METAVERSE SAFETY WEEK

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GLOBAL POLICY AND REGULATIONS

AN URGENT NEED FOR GLOBAL REGULATIONS AND GOVERNANCE FOR AI AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

DECEMBER 14, 2023
THE ROUNDTABLE REPORT

CO-ORGANIZED BY:

XRSI
Human Intelligence In The Loop

GPA
Global Privacy Assembly

SUPPORTED BY:

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STANDARDS Australia

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proliferation of AI and emerging technologies is rapidly reshaping our digital ecosystems, demanding immediate and coordinated regulatory responses on a global scale. While the marriage of AI with the Metaverse and other platforms heralds a new age of innovation, it simultaneously introduces complexities that challenge our existing policy frameworks. These complexities, coupled with the borderless nature of the metaverse, underscore the urgent imperative for international governance that ensures user protection and technological growth in tandem. As we navigate this uncharted terrain, the call for collective global action resonates more robustly than ever. Constructing these new regulatory scaffolds is not a solitary endeavor; it mandates a harmonized effort involving policymakers, technologists, legal experts, and users alike. Every stakeholder plays a pivotal role in drafting a future where AI and related technologies are used responsibly, ethically, and to the benefit of humanity at large.

Emerging Regulatory Landscape and International Efforts:
Discussions on global policy commenced by examining critical international efforts to regulate AI. The European Union has made significant strides with its proposed Artificial Intelligence Act,[1] aiming to set legal precedents for the responsible use of AI, with a keen focus on high-risk applications and transparency. In the United States, legislative developments such as the Algorithmic Accountability Act of 2023[2] and executive orders[3] are shaping the landscape to foster innovation and collaboration in AI. In the East, nations like Japan[4] and South Korea[5] are seamlessly weaving AI governance into their digital strategies.

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1. European Commission. (2023, December 21). A European approach to artificial intelligence. Shaping Europe's digital future. https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/european-approach-artificial-intelligence
2. Congress. (2023, December 21). GovInfo. https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/BILLS-118hr5628ih
3. Executive Order on the Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence. (2023, October 30). The White House. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2023/10/30/executive-order-on-the-safe-secure-and-trustworthy-development-and-use-of-artificial-intelligence/
4. OECD.AI. (2021). Data policy initiatives dashboard. OECD.AI. Accessed 26 Dec 2023. https://oecd.ai/en/dashboards/policy-initiatives/http:%2F%2Faipo.oecd.org%2F2021-data-policyInitiatives-25312
5. see Footnote 4

Concurrently, influential organizations like the OECD, with their established AI principles,[6] and UNESCO, with their guidelines on AI ethics,[7] are championing the need for unified and effective governance frameworks. The UN Secretary-General's AI Advisory Body has also contributed to this discourse with its "Governing AI for Humanity" interim report,[8] which underscores the imperative of robust global governance and harmonizing international standards, particularly critical in the context of the evolving Metaverse.

The Need for International Collaboration:

AI's borderless nature necessitates global policy formulation, particularly within the Metaverse. Harmonizing regulations is essential for facilitating technological progress and safeguarding user experiences. This requires balancing innovation with regulation, ensuring ethical use, user safety, and privacy in immersive technologies.

Transparency and Accountability in AI and the Metaverse:

Transparent AI practices are vital for maintaining public trust, mitigating risks such as biases, and fostering ethical usage in immersive environments. This extends to protecting intellectual property and public interest in both AI and immersive technologies.

Inclusive Policymaking and Diverse Stakeholder Engagement:

The roundtable emphasized the importance of involving many stakeholders in shaping regulations. Diverse perspectives enrich policymaking, leading to more comprehensive regulations that address unique challenges and opportunities in AI and immersive technologies.

Strategic Intelligence Gathering by GPA and XRSI:

The Global Policy & Regulations roundtable, co-hosted by the Global Privacy Alliance (GPA) and XRSI, emerged as a crucial convening for foresight and policy synthesis in AI and emerging technologies. Dedicated to sculpting a resilient framework for the burgeoning digital domain, the roundtable delved into the intricacies of global regulatory coherence, ethical AI deployment, and safeguarding digital rights.

6. OECD.AI. OECD AI Principles. OECD.AI. https://oecd.ai/en/ai-principles
7. UNESCO. (2021, November). Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence. UNESCO.
 https://www.unesco.org/en/artificial-intelligence/recommendation-ethics
8. United Nations. (2023). High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence. United Nations. https://www.un.org/en/ai-advisory-body

It championed the harmonization of international standards, the nurturing of cross-border data stewardship, and the fortification of privacy paradigms. The dialogue, rich with the expertise of a global consortium of technologists, legal scholars, and governance architects, propelled a unified vision for equitable and conscientious AI integration in our shared digital future.

The Global Policy & Regulations roundtable at Metaverse Safety Week 2023 was pivotal in fostering dialogue and laying the groundwork for future collaborative efforts. It underscored the need for collective action in shaping the future of AI and emerging technologies. The insights and strategies discussed are expected to significantly influence the journey towards a safe, innovative, and ethically responsible digital future in 2024 and beyond, balancing the critical themes of AI governance with the broader objectives of sustainable and inclusive global development.

Elizabeth Rothman,
Senior Advisor, XRSI
Chair - Global Policy and
Regulations, MSW2023

Burcu Kilic,
CIGI | Senior Advisor, XRSI
Co-Chair - Global Policy and
Regulations, MSW2023

INTRODUCTION

On **December 14, 2023** the strategic intelligence Roundtable Discussion on global policy and regulations occurred, marking a significant milestone. This crucial event, co-hosted by the **Global Privacy Assembly(GPA)** and **X Reality Safety Intelligence (XRSI)**, convened various stakeholders. Participants included global policymakers and regulators, representatives from major technology companies, international business executives, lawyers with expertise in digital rights and technology law, engaged global citizens, community leaders, civic organizations, academics focused on tech policy and governance, and innovative tech startups operating in the Metaverse and AI sectors. This assembly aimed to tackle the pressing issue underscored by the urgent need for global regulations and governance for AI and emerging technologies.

