highlighted the dangers of AI-powered propaganda, as both sides weaponized AI-generated videos, images, and fake news to shape narratives, confuse civilians, and distort international perception. The rapid spread of synthetic media, even through credible news outlets, highlighted the dangers of AI deception in Iran's information-restricted environment. AI-generated content proliferated faster and more convincingly than ever before, creating unprecedented levels of confusion and false security. Despite detection tools like WITNESS's Deepfakes Rapid Response Force, experts couldn't always confirm what was real. The gap between AI manipulation and detection capabilities is growing, underscoring the urgent need for better, more accessible verification tools. AI is not just a tool of war but a battlefield itself, as truth becomes a casualty in the fight over digital reality.

Reference:  
Alimardani, M. & Gregory, S. (2025, July 28). Iran-Israel AI War Propaganda Is a Warning to the World. *Carnegie Endowment For International Peace*.  
<https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2025/07/iran-israel-ai-war-propaganda-is-a-warning-to-the-world?lang=en>

## 5. Cambodia and China discuss AI cooperation in tourism កម្ពុជា និងចិនពិភាក្សាអំពីកិច្ចសហប្រតិបត្តិការ បញ្ញាសិប្បនិម្មិត AI ក្នុងវិស័យ ទេសចរណ៍

Source: [Khmer Times](#)

Cambodia and China are collaborating on AI-powered tourism, focusing on digital platforms to promote Cambodian destinations, particularly Angkor Wat, to Chinese and global visitors. Beihai City officials proposed partnering with Cambodia's Ministry of Tourism and Xinyi Holding Company to deploy Enowa AI technology for destination marketing. This aligns with Cambodia's digitalization policies and supports its goal of attracting over 1 million Chinese tourists in 2025 as part of the "Cambodia-China Tourism Year 2025." The discussion also includes consultations on Cambodia's draft national AI strategy, highlighting AI's strategic role in economic development and international cooperation.



Source: iStoke

Reference:  
Mom, K. (2025, July 31). Cambodia and China discuss AI cooperation in tourism. *Khmer Times*.  
<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501729317/cambodia-and-china-discuss-ai-cooperation-in-tourism/>

## 6. UNESCO's AI and the Rule of Law Toolkit Transforming Legal Education កម្មវិធី AI របស់អង្គការយូណេស្កូ និងកម្មវិធីកំណែទម្រង់ច្បាប់កំពុងផ្លាស់ប្តូររបៀប បង្រៀនផ្នែកច្បាប់

Source: [UNESCO](#)



Source: iStoke

UNESCO's AI and the Rule of Law Toolkit is transforming legal education globally by addressing ethical and legal challenges of AI. The toolkit promotes human rights-centered, responsible AI use and is integrated into legal curricula worldwide. NALSAR University in India launched an eight-week global online course inspired by the toolkit, attracting over 4,200 participants. Since 2022, over 11,000 judicial operators have been trained in the toolkit, helping legal systems adapt to AI's rapid integration.

Reference:  
UNESCO. (2025, July 29). *UNESCO's AI and the Rule of Law Toolkit Transforming Legal Education*.  
<https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/unescos-ai-and-rule-law-toolkit-transforming-legal-education>

## 7. Singapore's role in South-east Asia's AI future

### តួនាទីរបស់ប្រទេសសិង្ហបុរីក្នុងតំបន់អាស៊ីអាគ្នេយ៍ក្នុងការកំណត់អនាគតបញ្ញាសិប្បនិម្មិត AI

Source: [The Business Times](#)

Singapore is establishing itself as a leading AI hub in Southeast Asia through strategic partnerships, infrastructure development, and policy leadership. The country is working with multinational companies to drive AI innovation, sustainability, and talent development. Singapore's early adoption of national AI strategies and role in regional AI governance reflects its commitment to ethical and inclusive AI growth. The rise of next-generation AI technologies is driving demand for high-performance, AI-ready data centers. Singapore is investing in sovereign cloud and AI infrastructure, green data centers, and local large language models. Cross-border collaborations are underway to build infrastructure and power supply for sustainable AI development.



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Ho, E. (2025, August 6). SG60: Singapore's role in South-east Asia's AI future. *The Business Times*.  
<https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/singapore/bt-sg60/sg60-singapores-role-south-east-asias-ai-future>

## 8. Law enforcement department in Denver metro area begins using AI to assist with police reports

### នាយកដ្ឋានអនុវត្តច្បាប់នៅតំបន់រដ្ឋឃ្លើងក្រោម ដីក្រុង Denver ចាប់ផ្តើមប្រើប្រាស់ AI ដើម្បីជួយ ដល់ការធ្វើរបាយការណ៍របស់ប៉ូលីស

Source: [CBS News](#)



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Morfitt, K. (2025, August 6). Law enforcement department in Denver metro area begins using AI to assist with police reports. *CBS News*.  
<https://www.cbsnews.com/colorado/news/ai-police-reports-assist-wheat-ridge-colorado/>

The Wheat Ridge Police Department in Denver has begun using artificial intelligence (AI) to assist officers in writing police reports, marking a significant step in law enforcement technology. The AI system, integrated with body-worn cameras, transcribes interactions in real time and generates first-draft reports within seconds. This innovation has significantly improved efficiency, saving officers 40% to 60% of the time spent on paperwork and allowing more time for community engagement. However, the use of AI raises ethical and legal concerns, particularly around potential bias and the assumption that AI is infallible. The ACLU has emphasized transparency and oversight, and the department has responded by including disclaimers and consulting with the district attorney's office.

