

AI FORUM NEWSLETTER

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Friday, April 24, 2026
ISSUE NO. 76



Prompt: Cambodia joined ASEAN on April 30, 1999, as its 10th member, completing ASEAN-10. This boosted regional peace, economic growth, and cooperation. It chaired ASEAN in 2002, 2012, and 2022, gaining greater trade, investment, and integration.

Photo Credit: Gemini

01/17

1. Singapore emerging as neutral ground as AI firms navigate Sino-US rivalry

សិង្ហបុរី កំពុងក្លាយជាចំណុចកណ្តាលសម្រាប់ក្រុមហ៊ុន AI ក្នុងអំឡុងពេលដែលមាន ជម្លោះពាណិជ្ជកម្មរវាង ចិន និងអាមេរិក

Source: [Reuters](#)



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Potkin, F., Kok, X., & Fu, C. (2026, April 24). Singapore emerging as neutral ground as AI firms navigate Sino-US rivalry. *Reuters*.
<https://www.reuters.com/world/china/singapore-emerging-neutral-ground-ai-firms-navigate-sino-us-rivalry-2026-04-24/>

Singapore is emerging as a neutral hub for AI companies amid Sino-U.S. rivalry, attracting Chinese firms seeking to avoid government oversight and U.S. firms aiming to access global talent without visa constraints. The country offers incentives such as AI-focused visas, tax benefits, and a business-friendly environment, drawing investments and major AI players like OpenAI, Anthropic, and Google DeepMind. However, increasing geopolitical tensions, export controls, and talent restrictions from both the U.S. and China pose risks, potentially leading to limitations on Singapore if it is perceived as facilitating sensitive technology transfer.

2. China's DeepSeek releases new AI model adapted to run on Huawei chips

ក្រុមហ៊ុន DeepSeek របស់ចិន ប្រកាសចេញផ្សាយម៉ូដែល AI ជំនាន់ថ្មី ដែលគ្រប់គ្នា ទន្ទឹងរង់ចាំជាយូរមកហើយ

Source: [Channel News Asia](#)

Chinese startup DeepSeek launched DeepSeek-V4, an AI model with a one-million-word context length, enhancing reasoning and agent abilities. It includes a high-parameter Pro version and an efficient Flash version. This open-source model is built on DeepSeek's previous cost-effective innovations, challenging platforms like ChatGPT and aiding sector adoption in China. Its introduction occurs during heightened global AI competition, with rivals like Meta and Microsoft increasing AI investments, while the model's performance compares favorably to leading closed-source systems such as Gemini-Pro-3.1, reflecting China's ambitions in open-source AI amid geopolitical tensions with the U.S.



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Channel News Asia. (2026, April 24). *China's DeepSeek releases new AI model adapted to run on Huawei chips*.
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/east-asia/china-releases-new-deepseek-v4-ai-model-6078236>

3. Finance ministers and bankers raise serious concerns about Mythos AI model

រដ្ឋមន្ត្រីក្រសួងហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ និងអ្នកជំនាញធនាគារ បង្ហាញការព្រួយបារម្ភយ៉ាងខ្លាំងចំពោះ ម៉ូដែល AI ឈ្មោះ Mythos

Source: [BBC](#)



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Islam, F. & McMahon, L. (2026, April 17). Finance ministers and bankers raise serious concerns about Mythos AI model. *BBC*.
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c2ev24yx4rmo>

Finance ministers, central bankers, and financial institutions have expressed concerns regarding the AI model Claude Mythos by Anthropic, which can effectively identify and exploit cybersecurity vulnerabilities. Although not publicly released, it is currently being tested through Project Glasswing in collaboration with major tech firms to enhance system security. Experts have acknowledged its capabilities but suggest it does not significantly surpass previous models. Governments and banks highlight the importance of safeguards, as these AI tools could both reveal and aid in addressing critical vulnerabilities within increasingly interconnected financial systems.