The intricacies of this evolving landscape and the borderless nature of the metaverse have magnified the urgency for international governance. Such governance is imperative to safeguard users' interests while nurturing the continuous growth of these transformative technologies. As we chart our course through this uncharted territory, the call for collective global action resonates more strongly than ever.

The creation of these new regulatory structures is not a solitary undertaking. Instead, it is a collaborative effort that requires policymakers, technologists, legal experts, and users' active participation. Every stakeholder holds a pivotal role in shaping the future, ensuring that AI and related technologies are deployed responsibly, ethically, and ultimately for the greater benefit of humanity.

This roundtable served as a crucible for profound dialogue and collaboration. Participants came together with the shared goal of drafting actionable strategies, regulatory blueprints, and governance models. These endeavors prioritize both innovation and users' overarching safety and rights within the AI-augmented world.

KEY OBJECTIVES INCLUDED

- **Fostering International Collaboration:** To cultivate unity among nations and create a cohesive global approach to AI and emerging technologies regulation.

- **Enabling Inclusive Policymaking:** To ensure diverse voices are heard in regulatory decision-making, leading to comprehensive and balanced policies.

- **Balancing Innovation with Regulatory Standards and Frameworks:** To strike a harmonious equilibrium between promoting technological innovation and establishing robust regulatory standards and frameworks.

This post-roundtable report encapsulates the invaluable insights and collaborative spirit that emanated from the event. It represents a significant step forward in the collective endeavor to construct regulatory foundations that encourage innovation while upholding the safety and rights of users in an AI-augmented world.

INTRODUCING SWARM AI

Metaverse Safety Week 2023 elevated the roundtable experience by integrating **Swarm AI®** technology from **Unanimous AI**. The innovative approach combined real-time human insights with AI algorithms, inspired by nature's swarm intelligence, to amplify collective decision-making. Participants engaged in a dynamic voting process, contributing to decisions that reflect a more profound collective wisdom for safeguarding the interests of AI and Emerging Technologies.

Swarm AI® technology, developed by Unanimous AI, employs a unique combination of real-time human input and AI algorithms that are modeled after swarms in nature. Swarm Intelligence is the reason why birds flock, bees swarm, and fish school – they are smarter together than alone. Nature shows us that by forming closed-loop systems, groups can produce insights that greatly exceed the abilities of any individual member. While humans have not evolved this ability naturally, Swarm AI technology enables this artificially, allowing groups to amplify their intelligence by forming real-time swarms.

THE ROUNDTABLE OVERVIEW:

On December 14, 2023, GPA and XRSI organized a strategic intelligence roundtable focused on global policy and regulations as a part of the 2023 Metaverse Safety Week, an annual awareness campaign to promote a safe and positive experience within immersive environments. The primary goal of this year's campaign was to explore the intersections of AI and emerging technologies and raise awareness about the importance of building safe experiences and promoting responsible behavior within the Metaverse. The Roundtable was three hours of exciting and engaging discussions from experts in various areas who brought their experience about "An urgent need for global regulations and governance for AI and emerging technologies" to the audience.
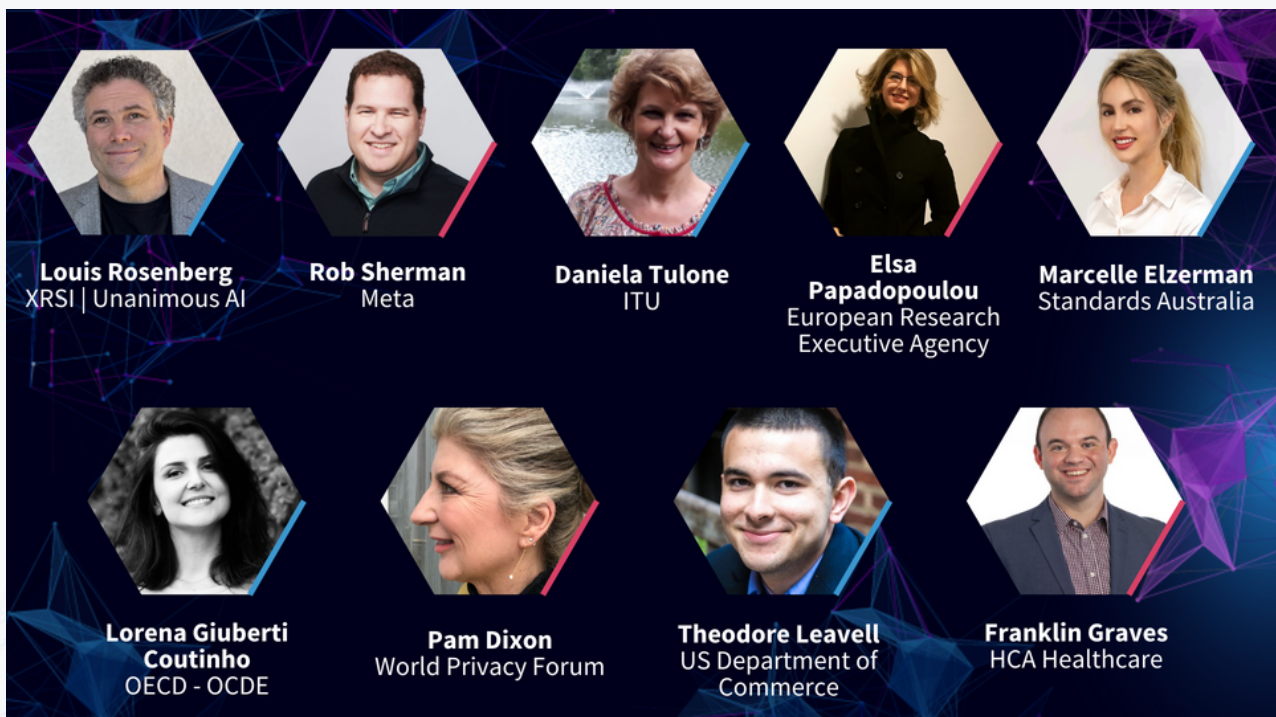
The hosts, **Elizabeth Rothman** and **Kavya Pearlman** were joined by the following individuals for the discussion. Burcu Kilic also supported the discussion, with support from several XRSI Team Members and Advisors in the background.