## 9. AI search pushes already weakened media industry to the brink

ការស្រាវជ្រាវបញ្ញាសិប្បនិម្មិត AI បានជំរុញឱ្យប្រព័ន្ធផ្សព្វផ្សាយឧស្សាហកម្មធ្លាក់ចុះ

Source: [Khmer Times](#)

Cambodia and China are collaborating on AI-powered tourism, focusing on digital platforms to promote Cambodian destinations, particularly Angkor Wat, to Chinese and global visitors. Beihai City officials proposed partnering with Cambodia's Ministry of Tourism and Xinyi Holding Company to deploy Enowa AI technology for destination marketing. This aligns with Cambodia's digitalization policies and supports its goal of attracting over 1 million Chinese tourists in 2025 as part of the "Cambodia-China Tourism Year 2025." The discussion also includes consultations on Cambodia's draft national AI strategy, highlighting AI's strategic role in economic development and international cooperation.



Source: iStoke

Reference:  
Urbain, T. (2025, August 7). AI search pushes already weakened media industry to the brink. *Khmer Times*. <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501733727/ai-search-pushes-already-weakened-media-industry-to-the-brink/>

## 10. Maybank Forges Strategic Partnership with Microsoft to Accelerate Digital Transformation and AI-Driven Innovation

ធនាគារ Maybank បង្កើតភាពជាដៃគូយុទ្ធសាស្ត្រជាមួយក្រុមហ៊ុន Microsoft ដើម្បីពង្រីកការផ្លាស់ប្តូរឌីជីថល និងការច្នៃប្រឌិតដែលជំរុញដោយបញ្ញាសិប្បនិម្មិត AI

Source: [Khmer Times](#)

Maybank has partnered with Microsoft for a RM1.0 billion deal to accelerate digital transformation and AI-driven innovation. The partnership includes Microsoft's adoption of Azure as a primary cloud platform, enabling real-time data analytics and faster service deployment. The rollout of Microsoft 365 Copilot to all 44,000 employees aims to boost productivity and enhance customer experience. The partnership also strengthens cybersecurity using Microsoft's solutions and plans to establish a Centre of Excellence for innovation and talent upskilling in cloud and AI.



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Khmer Times. (2025, August 7). Maybank Forges Strategic Partnership with Microsoft to Accelerate Digital Transformation and AI-Driven Innovation. <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501733742/maybank-forges-strategic-partnership-with-microsoft-to-accelerate-digital-transformation-and-ai-driven-innovation/>

PUBLICATIONS

**AIF Insights No. 24  
(2025) | AI Cannot  
Teach What It Does  
Not Possess:  
Intelligence or  
Wisdom**

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Chhem, K. R. (2025, June 2). *AI Cannot Teach What It Does Not Possess: Intelligence or Wisdom*. AI Forum.  
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-24-2025-ai-cannot-teach-what-it-does-not-possess-intelligence-or-wisdom/>

This article explores Cambodia's evolving approach to integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) into its education system, examining key policies, opportunities, challenges, and future directions. As the country pursues education reform under the Pentagonal Strategy, AI is viewed as a potential tool to improve equity, quality, and efficiency. The paper outlines national and international collaborations, including Cambodia's work with UNESCO to promote ethical and inclusive AI use in classrooms. It highlights the benefits of AI such as personalized learning, teacher support, and expanded access for rural students, while also addressing serious concerns around infrastructure, digital literacy, and policy gaps. The authors argue that for AI to meaningfully transform education in Cambodia, a national framework must be established, supported by teacher training, infrastructure investment, and locally tailored AI solutions. The piece concludes with policy recommendations centered on equity, governance, and international collaboration, positioning AI as a strategic enabler for inclusive and future-ready education.

This article critically examines the growing integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education, arguing that AI fundamentally lacks the intelligence and wisdom necessary for meaningful teaching. While AI tools offer administrative efficiencies and personalization, they cannot replicate the moral judgment, emotional presence, or relational depth essential to human learning. The author asserts that education must remain grounded in human leadership, dedicated teachers, and supportive communities—elements that nurture students intellectually, ethically, and emotionally. By challenging the techno-optimism surrounding AI in education, the article calls for a reinvestment in human-centered pedagogy and AI literacy, urging stakeholders to treat education not as a technical problem, but as a moral and cultural endeavor shaped by wise and compassionate humans.