4. AIWORKX to Build Khmer-Language AI Agent in Cambodia

ក្រុមហ៊ុន AIWORKX គ្រោងបង្កើតភ្នាក់ងារ AI ជាភាសាខ្មែរ នៅក្នុងប្រទេសកម្ពុជា

Source: [The Elec](#)



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Park, H. S. (2026, April 20). AIWORKX to Build Khmer-Language AI Agent in Cambodia. *The Elec*.
<https://www.thelec.net/news/articleView.html?idxno=6659>

AIWORKX will develop a Khmer-language AI agent in Cambodia under a KOICA-backed project aimed at expanding AI into low-resource language markets. The initiative focuses on building Khmer datasets, applying AI models, and deploying pilot services despite limited local-language data, where Khmer is significantly underrepresented in global training sources. It also includes training programs to develop local AI talent and infrastructure, with plans to create millions of Khmer-language data points and support education, employment, and commercialization in the country's emerging AI ecosystem.

5. Vietnam's tourism sector accelerates with AI

វិស័យទេសចរណ៍របស់ប្រទេសវៀតណាម រីកចម្រើនកាន់តែលឿនដោយសារការប្រើប្រាស់បច្ចេកវិទ្យា AI

Source: [Vietnam Pictorial](#)

Vietnam's tourism sector is leveraging AI for enhanced competitiveness and sustainability through trend analysis, personalized recommendations, and visitor flow forecasting. AI benefits travelers, especially Gen Z, by assisting in trip planning and providing real-time information. Businesses are adopting virtual assistants and data-driven systems, while government initiatives promote digital transformation. However, challenges such as fragmented data and skill shortages exist, indicating a need for improved coordination and investment in a national data-driven tourism infrastructure.



Source: iStoke

Reference:
Vietnam Pictorial. (2026, April 22).
Vietnam's tourism sector accelerates with AI.
<https://vietnam.vnnet.vn/english/tin-van/vietnams-tourism-sector-accelerates-with-ai-441866.html>

6. Cambodia, Singapore target food, AI growth

កម្ពុជា និងសិង្ហបុរី កំណត់គោលដៅជំរុញកំណើនវិស័យអាហារ និងបច្ចេកវិទ្យា AI

Source: [Khmer Times](#)

Cambodia and Singapore are strengthening cooperation in artificial intelligence as part of a broader technology-driven partnership, with discussions between Minister Hem Vandy and Ambassador Steven Pang Chee Wee focusing on joint AI innovation and regional ecosystem development. Singapore highlighted its work on Southeast Asia-focused AI models and interest in collaborating with Cambodian tech firms, while Cambodia emphasized practical, results-oriented exchanges in research and youth engagement. The partnership aims to integrate innovation hubs, support digital and green growth, and build a resilient, AI-enabled regional economy alongside advancements in food systems and trade.



Source: iStoke

Reference:
Khmer Times. (2026, April 23).
Cambodia, Singapore target food, AI growth.
https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501884689/cambodia-singapore-target-food-ai-growth/#google_vignette

7. South Korea's Q1 GDP growth roars past market on booming AI-driven chip demand

សេដ្ឋកិច្ចកូរ៉េខាងត្បូងក្នុងត្រីមាសទី១ កើនឡើងខ្លាំងលើសពីការរំពឹងទុក ដោយសារការបញ្ជាទិញបន្ទុះឈឺប AI មានការកើនឡើងខ្ពស់

Source: [Reuters](#)



South Korea's economy recorded strong first-quarter growth, driven largely by rising global demand for AI-related semiconductors that boosted exports and overall GDP. Major firms like SK Hynix and Samsung Electronics saw significant profit increases due to demand from AI data centre development. This AI-driven chip boom underpinned economic expansion, highlighting the central role of AI infrastructure in growth, though external risks such as geopolitical tensions and energy price shocks may impact future performance.

Reference:

Kim, C. (2026, April 23). South Korea's Q1 GDP growth roars past market on booming AI-driven chip demand. *Reuters*.
<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/south-korea-economic-growth-roared-past-estimates-q1-thanks-chips-2026-04-22/>

8. US and Philippines plan economic security zone focused on AI and supply chains

សហរដ្ឋអាមេរិក និងហ្វីលីពីន គ្រោងបង្កើតតំបន់សន្តិសុខសេដ្ឋកិច្ច ផ្ដោតលើបញ្ញាសិប្បនិម្មិត (AI) និងខ្សែច្រវាក់ផ្គត់ផ្គង់

Source: [Digwatch](#)



The United States and the Philippines plan to establish a 4,000-acre Economic Security Zone focused on AI and supply chains, aimed at strengthening advanced manufacturing, data infrastructure, and technology development. The initiative, led by the United States Department of State in partnership with the Philippine government, will function as an AI-native industrial hub under the Pax Silica framework, integrating key areas such as semiconductors, critical minerals, and computing systems. The project highlights efforts to enhance technological cooperation, align industrial capacity, and reinforce economic security through AI-driven supply chain development.