The conversation started with distinct opening remarks from **Dr. Louis Rosenberg**, the CEO of Unanimous AI and Global technology advisor to XRSI. Dr. Rosenberg's remarks at the Metaverse Safety Week roundtable focused on the challenges and potential risks of AI and its integration into the Metaverse. Rosenberg defined the Metaverse as interactive computing environments providing immersive experiences in virtual and augmented worlds. He noted that generative AI, particularly conversational agents, could engage users in persuasive dialogues, adapting real-life tactics based on user responses and emotions. He emphasized the importance of understanding and preparing for the sophisticated capabilities of AI, particularly in terms of targeted influence and emotional manipulation, noting it as the "AI Manipulation Problem".[9] This capability, he warned, allows for unprecedented targeted influence, outmatching the public in terms of persuasive power.

9. Rosenberg, L. (2023, June 19). The Manipulation Problem: Conversational AI as a Threat to Epistemic Agency. arXiv. https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.11748

Rosenberg stressed the necessity of educating policymakers and regulators about the unique nature of generative AI, which goes beyond traditional forms of influence. His insights were geared towards acknowledging the unprecedented nature of AI's impact in digital environments and the urgency of developing effective strategies to mitigate potential risks, ensuring a safe and ethical integration of AI into the Metaverse.

The following distinguished panelists brought forth their knowledge. They explored actionable strategies and collaborative initiatives to draft actionable strategies, regulatory blueprints, and governance models that prioritize both innovation and individual's overarching safety and rights in the AI-augmented world

Louis Rosenberg
XRSI | Unanimous AI

Rob Sherman
Meta

Daniela Tulone
ITU

Elsa Papadopoulou
European Research Executive Agency

Marcelle Elzerman
Standards Australia

Lorena Giuberti Coutinho
OECD - OCDE

Pam Dixon
World Privacy Forum

Theodore Leavell
US Department of Commerce

Franklin Graves
HCA Healthcare

Pam Dixon, representing the Global Privacy Assembly (GPA), introduced the organization as a formal body comprising over 130 data protection authorities, accredited through national regulations or regional laws. These authorities are responsible for enforcing national and, in some cases, sub-regional data protection laws. Established in the late 1970s, the GPA has grown alongside the global expansion of data protection, with recent

additions of four new countries passing comprehensive data protection legislation. This growth signifies the continuous expansion of this influential global body, which boasts strong representation worldwide. Dixon concluded her introduction by acknowledging the ongoing potential for further growth within the GPA.

Rob Sherman emphasized the significance of integrating discussions about AI and the Metaverse, stressing their mutual reinforcement in shaping future technologies. He highlighted the role of artificial intelligence as essential for the Metaverse's future, illustrated by the development of Meta's smart glasses. These glasses, equipped with multimodal AI, offer functionalities like language translation and enhanced accessibility, demonstrating AI's potential to improve daily life and communication. Sherman also underlined the importance of thoughtful and responsible technology development, focusing on privacy, security, equity, and inclusion. He advocated for collaborative decision-making in regulating these emerging technologies, involving various stakeholders, including academics, nonprofits, and companies.

Daniela Tulone focused on sustainable design in the Metaverse, highlighting the work at ITU regarding AI sustainability and Metaverse design. She emphasized the importance of considering sustainability at the design stage addressing environmental, social, and economic risks. Tulone pointed out the inefficiency of addressing individual sustainability issues in isolation and advocated for an integrated approach to evaluate direct and indirect impacts. She stressed the need for systematic design approaches and developing new metrics and methodologies to evaluate sustainability, reflecting on ITU's three-phased approach in this domain.

> *"It is really important to embrace the complexity of sustainability. Addressing it at the design stage is a complex task, but we don't have another choice. We need to focus on emerging opportunities."*
>
> *- Daniela Tulone, ITU*

Dr. Diane Janosek highlighted the urgency of global regulations and governance in AI and emerging technologies. She emphasized the need for global regulatory collaboration, inclusive governance, diverse participation, and preventative policymaking for sustainable development. Janosek stressed the importance of aligning policies across borders to safeguard Metaverse users and advocated for regulatory approaches that embrace diversity by involving varied voices and cultures. She emphasized the necessity of a prevention-focused mindset in drafting regulations to ensure responsible and sustainable harnessing of emerging technologies.

Elsa Papadopoulou discussed the ethical dimensions of AI and Metaverse technologies, questioning whose ethics and rationale should be applied in their design and deployment. She emphasized the importance of considering the purpose of use, weighing benefits against potential harms, and conducting thorough cost-benefit analyses. Papadopoulou highlighted the EU AI Act's provisions for risk management and discussed the principle of 'do no harm,' suggesting that AI technologies should aim beyond this baseline towards doing good. She advocated for meaningful dialogue and collaboration in designing principles and regulatory aspects, ensuring they serve worthwhile purposes and benefit users.

Lorena Coutinho discussed the intersection of AI and immersive technologies, focusing on their impact on global regulations and governance. She mentioned OECD's forthcoming digital economy outlook chapter on VR, which aims to provide an in-depth analysis of these technologies beyond hype, focusing on privacy. Coutinho stressed the importance of multi-stakeholder discussions in immersive technologies, citing the Oecd Global Forum on Technology as a platform for such dialogues. She emphasized the need for responsible and human-centered development of immersive technologies, inviting attendees to stay updated on Oecd's initiatives in this field.

KEY MESSAGES FROM THE DISCUSSION:

- **Responsible Integration of AI and Metaverse:** The discussions highlighted the need to integrate AI with the Metaverse in a responsible and user-centric manner. This includes focusing on user safety, privacy, and sustainability from the design stage.

