

Beijing Forum 2019 Humanity and Legal Governance in the Digital Era (II)

On the afternoon of November 2, 2019, the third and the fourth sessions of the panel "Humanity and Legal Governance in the Digital Era" were held in Meeting room No. 3, Yingjie Exchange Center, Peking University. The third session, "Global Governance of AI", was chaired by Professor Don Howard from the University of Notre Dame, USA.

The first presenter was Martine Kunz, researcher from Cambridge University, UK, who presented on "Global AI Governance: Rationale, Architecture and Challenges". She started with preliminary remarks on AI governance as the governance of AI application and effects, not of fundamental AI research and development, and also suggested that AI should be governed both on the international level, but also on the national level. The scope of the governance should be differentiated, using various rules including laws and common practices in governance. She further mentioned that, as time changes, all human beings would be influenced by AI, thus bringing new challenges to governance order, including international law. At the end of her presentation, she proposed the need to build the architecture of global AI governance, and, combining with the critiques about the present governance system, we should respond more positively to the changes brought by AI.

The second presenter, professor Shi Zengzhi, from Peking University, presented on "Re-tribalization: Internet Governance amid Competing Subject Powers". Professor Shi first told a little story which proves that the direction of technological development doesn't follow our present will and imagination. She introduced the concept of tribalization, considering AI broke the simplification of linear transmission of traditional media, which then realized rapid deconstruction and reorganization of time and space, and brought challenges to the governance in digital era. With changes in modes and shapes of transmission, the dynamic exchange of rights is also a re-tribalization process. Professor Shi expressed her view that AI needs to be governed by combination of various powers, and the abilities to self-govern and communicate are especially important. At the end of her presentation, she proposed that technology is a tool but also a human action, the essence of technological problem is the problem of human development, and therefore organic unity as the

vital force in human development should also be taken in consideration in Internet governance.

Luciano Floridi, a professor from Oxford University, presented on "AI as a Divorce between Agency and Intelligence and its Consequences". With the appearance of more efficient learning machines, the world has been enveloped, and humans no longer remain as the subject of the world. Through an example of a folding machine, he demonstrated that if we turn complex things into simple ones, the process of machine replacing manpower can be realized. He listed opportunities and risks for AI and further discussed the ethics about AI. Professor Floridi compared the principles and practices in about AI application in various areas, and proposed that we should fully utilize the positive effects of AI, especially in environmental protection. Finally, he expressed his belief that AI will have significance in sustainable development.

The fourth session, "Ethics in Technology" was begun after the break, and was chaired by Professor Huang Tiejun, from Peking University.

The first presenter was Dr. Peter D. Hershock, Director of the Asian Studies Development Program of the East-West Center, Hawaii, who spoke on "The Intelligence Revolution as Ethical Singularity: The Global Challenge of Realizing Humane and Equitable Artificial Intelligence." He expressed his view that AI was a revolution, decentering humanity's place in the cosmos both physically and metaphysically in which humans played a role both as the consumer and the producer of intelligent data. The development of attention economy from 1.0 to 2.0 presented the enlargement of AI application and the function of digital economy. About the ethics of AI, he mentioned the interconnection of things and the causal cycle in the Buddhist tradition can be applied to improve people's relation with AI. He also proposed that we don't need a new virtue system, but a sustainable ecosystem of virtue, which needs worldwide country collaboration to realize the development of humankind for all.

Don Howard, a professor from the University of Notre Dame, presented on "Big Data, AI and Civic Virtue". From the perspective of public virtue, he expressed his view that we should focus on the behavior of the community consisting of individuals. After reviewing several scholars' opinions, he proposed that we should pay attention to the moral value presented by the behavior itself, and there is distinction between public virtues on the personal level and on the group level. He expressed his view that technological virtues can help solve technical problems, but because of the

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unpredictability of technological virtues, it is necessary for humans to have forethoughtfulness and Socratism. Finally, he proposed that we need to protect the whistleblower and broaden expression channels to encourage different opinions.

The last presenter, Thorsten Jelinek, director and senior fellow from the Taihe Institute, spoke on "The Ethics and Governance of AI". He first talked about the factors driving the AI ethics and governance debate, and further mentioned that AI is causing new security and transformative risks. He discussed the cybersecurity problem using the example of 5G, that the risks of AI are unpredictable and may cause disorder in the whole society, and there be more new and effective attacks. At present, major economic blocs have their own perspectives and positions, and we should pursue proper settlement of the worldwide problem on the basis of seeking common ground while reserving differences.