Reference:

Digwatch. (2026, April 22). *US and Philippines plan economic security zone focused on AI and supply chains*.
<https://dig.watch/updates/us-and-philippines-plan-economic-security-zone-focused-on-ai-and-supply-chains>

9. New WHO/Europe report provides first-ever snapshot of AI in health care across European Union Member States

របាយការណ៍ថ្មីរបស់អង្គការសុខភាពពិភពលោក (WHO) ប្រចាំតំបន់អឺរ៉ុប បានបង្ហាញពីទិដ្ឋភាពរួមជាលើកដំបូង ស្តីពីការប្រើប្រាស់បច្ចេកវិទ្យាសិប្បនិម្មិត (AI) ក្នុងវិស័យសុខាភិបាល នៅតាមបណ្តាប្រទេសជាសមាជិកសហភាពអឺរ៉ុប។

Source: [World Health Organization](https://www.who.int/europe/news/item/20-04-2026-new-who-europe-report-provides-first-ever-snapshot-of-ai-in-health-care-across-european-union-member-states)

Source: iStoke



A report by WHO/Europe provides the first comprehensive overview of AI use in healthcare across EU Member States, showing widespread adoption and strong momentum. Nearly three-quarters of countries use AI for diagnostics, including medical imaging and decision support, while many also deploy chatbots for patient engagement and are creating specialized AI roles. The report highlights a focus on workforce training, governance, and public involvement to ensure safe, ethical, and effective implementation, emphasizing that AI integration must align with skills development, transparency, and trust to improve patient care outcomes.

Reference:

World Health Organization. (2026, April 20). *New WHO/Europe report provides first-ever snapshot of AI in health care across European Union Member States*. <https://www.who.int/europe/news/item/20-04-2026-new-who-europe-report-provides-first-ever-snapshot-of-ai-in-health-care-across-european-union-member-states>

10. Interview: Firms eyeing industrial AI leadership must be in China, says Siemens executive

កិច្ចសម្ភាស៖ យោងតាមនាយកប្រតិបត្តិក្រុមហ៊ុន Siemens បានលើកឡើងថា៖ ក្រុមហ៊ុនដែលចង់នាំមុខគេផ្នែក AI ក្នុងវិស័យឧស្សាហកម្ម ចាំបាច់ត្រូវតែមានវត្តមាននៅក្នុងប្រទេសចិន

Source: [Xinhuanet](https://english.news.cn/20260424/2a074aa57e8640a49aef0d532266addf/c.html)

Source: iStoke



A senior executive from Siemens stated that companies aiming for leadership in industrial AI must operate in China due to its rapid AI development, large manufacturing base, and comprehensive industrial ecosystem. China is highlighted as a key environment for applying AI at scale in sectors like robotics and aerospace, with strong local innovation and partnerships enabling real-world industrial deployment. The remarks emphasize that industrial AI is transitioning from experimentation to practical applications, with China positioned as a major hub for advancing and testing AI-driven industrial technologies.

Reference:

Xinhua. (2026, April 24). Interview: Firms eyeing industrial AI leadership must be in China, says Siemens executive. [Xinhuanet](https://english.news.cn/20260424/2a074aa57e8640a49aef0d532266addf/c.html). <https://english.news.cn/20260424/2a074aa57e8640a49aef0d532266addf/c.html>

PUBLICATIONS 2026

Cambodia continues to face serious risks from landmines and explosive remnants of war despite decades of clearance efforts. This article reviews Cambodia's demining strategy and assesses the role of AI and emerging technologies in accelerating progress toward a mine-free country. It argues that while manual methods remain necessary due to terrain constraints, AI-driven tools can improve detection, planning, and resource use. Strategic integration of technology is essential to enhance safety, efficiency, and long-term recovery.