- **Ethical Considerations and Privacy:** A recurring theme was the importance of ethical considerations in developing and deploying technologies. The discussion emphasized the need for meaningful dialogue and global regulatory collaboration to effectively navigate ethical complexities and privacy concerns.

- **Inclusive and Collaborative Policymaking:** There was a strong advocacy for inclusive and collaborative approaches in policy-making and governance. This involves multi-stakeholder participation, ensuring that diverse voices are heard and considered in shaping the future of immersive technologies.

- **Emphasis on User Welfare and Sustainable Practices:** The need to prioritize user welfare and implement sustainable practices in developing these technologies was underscored. This includes addressing current needs and anticipating future challenges and opportunities.

- **Actionable Strategies and Forward-Thinking Policies:** The roundtable served as a platform for setting forth actionable strategies and developing forward-thinking policies. The discussions aimed to set a path for the development of ethical, responsible, and inclusive technology, ensuring benefits for the entire digital ecosystem.

- **Balancing Innovation with Ethical Governance:** The event highlighted the challenge of balancing the immense innovation potential presented by AI and the Metaverse with the need for ethical governance and user safety.

The Global Policy & Regulations Strategic Intelligence Roundtable for Metaverse Safety Week 2023 convened a group of experts, each bringing unique insights on integrating AI and emerging technologies within the Metaverse. The discussions underscored the transformative potential of these technologies, tempered by an acute awareness of the ethical, privacy, and sustainability challenges they pose. Themes of integrating AI with the Metaverse responsibly and prioritizing user safety, privacy, and sustainability from the outset of design were recurrent throughout the event. The necessity for ethical considerations in technology development was a central topic, highlighting the need for meaningful dialogue and global regulatory collaboration to manage the complex ethical landscape effectively.

In summary, the roundtable emphasized the importance of responsible development, ethical considerations, inclusivity, and collaboration in shaping the future of AI and the Metaverse. The discussions pointed towards a future where technology development is guided by comprehensive policies and standards, prioritizing the welfare of all stakeholders in the digital ecosystem.

"We need to make these hard decisions together collaboratively. It is critical to think about these two things [AI and Metaverse] together in the same conversation, as they are related and influence each other in important ways."

- Rob Sherman, VP & Deputy Chief Privacy Officer - Meta

GLOBAL POLICY AND REGULATIONS

THEMATIC SESSION 1:
GOVERNANCE REIMAGINED: BUILDING ADAPTIVE REGULATORY STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORKS FOR THE METAVERSE

Thematic discussion on "Governance Reimagined: Building Adaptive Regulatory Standards and Frameworks for the Metaverse," was a strategic assembly designed to leverage the expertise of global stakeholders in shaping adaptable, forward-thinking policies for the ever-evolving technological landscape. The session was crucial for aligning collective efforts toward developing a safe, innovative, and inclusive Metaverse, emphasizing the need for ongoing policy evolution to address the dynamic nature of technological advancements.

The primary objective of the session was to explore and develop adaptive regulatory standards and frameworks suitable for the rapidly evolving Metaverse environment. The focus was on harmonizing policies to facilitate global cooperation, ensuring safe and secure technology deployment, and fostering an environment conducive to innovation and trade. The session aimed to bring together diverse perspectives to address immersive technology and AI's unique policy and regulatory challenges, thereby laying the groundwork for an ecosystem that balances innovation with consumer protection and ethical considerations.

Theodore Leavell, representing the International Trade Administration Department of Commerce, U.S.A., set the stage as he emphasized immersive technology's critical role as a digital economy driver. He noted the necessity for a foundation of safe, secure, and trustworthy policies to enable these technologies, advocating for harmonizing policies and regulatory frameworks. This, he suggested, would promote two-way trade and investment, driving the growth and adoption of immersive technologies. Leavell stressed the importance of global cooperation and coordinated approaches to address immersive tech and AI challenges.

He also highlighted the ongoing momentum in AI governance, with increasing alignment around frameworks evaluating and mitigating risks based on international standards and best practices.

> *"Immersive tech presents an enormous opportunity, but we must harness it for good while protecting citizens from potentially serious risks. Safe, secure, and trustworthy policy, coupled with regulatory alignment and harmonization of standards, will lay the foundations for increased benefits."*
>
> **- Theodore Leavell, Department of Commerce, U.S.A.**

The session brought about several key recommendations, as follows:

- **Regulatory Alignment and Harmonization**
  - Harmonized standards to reduce trade barriers.
  - Global innovation and competition enhancement.

- **Global Co-operation**
  - Coordinated international approaches for immersive tech and AI.
  - Fostering market competition.

- **Engagement with Diverse Stakeholders**
  - Involving academia, civil society, industry, and the public sector.
  - Understanding opportunities and risks of AI and immersive tech.

- **Balancing Benefits and Risks**
  - Policy approaches balancing advantages and consumer protection.
  - Addressing risks in immersive tech and AI.

- **Focus on Practical Implementation**
  - Adapting policies for technologies like digital twins.
  - Thoughtful responses to evolving tech landscapes.

- **Strengthening Existing Institutions**
  - Leveraging existing frameworks for new AI and immersive tech challenges.

- **Global Co-operation**
  - Coordinated international approaches for immersive tech and AI.
  - Fostering market competition.

During the discussion, a significant emphasis was placed on the challenges associated with the effective deployment and monitoring of global legislation in technology and AI, particularly with an eye toward the burgeoning Metaverse. This highlighted a crucial aspect of how global policies are implemented and the importance of assessing their impact in diverse technological landscapes, including the rapidly expanding virtual environments of the Metaverse. There was a particular focus on the difficulties faced by smaller countries in having their voices heard and influencing the formulation of these global legislations. This issue is especially pertinent in a technological environment predominantly dominated by the interests and perspectives of Western countries. The need for a more inclusive approach in global policy-making was underscored, recognizing the importance of incorporating diverse viewpoints to create more equitable and effective legislation, which is vital for the equitable development of the Metaverse.

