

# VMind

## Input to the Global Digital Compact

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Revision B

Public

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VMind Public

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#### **Release History**

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April 29, 2023	А	Public
April 29, 2023	В	Public

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VMind: Input to the Global Digital Compact VMD 0426023-B

Copyright © 2023 VMind Technologies, Inc. All rights reserved. https://www.vmindai.com Dr. Amandeep Singh Gill Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology United Nations New York, New York United States of America

Dear Dr. Amandeep Singh Gill,

VMind is a privately funded, for-profit artificial intelligence (AI) research and compute corporation based in San Francisco, California and Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States.

As a stakeholder in regulation of artificial intelligence, VMind followed a Habermasian process, rooted in the philosophy of Jürgen Habermas, that emphasizes communicative action and the importance of inclusive, democratic deliberation, to prepare this input for the Global Digital Compact.

VMind believes all governments, companies, civil society organizations and other stakeholders of regulation of artificial intelligence should pledge the following principium:

To *responsibly* develop artificial intelligence *for the use* and *sake* of humanity, and *never* for its harm.

This principium follows from a pluralistic synthesis by leading Oxford ethicist Luciano Floridi (2019) of major AI ethics declarations from across the world down to a set of five common agreed-upon principles: (1) explicability, (2) beneficence, (3) autonomy (4) justice, and (5) non-maleficence.

If you have any questions or comments about this input, please contact Jabran Ilyas, VMind Head of AI Ethics, at jabran.ilyas@vmindai.com.

Respectfully, VMind Technologies, Inc.

## Input to the GDC on Regulation of AI

## **Core Principles**

VMind believes all governments, companies, civil society organizations and other stakeholders of regulation of artificial intelligence should adhere to the following five principles:

- I. Beneficence.
- II. Non-maleficence.
- III. Autonomy.
- IV. Justice.
- V. Explicability.

These five principles were identified by L. Floridi and J. Cowls (2019) as common to all the following major AI ethics declarations: the 2017 Asilomar AI Principles (Future of Life Institute 2017); the 2017 Montreal Declaration for Responsible AI (Forum on the Socially Responsible Development of AI, 2017); the General Principles of the 2nd version of the Ethically Aligned Design document by the IEEE Global Initiative on Ethics of Autonomous and Intelligent Systems (IEEE 2017); the European Commission' s European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies' 2018 Statement on Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and 'Autonomous' Systems (EGE 2018); the 'five overarching principles for an AI code' in the 2018 UK House of Lords 2018); and the six Pillars of the Partnership on AI (Partnership on AI, 2018).

## Key Commitments, Pledges and Actions

In agreence with the principles I-V above, VMind believes all governments, companies, civil society organizations and other stakeholders of regulation of artificial intelligence should pledge to:

*Responsibly* develop artificial intelligence *for the use* and *sake* of humanity, and *never* for its harm.

Accordingly, VMind pledges to responsibly develop artificial intelligence for the use and sake of humanity, and never for its harm.

### Annex: Process

VMind followed a Habermasian process, rooted in the philosophy of Jürgen Habermas, that emphasizes communicative action and the importance of inclusive, democratic deliberation. To prepare this input, VMind took the following steps:

1. Identifying diverse stakeholders: VMind first identified a diverse range of stakeholders from the within the company, ensuring that multiple perspectives were considered in the process.

2. Promoting open and inclusive communication: To facilitate democratic deliberation, VMind organized a series of online fora where stakeholders could engage in open and inclusive dialogue. The company ensured that these platforms were accessible to all within the company, providing accommodations where relevant.

3. Establishing a transparent and accountable process: VMind made sure that the deliberative process was transparent and accountable by publishing agendas, minutes, and decisions of the meetings to everyone in the company. This allowed stakeholders and everyone else in the company to follow the process and hold participants accountable for their actions, if any.

4. Encouraging rational discourse: VMind emphasized the importance of rational discourse, which is a key component of Habermasian communication. This meant that participants were encouraged to present evidence-based arguments, critique others' positions constructively, and strive for consensus in decisionmaking.

5. Ensuring equal participation: VMind took measures to ensure that all stakeholders had an equal opportunity to participate in the deliberative process. This involved providing resources, such as training and support, to help every participant engage effectively in the discussions regardless of their role or seniority in the company.

6. Iterative consultation and feedback: VMind carried out multiple rounds of consultation and feedback to refine the input document. This iterative process allowed stakeholders to address any concerns, suggestions, or objections and helped reach a broad consensus.

7. Integrating consensus outcomes: Once the deliberations concluded, VMind integrated the outcomes into the final input document for the Global Digital Compact. The company made sure to highlight areas of consensus, as well as acknowledge differing opinions and the reasoning behind them.

8. Publicizing the final input document: To maintain transparency and accountability, VMind published the final input document within the company's internal network, making it accessible to all interested parties. This allowed for ongoing feedback and monitoring of VMind's input for the Global Digital Compact.



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