Reference:

Ros, S. (2026, February 3). *Leveraging AI and Technology for Cambodia's Demining Efforts: A Path Toward a Mine-Free Future by 2025*. AI Forum. <https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-3-2026-leveraging-ai-and-technology-for-cambodias-demining-efforts-a-path-toward-a-mine-free-future-by-2025>

AIF Insights No. 3 (2026) | Leveraging AI and Technology for Cambodia's Demining Efforts: A Path Toward a Mine-Free Future by 2025

Source: [AI Forum](#)

This paper critiques dominant AI ethics frameworks that focus on machines rather than the social and cultural contexts in which they operate. It argues that ethical AI governance should shift from asking whether an AI system is ethical to examining whether its relationship with society is ethical. Using Cambodia as a case study, the paper highlights the limits of universal governance models and proposes an embedded approach informed by sociotechnical theory and Buddhist ethics. It concludes that ethical AI depends less on technical compliance and more on culturally grounded, adaptive governance processes.

Reference:

Waddell, A. (2026, February 5). *The Machine Has No Heart: Culturally Grounded Ethics for the Infosphere*. AI Forum. <https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-4-2026-the-machine-has-no-heart-culturally-grounded-ethics-for-the-infosphere>

AIF Insights No. 4 (2026) | The Machine Has No Heart: Culturally Grounded Ethics for the Infosphere

Source: [AI Forum](#)

PUBLICATIONS 2026

AIF Insights No. 5 (2026) | AI and Electricity: Safeguarding ASEAN's Energy Security and Integration in the Digital Era

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Ros, S. (2026, February 6). *AI and Electricity: Safeguarding ASEAN's Energy Security and Integration in the Digital Era*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/ai-and-electricity-safeguarding-aseans-energy-security-and-integration-in-the-digital-era>

In the face of global energy instability and rising digital power demands, this article explores the critical role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in safeguarding energy security and fostering integration through the ASEAN Power Grid (APG). While ASEAN has established frameworks like the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) to target 23% renewable energy by 2025, a fully integrated regional grid remains a work in progress. The author argues that AI-driven smart grids can significantly enhance efficiency by predicting demand trends, managing real-time electricity flow, and reducing economic disruptions caused by blackouts. However, the transition faces substantial hurdles, including high implementation costs in developing nations, a regional technological gap, and heightened cybersecurity vulnerabilities. Ultimately, the paper concludes that for ASEAN to achieve true energy resilience, member states must prioritize collaborative defense capacity and regulatory frameworks to protect critical infrastructure against shared regional vulnerabilities.

Effective use of generative AI (GenAI) requires transitioning from a “single-tool mindset” to a deliberate system that aligns task purposes with specific model capabilities, operational modes, and rigorous human oversight. While prompting is a starting point, failures often stem from a misalignment between these elements, as different models excel at distinct functions like reasoning, retrieval, or synthesis. Furthermore, users must navigate between rapid, intuitive “System-1” modes for brainstorming and slower, analytical “System-2” modes for complex decision-making. Because GenAI outputs are probabilistic and lack accountability, the framework emphasizes that human verification—proportionate to the task’s risk—is a core professional competency. Ultimately, the paper argues that professional expertise in a GenAI-augmented world is defined by the intentional and accountable integration of these tools into human judgment.

AIF Insights No. 6 (2026) | Generative AI Use: A Task- Model-Mode- Verification Framework

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Lim, S. (2026, February 11). *Generative AI Use: A Task-Model-Mode-Verification Framework*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-6-2026-generative-ai-use-a-task-model-mode-verification-framework>

PUBLICATIONS 2026

AIF Insights No. 7 (2026) | Learning with Generative AI: Making Thinking Harder, Not Easier

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Lim, S. (2026, February 13). *Learning with Generative AI: Making Thinking Harder, Not Easier*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-7-2026-learning-with-generative-ai-making-thinking-harder-not-easier>