Furthermore, the session brought to light the dynamic nature of legislation in response to the rapidly evolving field of technology and the growth of the Metaverse. Using the EU AI Act[10] as a prime example, it was noted that initial drafts of such legislation had to be revised to account for recent and significant advancements in technology, such as the incorporation of large language models, which have gained prominence only in recent months and are pivotal in shaping the Metaverse experience. Additionally, there was a strong consensus on the need for legislation specifically targeting the environmental impacts of AI models. This is seen as a critical step in ensuring that the development and deployment of AI technologies, which are integral to the Metaverse, advance innovation and also conscientiously address sustainability concerns. This approach aims to align technological progress within the Metaverse with ecological responsibility, ensuring that the virtual worlds we create are sustainable and responsible extensions of our physical reality.

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10. European Parliament. (2023, December 9). Artificial Intelligence Act: deal on comprehensive rules for trustworthy AI. European Parliament. https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20231206IPR15699/artificial-intelligence-act-deal-on-comprehensive-rules-for-trustworthy-ai

GLOBAL POLICY AND REGULATIONS

In summary, Thematic Session 1 emphasized the need for adaptive governance in the evolving Metaverse, highlighting the importance of global collaboration, regulatory alignment, and inclusive stakeholder engagement. Participants highlighted the importance of engaging a broad spectrum of stakeholders, ensuring that policy development and implementation are inclusive, diverse, and reflective of these emerging technologies' complex, interdependent nature. The session set a foundation for developing regulatory frameworks that balance immersive technologies and AI innovation with consumer safety and rights, steering the Metaverse toward a secure, equitable, and prosperous future for all.

THEMATIC SESSION 2:
NAVIGATING MARKET DYNAMICS AND TRANSPARENCY IN THE METAVERSE AND AI ECONOMY: THE TRADE SECRETS DILEMMA

The thematic discussion on "Navigating Market Dynamics and Transparency in the Metaverse and AI Economy: The Trade Secrets Dilemma" aimed to harmonize the global economic landscape with evolving developments in the Metaverse and AI. The focus was on the complex challenge of balancing the protection of trade secrets with the need for transparency in AI system design, testing, and deployment. The discussions delved into how market forces and transparency could align in virtual economies and AI-driven markets while safeguarding intellectual property rights.

The primary objective of this session was to explore the interplay between trade secret protection and the necessity for transparency in AI technologies. The discussion addressed the societal implications of expansive trade secret protections, especially concerning public policy and planning. Participants sought to identify solutions that could ensure transparency and accountability in AI systems despite the barriers created by trade secret claims. Another objective was understanding how trade secret laws impact the open-source and open-access movements within the AI industry.

Franklin Graves contributed significantly to the discussion, focusing on the implications of trade secret protection in AI and the Metaverse. He highlighted how companies often use trade secret claims to block access to crucial data, impeding transparency and accountability. Graves pointed out the inherent tension between trade secret protection and the need for openness, especially regarding AI systems and data sets. He discussed how this affects everything from licensing agreements to developing AI models and systems. Graves emphasized the need for a balanced approach that protects innovations while ensuring transparency and public oversight.

"We are seeing a hybrid approach between patent protection and trade secret protection in AI, where you have to balance disclosures and competitive advantages carefully. It is crucial to navigate these complexities in a way that upholds innovation but does not hinder transparency and public understanding."

- Franklin Graves, HCA Healthcare

The session brought about several key recommendations, as follows:

- **Third-Party Auditing and Testing**
    - Implementing mechanisms for external auditing and testing of AI systems.
    - Enhancing transparency while maintaining trade secret protections.
    - Involving independent entities to ensure unbiased evaluation.

- **Strategic Disclosures**
    - Encouraging selective information sharing to comply with regulatory norms.
    - Balancing the need for secrecy with regulatory transparency requirements.
    - Tailoring disclosures to protect sensitive intellectual property.

- **Developing Standards**
    - Crafting standards that ensure AI systems are developed ethically and transparently.
    - Balancing intellectual property protection with public transparency needs.
    - Collaborating with industry experts and regulatory bodies for comprehensive standards.

- **Exploring Legal Exceptions**
    - Discussing the introduction of public interest exceptions in trade secret laws.
    - Looking towards the EU's approach as a potential model.
    - Facilitating access to critical AI-related information for societal benefits.

- **Promoting Openness**
  - **Cultivating an environment of transparency in AI development.**
  - **Encouraging the sharing of non-sensitive data and methodologies.**
  - **Protecting crucial intellectual property while fostering innovation and trust.**

- **Balanced Approach**
  - **Seeking methods that respect intellectual property rights without hindering AI and Metaverse development.**
  - **Striving for an equilibrium between commercial interests and public safety.**
  - **Ensuring the ethical development of AI technologies transparently and safely.**

Vital points were discussed regarding the viability of trade secrets, especially considering disclosure obligations under the AI Act. The session noted how these trade secrets might be used to obscure algorithmic functions in conventional products and potentially in emerging Metaverse applications. Such practices could undermine user trust and transparency in these digital spaces. However, the advantages of maintaining trade secrets were also acknowledged, particularly as nations and regions strive for competitive edges in digital advancements, including those within the Metaverse.

