



Outcome report
Spotlight Session
Friday July 9, 10-10h20 AM CEST

Description: in this session Dafna Feinholz and Marco Obiso discussed about the ethics of emerging technologies.

1. Main outcomes highlighting the following

a. The bedrock for the development of emerging technologies

- Ethics is about decision-making process. It is about what we decide, who decides and when to make the decision. There are three levels in the process.
- From the technological point of view, a lot can be done. There is a need for society as a whole to have a reflection about, what will be the impact of emerging technologies? Where do we want the technologies to bring us? What kind of society do we want to have with these technologies? How can we make sure we have the best with these technologies? That is the second level, the ethical reflection.
- Something that is particularly important is who is going to answer these questions? How far to go? What will be the impact? This is another layer of ethics. All those who are going to be involved and affected by the technologies must have a say. Therefore, we need to have a very inclusive and comprehensive process of societal thinking.
- Then we can have some kind of legislation at the end, as the third step. Once the society has reached an agreement, then we need to make sure that there are some limits that everybody can respect and that all the common understandings are there and respected through the legislation.

b. Shaping emerging technologies in an ethical manner, respecting human rights

- Ethics involves asking the right questions. One of them is how are we going to avoid the biases such as gender, ethical and cultural biases.

- Ethics involves asking the right questions, making sure that we have a very inclusive and very multidisciplinary and pluralistic approach. The idea is to have a comprehensive reflection around the world with the different target populations that are going to be affected or included in these technologies and then having them in the discussions.
- The relationship between culture and technology changes from one culture to another. Hence it is important to have a comprehensive and inclusive dialogue with the stakeholders, in order to ensure that all the right questions and the right issues will be considered.

c. The work of UNESCO on the ethics of AI

- Unesco is in the process of developing the first global instrument that aims to be the blueprint for lawmakers. It will be an ethical compass on how to apply artificial intelligence from the what to the how. It includes the values, the principles and policy actions and has tools to facilitate the implementation. It also includes tools that Member States can use to assess the impact of these technologies at the national level and to measure the readiness of the countries.