This reflective essay explores how technological change reshapes the meaning of sovereignty, particularly for small nations navigating the AI era. Drawing on a multidisciplinary career spanning medicine, history, diplomacy, and nuclear risk governance, the author examines the intellectual motivations behind designing two courses, *The Philosophy of Drone Sovereignty* and *Machines of Conflict*. The article argues that contemporary sovereignty is increasingly epistemic, grounded in a nation's capacity to generate, interpret, and verify its own data, rather than defined solely by territorial control. Through classroom experiences and lessons from nuclear crisis management, including institutional responses to Fukushima, the essay highlights how technological systems intertwine with organizational competence, public trust, and ethical judgment. It concludes that mathematics and physics are not merely academic disciplines but strategic foundations of national resilience, shaping a state's ability to manage risk, maintain autonomy, and govern complex socio-technical systems in an age of automation.

This article argues that the educational impact of generative AI depends not on access but on patterns of use. While GenAI can create an illusion of mastery by encouraging cognitive offloading and passive consumption, it can also function as a cognitive amplifier when used to increase effort, deepen reasoning, and strengthen self-regulated learning. The discussion highlights three common confusions — offloading versus desirable difficulty, fluency versus understanding, and plausibility versus accuracy — and proposes a three-purpose framework of inquiry, practice, and production. The central claim is that GenAI improves learning only when it preserves learners' cognitive work, supports deliberate practice, and reinforces verification, accountability, and critical judgment.

AIF Insights No. 8 (2026) | Teaching Sovereignty in the AI Age: A Self- Reflection

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Chhem, K. R. (2026, February 19). *Teaching Sovereignty in the AI Age: A Self-Reflection*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-8-2026-teaching-sovereignty-in-the-ai-age-a-self-reflection>

PUBLICATIONS 2026

AIF Insights No. 9 (2026) | From Intention to Artificial Wisdom: A Joint Reflection on AI in the Service of Humanity

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Venerable Kou, S. & Chhem, K. R. (2026, February 20). *From Intention to Artificial Wisdom: A Joint Reflection on AI in the Service of Humanity*. AI Forum. <https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-9-2026-from-intention-to-artificial-wisdom-a-joint-reflection-on-ai-in-the-service-of-humanity>

This article examines how Buddhist ethical principles can inform the development and governance of artificial intelligence. It argues that while AI is transforming sectors such as healthcare, education, governance, and finance, its rapid expansion raises serious moral concerns about human dignity, accountability, and social impact. Drawing on core Buddhist teachings, including the Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path, the author proposes a human-centred ethical framework grounded in compassion, mindfulness, and non-harm. The paper further connects the three Buddhist traditions, Hinayana, Mahayana, and Vajrayana, to principles of accountability, inclusivity, and adaptability in AI design. By integrating ancient moral philosophy with modern technological innovation, the article advocates for a balanced approach in which AI advancement supports human flourishing, social well-being, and ethical responsibility rather than undermining them.

This paper presents a joint reflection on Artificial Intelligence from two complementary perspectives including Buddhist practice and the philosophy of technology. We address the fundamental question of what it means for AI to serve humanity, arguing that the answer requires more than technical or political solutions because it necessitates an examination of human intention and the cultivation of the mind. Rather than viewing AI as an independent force, we propose it acts as a moral mirror that amplifies the ethical orientation of its creators and users. By integrating the Khmer concept of Artificial Wisdom, which prioritizes discernment and compassion over mere computational speed, this reflection explores how AI can be aligned with human flourishing and social harmony rather than domination.

AIF Insights No. 10 (2026) | Ethical Integration of Buddhist Principles in AI Development: A Conceptual Reflection

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

May, T. (2026, February 28). *Ethical Integration of Buddhist Principles in AI Development: A Conceptual Reflection*. AI Forum. <https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-10-2026-ethical-integration-of-buddhist-principles-in-ai-development-a-conceptual-reflection>

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AIF Insights No. 11 (2026) | Applying Generative AI in Clinical Care – From Assistant to Ally: Practical, Safe Use at the Point of Care

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Cheab, S. (2026, March 4). *From Intention to Artificial Wisdom: A Joint Reflection on AI in the Service of Humanity*. AI Forum.