Concerning the Metaverse, the Swiss Cognitive event on "The AI Trajectory 2024 - Invest for Impact",[11] highlighted that companies developing unique data generation methods or datasets applicable to AI and the metaverse garner significant interest in the venture capital market. These unique datasets could be vital in shaping immersive experiences in virtual environments. Before the Bletchley Summit in the UK, thought leaders in AI emphasized the need for accountability in this rapidly growing sector.[12] This sentiment resonates strongly in the context of Metaverse development as well.[13]

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11. SwissCognitive. (2023, December 13). The AI Trajectory 2024. SwissCognitive. https://swisscognitive.ch/ai-events/the-ai-trajectory-2024/
12. MKAI. (2023, November). Analysis of Outcomes and Strategic Directions from the UK Government and MKAI AI Safety Summits. Morality and Knowledge in Artificial Intelligence. https://mkai.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/MKAI-Report_-Analysis-of-Outcomes-and-Strategic-Directions-from-the-UK-Government-and-MKAI-AI-Safety-Summits-3.pdf
13. Milmo, D. (2023, October 24). AI firms must be held responsible for harm they cause, 'godfathers' of technology say. The Guardian. https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2023/oct/24/ai-firms-must-be-held-responsible-for-harm-they-cause-godfathers-of-technology-say

The recommendations emphasize the need for innovative solutions, such as third-party auditing, strategic disclosures, and the development of new standards that align with both commercial interests and public good. The dialogue underscored the importance of balancing safeguarding trade secrets and fostering an environment of openness and accountability in the rapidly evolving digital economy.

In conclusion, the thematic session on "Navigating Market Dynamics and Transparency in the Metaverse and AI Economy: The Trade Secrets Dilemma" at the fourth Annual Metaverse Safety Week provided critical insights into the complex interplay between protecting intellectual property and ensuring transparency in AI systems. This session highlighted the urgent necessity for collaborative efforts and nuanced approaches to address these challenges, ensuring that the advancement of AI and the Metaverse proceeds in a manner that is both ethically responsible and economically viable.

STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE GATHERING SESSION VIA SWARM AI

In the thematic session focused on addressing an urgent need for global regulations and governance for AI and emerging technologies, the innovative Swarm AI® technology developed by Unanimous AI played a crucial role. This technology uniquely blends real-time human insights with advanced AI algorithms inspired by the natural phenomenon of swarm intelligence observed in birds, bees, and fish. In these natural contexts, collective groups demonstrate enhanced decision-making capabilities, surpassing the abilities of individual members. Similarly, Swarm AI enables human groups to artificially amplify their collective intelligence by forming real-time swarms, a capability not inherently present in humans.

This technology was instrumental in guiding our discussions and decision-making, allowing for a consensus-driven approach to the multifaceted issues at the intersection of AI and the metaverse. Through the lens of collective intelligence, it became clear that innovation and user experience are paramount for the AI economy's growth. The sessions underscored the critical need for transparency as a foundation for trust. They flagged the prevailing regulatory frameworks as ripe for reform to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

Question for deliberation: **Importance of transparency for building trust in the metaverse market**

Response: **Mandatory Critical**

After an engaging deliberation powered by Swarm AI® technology, the participants reached a consensus on a pivotal issue: the critical necessity of transparency in cultivating trust within the metaverse market (Fig - 1). The deliberation revealed an overwhelming agreement among participants on transparency being paramount. This unanimous viewpoint underscores that stakeholders must prioritize clear and open practices for the metaverse to thrive as a marketplace. Such a commitment to transparency is essential for establishing a foundation of trust, which is indispensable in attracting and retaining users, investors,

and innovators in this burgeoning digital economy. It reflects a collective acknowledgment of the importance of transparency and an urgent call to action for its implementation as a non-negotiable standard in the metaverse's evolution.
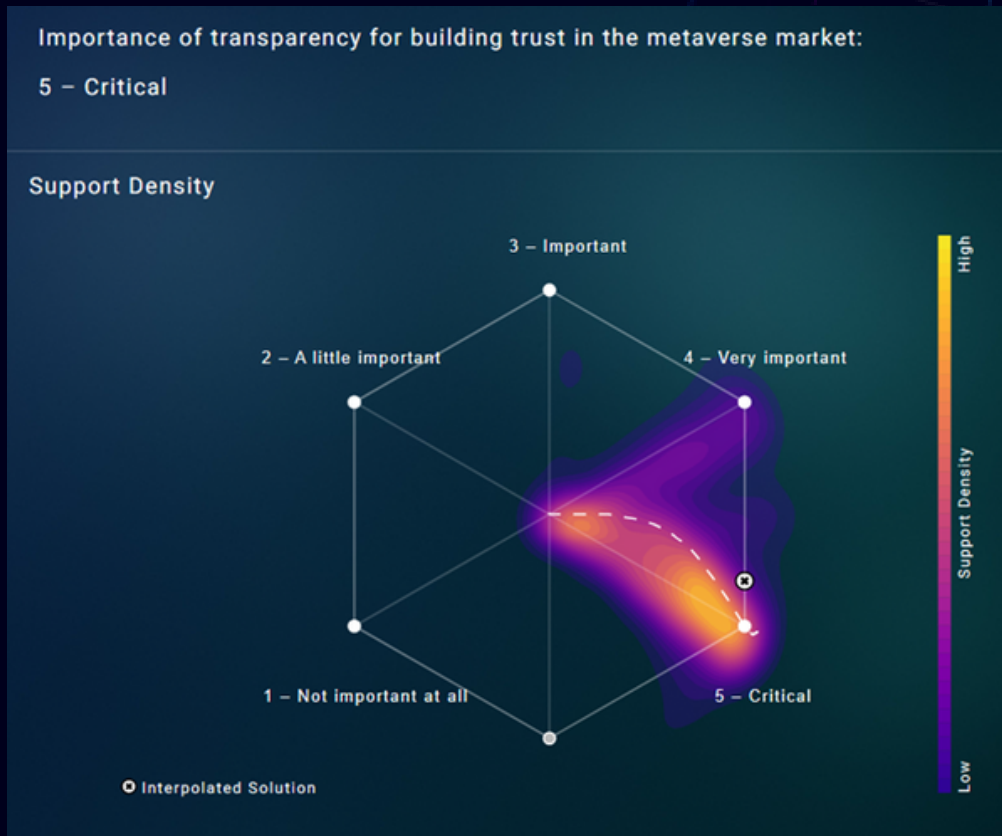

Importance of transparency for building trust in the metaverse market:

5 – Critical

Support Density

FIG -1

Question for deliberation: Effectiveness of current regulatory frameworks:
Response: Ineffective