**AIF Insights No. 25  
(2025) | Charting  
Cambodia's AI-  
Driven Education  
Future: Policies,  
Readiness, and  
Reform**

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Kheang, K., Pong, P. & Tann, T. (2025, July 1). *Charting Cambodia's AI-Driven Education Future: Policies, Readiness, and Reform*. AI Forum.  
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-25-2025-charting-cambodias-ai-driven-education-future-policies-readiness-and-reform/>

## PUBLICATIONS

This article examines the growing impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on international law, focusing on the legal, ethical, and governance challenges it presents. AI technologies, which often operate autonomously and beyond traditional state control, are straining existing legal frameworks built around state-centric responsibility and territorial sovereignty. The paper explores key legal dilemmas such as attribution of responsibility, dual-use risks, and regulatory gaps in both global and regional contexts. It highlights contrasting approaches, such as the European Union's comprehensive legal model versus the limited capacity of many developing countries to regulate AI effectively. The discussion also considers proposals for global governance mechanisms, including treaty-based compute caps and soft law instruments aimed at fostering transparency and accountability. The authors argue for a multi-layered, participatory governance model that balances innovation with ethical oversight and includes voices from the Global South. This approach is critical to ensuring AI's global deployment respects international law, human rights, and long-term security.

### **AIF Insights No. 26 (2025) | Artificial Intelligence and the Future of International Law: Challenges and Pathways Forward**

Source: [AI Forum](#)

### **AIF Insights No. 27 (2025) | Generosity and Its Limits: Reflections from Buddha, Nietzsche, and the AI Machine**

#### Reference:

Cheab, S. & Chhem, K. R. (2025, July 3). *Generosity and Its Limits: Reflections from Buddha, Nietzsche, and the AI Machine*. AI Forum.  
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-27-2025-generosity-and-its-limits-reflections-from-buddha-nietzsche-and-the-ai-machine/>

#### Reference:

Pong, P. (2025, July 2). *Artificial Intelligence and the Future of International Law: Challenges and Pathways Forward*. AI Forum.  
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-26-2025-artificial-intelligence-and-the-future-of-international-law-challenges-and-pathways-forward/>

This reflection explores the nature and limits of generosity through three lenses: Nietzsche's emotionally burdened giver, Theravāda Buddhism's selfless Arahant, and the emotionally neutral assistance offered by artificial intelligence (AI). Nietzsche shows how giving tied to ego and recognition can lead to suffering. Buddhism offers a path to pure giving—free from attachment, desire, or expectation. AI, while capable of relentless service, lacks emotion and raises ethical concerns around bias and trust. Using Cambodia's health education reform as a practical case, the article asks whether we can cultivate generosity that is rooted in clarity rather than craving. It concludes that true generosity arises not from what we give, but from why we give—an intention that must be guided by awareness, compassion, and ethical self-reflection.

PUBLICATIONS

The article explores the dual nature of artificial intelligence (AI) as both a vehicle of epistemic imperialism and a tool for epistemic emancipation. While AI systems, especially large language models, are predominantly shaped by Western intellectual traditions, reinforcing epistemic hierarchies and perpetuating data colonialism, they also offer significant opportunities for amplifying marginalized voices and recontextualizing non-Western knowledge systems. The paper highlights the challenges posed by epistemic imperialism, where AI technologies predominantly reflect Western ideologies and ethical frameworks, often sidelining other cultural and intellectual traditions. At the same time, it underscores AI's potential for epistemic emancipation, enabling scholars from the Global South and non-Western cultures to engage more fully in global conversations. The article advocates for a critical, inclusive approach to AI development that integrates diverse epistemologies, emphasizing the need for interdisciplinary design, philosophical inquiry, and pluralistic governance frameworks. It calls for the inclusion of alternative ethical perspectives, such as Buddhist ethics and African Ubuntu, in the development of AI systems to foster a more equitable and culturally inclusive digital future.

**AIF Insights No. 28  
(2025) | AI as Both a  
Vehicle of Epistemic  
Imperialism and a  
Tool of Epistemic  
Emancipation**

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Chhem, K. R. (2025, June 22). *AI as Both a Vehicle of Epistemic Imperialism and a Tool of Epistemic Emancipation*. AI Forum.  
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-28-2025-ai-as-both-a-vehicle-of-epistemic-imperialism-and-a-tool-of-epistemic-emancipation/>

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<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/jul/26/china-calls-for-global-ai-cooperation-days-after-trump-administration-unveils-low-regulation-strategy>
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<https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2025/07/iran-israel-ai-war-propaganda-is-a-warning-to-the-world?lang=en>
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10. Khmer Times. (2025, August 7). *Maybank Forges Strategic Partnership with Microsoft to Accelerate Digital Transformation and AI-Driven Innovation*.

<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501733742/maybank-forges-strategic-partnership-with-microsoft-to-accelerate-digital-transformation-and-ai-driven-innovation/>

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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-25-2025-charting-cambodias-ai-driven-education-future-policies-readiness-and-reform/>
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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-26-2025-artificial-intelligence-and-the-future-of-international-law-challenges-and-pathways-forward/>
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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-27-2025-generosity-and-its-limits-reflections-from-buddha-nietzsche-and-the-ai-machine/>
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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/publications/aif-insights-no-28-2025-ai-as-both-a-vehicle-of-epistemic-imperialism-and-a-tool-of-epistemic-emancipation/>