<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/no-11applying-generative-ai-in-clinical-care-from-assistant-to-ally-practical-safe-use-at-the-point-of-care>

Generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) is becoming more accessible to doctors, but its application in real-world clinical care poses unique safety, ethical, and professional hazards. This insight offers practical, task-oriented recommendations for using GenAI ethically in everyday clinical work while maintaining human judgment and accountability. The insight is intended for medical students, residents, and practicing physicians, particularly in resource-constrained settings like Cambodia. It focuses on high-value clinical tasks such as supporting diagnostic reasoning, planning investigations, communicating with patients and families, and assisting clinical documentation. Rather than stressing conceptual theory, this insight applies principles, such as effective prompting and the Model-Mode-Verification structure. The key message is clear: GenAI can only increase clinical clarity and efficiency if clinicians remain completely responsible and human-in-the-loop.

This article examines the evolution of Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) from a manual, economic-centric “box-ticking” exercise into a multi-dimensional, AI-driven model of “evidential reasoning”. In the current “Digital Age,” governments are transitioning from being mere regulators of AI to active users of the technology to enhance rule-making through “Agile Regulatory Governance” and “Rules as Code” (RaC). By leveraging AI for text mining, sentiment analysis in public consultations, and automated identification of administrative burdens, policymakers can overcome information overload and create more inclusive, data-driven interventions. However, to mitigate risks such as automation bias and data discrimination, the author argues that a strategic framework must be adopted that prioritizes transparency, multidisciplinary skills, and a strict “human-in-the-loop” approach to ensure technology supports rather than replaces accountable human judgment.

AIF Insights No. 12 (2026) | Navigating Regulatory Impact Assessment in the Age of AI

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Ros, S. (2026, March 7). *Navigating Regulatory Impact Assessment in the Age of AI*. AI Forum.

<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-12-2026-navigating-regulatory-impact-assessment-in-the-age-of-ai>

PUBLICATIONS 2026

**AIF Insights No. 13
(2026) | The Drone
Revolution: A Strategic
Roadmap for
Technology Integration
and Policy Action in
Cambodia and the
Global South**

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Ros, S. (2026, March 9). *The Drone Revolution: A Strategic Roadmap for Technology Integration and Policy Action in Cambodia and the Global South*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-13-2026-the-drone-revolution-a-strategic-roadmap-for-technology-integration-and-policy-action-in-cambodia-and-the-global-south>

This article explores the transformative potential and regulatory challenges of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), particularly within the context of Cambodia and the Global South. While drones have evolved from military roots into versatile “flying platforms” for precision agriculture, disaster management, and infrastructure inspection, their proliferation raises significant concerns regarding technical sovereignty, data privacy, and ethical automation. The author argues that Cambodia’s conservative regulatory stance—rooted in past security incidents—should transition toward a proactive strategy that leverages regional successes in 3D modeling of cultural heritage and intelligent flood forecasting. Ultimately, the paper provides a strategic roadmap recommending the establishment of a comprehensive legal framework, privacy by design through geofencing, and investment in open-source technology to ensure that drone integration serves national development rather than creating external dependence.

PUBLICATIONS 2026

The rapid global proliferation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) has fundamentally reconfigured geopolitical power dynamics by democratizing airpower and lowering the threshold for the use of military force. While over 95 nations now deploy drones, these “unmanned” systems remain heavily dependent on human operators who face unique psychological challenges due to the disconnect between remote combat and domestic life. In Asia, the fast-growing drone market supports community resilience through applications in agriculture and environmental monitoring, yet it also presents a “big data divide” where information control remains concentrated in wealthy international entities. For Cambodia, integrating drone technology offers significant opportunities for sustainable development and maritime surveillance, provided the nation adopts a strategic roadmap focused on economic resilience, technological sovereignty through open-source frameworks, and robust regulatory safety measures like geofencing. Ultimately, navigating this frontier requires a balance between leveraging autonomous technological advancements and maintaining human oversight of ethical and security-related decision-making

AIF Insights No. 14 (2026) | The Robotic Frontier: Reconfiguring Global Power and the Geopolitics of Unmanned Systems

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Ros, S. (2026, March 10). *The Robotic Frontier: Reconfiguring Global Power and the Geopolitics of Unmanned Systems*. AI Forum.

<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-14-2026-the-robotic-frontier-reconfiguring-global-power-and-the-geopolitics-of-unmanned-systems>

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