After a rigorous analytical process leveraging Swarm AI® technology, the consensus among the participants of the roundtable is clear: the current regulatory frameworks are deemed ineffective in addressing the nuanced challenges of the metaverse and AI technologies (Fig - 2). This finding is based on a swift convergence of expert opinions, revealing an urgent need for reform and innovation in regulatory approaches. This is a collective acknowledgment that existing policies lack the adaptability and foresight required for the swiftly evolving digital landscape. There is

collective acknowledgment that existing policies lack the adaptability and foresight required for the swiftly evolving digital landscape. There is a call to action for policymakers to forge regulations that are as dynamic and agile as the technologies they aim to govern, ensuring that legal frameworks facilitate rather than hinder progress while upholding the highest ethical and safety standards.
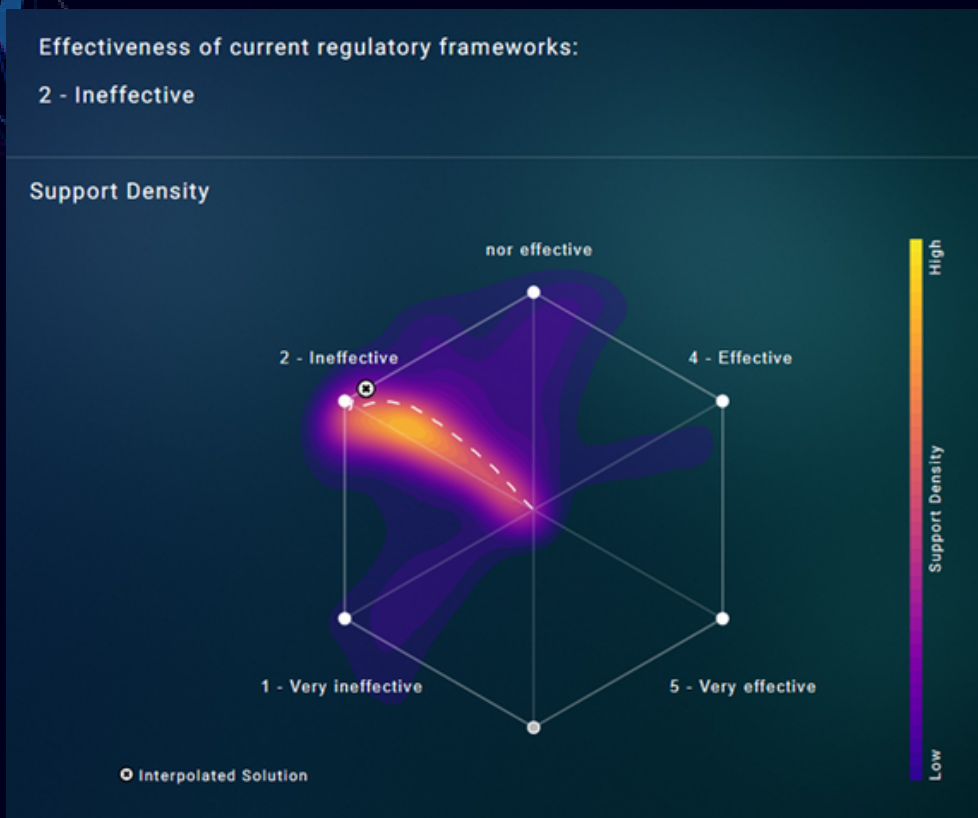

Effectiveness of current regulatory frameworks:

2 - Ineffective

Support Density

FIG -2

Utilizing Swarm AI, the roundtable harnessed a rich tapestry of insights, driving us toward a collective resolution. Such collaborative intelligence proved essential in crafting policies and suggestions that are both inventive, impactful, and widely representative. This method ensured that our approaches to the complex and pressing governance concerns in the AI and metaverse domains are as comprehensive as forward-thinking.

NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES OF AI AND METAVERSE TECHNOLOGIES: RISKS, CHALLENGES, AND REGULATORY PERSPECTIVES

As the global policy, regulations, and governance landscape evolves with the rapid advancement of AI and Metaverse technologies,[14] understanding the associated risks and challenges becomes imperative. The following section delves into these critical aspects. It reflects an expert evaluation of the complex interplay between technological innovation, regulatory frameworks, ethical considerations, and privacy concerns, all crucial for shaping a safe, equitable, and effective digital future. With insights from experts and thought leaders, the section aims to provide a clear overview of the current challenges and potential pathways forward in navigating the evolving terrain of AI and Metaverse technologies.

- **AI Manipulation Problem:** Dr. Louis Rosenberg highlighted the capability of generative AI, particularly conversational agents, to engage users in persuasive dialogues, adapting tactics based on user responses and emotions. This poses a significant risk termed the "AI Manipulation Problem," enabling unprecedented targeted influence and emotional manipulation through persuasive dialogues and emotional tactics. Addressing this challenge requires educating policymakers and regulators about the unique nature of generative AI.

- **Privacy Concerns:** Privacy concerns in AI and the Metaverse, as underscored by initiatives like the XRSI Privacy and Safety Framework, are increasingly complex due to the intricate ways personal data[15] is processed. Blending virtual and real-world interactions in the Metaverse challenges conventional privacy norms,

14. Fairly AI. (2023, November 1). Map of Global AI Regulations - A New Era. Fairly AI.
https://www.fairly.ai/blog/map-of-global-ai-regulations
15. XR Safety Initiative (XRSI). The XRSI Privacy and Safety Framework 2. XRSI. https://xrsi.org/the-xrsi-privacy-and-safety-framework-2

necessitating careful consideration of consent, data ownership, and surveillance risks. Innovative regulatory approaches, aligned with guidelines such as those proposed by XRSI, are crucial for technology developers to effectively balance user privacy with the benefits of emerging technologies.

- **Inclusive Policymaking:** While there is advocacy for inclusive and collaborative approaches in policymaking and governance, achieving diverse stakeholder participation, including academia, civil society, industry, and the public sector, poses a challenge. Ensuring that policies reflect the voices of various stakeholders and cultures is essential.

- **User Safety and Sustainable Practices:** The need to prioritize user welfare and implement sustainable practices in developing AI and Metaverse technologies is emphasized. However, anticipating and addressing future challenges and current needs is a complex task requiring ongoing attention.

- **Regulatory Alignment and Harmonization:** Harmonizing global regulations to reduce trade barriers and enhance innovation and competition is a key objective. However, achieving regulatory alignment and harmonization across diverse jurisdictions is challenging and requires extensive international cooperation.

- **Market Dynamics and Transparency:** Balancing the protection of trade secrets with the need for transparency in AI system design poses a complex challenge. Companies often use trade secret claims to block access to crucial data, hindering transparency and public oversight. Finding a balanced approach that protects innovations while ensuring transparency is challenging.

- **Third-Party Auditing and Testing:** Implementing mechanisms for external auditing and testing of AI systems to enhance transparency while maintaining trade secret protections requires careful consideration. Involving independent entities to ensure unbiased evaluation adds complexity to the process.

- **Strategic Disclosures:** Encouraging selective information sharing to comply with regulatory norms while balancing the need for secrecy poses a challenge. Tailoring disclosures to protect sensitive intellectual property requires a nuanced approach.

- **Standards Development:** Crafting standards that ensure AI systems are developed ethically and transparently requires collaboration with industry experts and regulatory bodies. Finding a balance between intellectual property protection and public transparency needs is challenging.

- **Legal Exceptions:** Discussing the introduction of public interest exceptions in trade secret laws poses challenges, as seen in the EU's approach. Determining the criteria for such exceptions and facilitating access to critical AI-related information for societal benefits requires careful consideration.

- **Promoting Openness:** Cultivating an environment of transparency in AI development and encouraging the sharing of non-sensitive data and methodologies requires overcoming concerns related to intellectual property protection and fostering innovation and trust.

- **Balanced Approach:** Seeking methods that respect intellectual property rights without hindering AI and Metaverse development is a challenge. Striving for an equilibrium between commercial interests and public safety requires ongoing evaluation and adjustment of regulatory frameworks.

"Our collective effort is crucial in shaping the future of these technologies. We must ensure metaverse and AI-driven platforms are developed with ethical considerations at the forefront, respecting all users' rights and cultural diversities."

- Dr. Diane Janosek, NSA | XRSI

FEATURED INTERVENTION AND SPOTLIGHT ON WORLD PRIVACY FORUM'S REPORT

The publication of a new World Privacy Forum(WPF)report, "Risky Analysis: Assessing and Improving AI Governance Tools"[16]was announced at the session by Pam Dixon, Founder and executive Director of WPF. This report sets out a definition of AI governance tools, documents why and how these tools are critically important for trustworthy AI, and where these tools are around the world. The report also documents problems in some AI governance tools and suggests pathways to improve AI governance tools and create an evaluative environment to measure their effectiveness.

Pam brought a wealth of AI experience to the roundtable, emphasizing the need for practical, reality-tested policies in AI governance. Her intervention focused on the implementation layer of AI, discussing how ethical AI, privacy, and policy tasks are executed within AI systems. Drawing on her extensive background and the upcoming report on AI governance tools, Dixon stressed the significance of transforming theoretical AI proposals into practical, real-world applications.

Key Messages from Pam Dixon:

- **Importance of Reality-Tested AI Proposals:** Highlighting the gap between theoretical and practical applications in AI, Dixon underscored the need for policies and governance tools that are tested and proven effective in real-world scenarios.

- **Global AI Policy and Governance Landscape:** She drew attention to the complex and established infrastructure of AI policy and governance, comparing it to navigating major cities like Bangkok or Delhi, which have significant infrastructures.

16. World Privacy Forum. (2023, December). New Report: Risky Analysis: Assessing and Improving AI Governance Tools. World Privacy Forum.
 https://www.worldprivacyforum.org/2023/12/new-report-risky-analysis-assessing-and-improving-ai-governance-tools/

- **Normative AI Systems and Harms:** Dixon emphasized the existence of normative AI systems, definitions, conceptions of harm, and principles, urging the need to conform to existing global standards like those set by OECD, UNESCO, and NIST.

- **Respecting Existing Legal and Regulatory Frameworks:** She stressed the importance of respecting and working within existing privacy, human rights, and safety norms, along with AI standards and principles.

- **Inclusivity and Protection of Vulnerable Groups:** Dixon advocated for inclusivity, respecting the autonomy of individuals, communities, and countries and focusing on protecting sensitive domains and vulnerable groups in the context of AI policy.

"In addition to asking 'Whose ethics and rationale?' we also need to ask 'For what purpose will the AI tool be used?' It is crucial for actionable strategies and regulatory frameworks to prioritize both innovation and overarching safety and rights of users."

- Elsa Papadopoulou, European Research Executive Agency

GLOBAL POLICY AND REGULATIONS

As per the report, AI systems should not be deployed without simultaneously evaluating the potential adverse impacts of such systems and mitigating their risks, and most of the world agrees about the need to take precautions against the threats posed. The specific tools and techniques that exist to evaluate and measure AI systems for their inclusiveness, fairness, explainability, privacy, safety, and other trustworthiness issues — called in the report collectively AI governance tools – can improve such issues. While some AI governance tools reassure the public and regulators, the tools too often lack meaningful oversight and quality assessments.

WORLD **PRIVACY** FORUM

Risky Analysis

Assessing and Improving
AI Governance Tools

An international review of AI Governance Tools
and suggestions for pathways forward

Kate Kaye   Pam Dixon   December 2023

Incomplete or ineffective AI governance tools can create a false sense of confidence, cause unintended problems, and generally undermine the promise of AI systems.

This report surveys the international landscape of AI governance tools and provides an early evidentiary foundation that documents multiple aspects of these tools. It contains rich background details, use cases, potential solutions to the problems discussed, and a global index of AI Governance Tools.
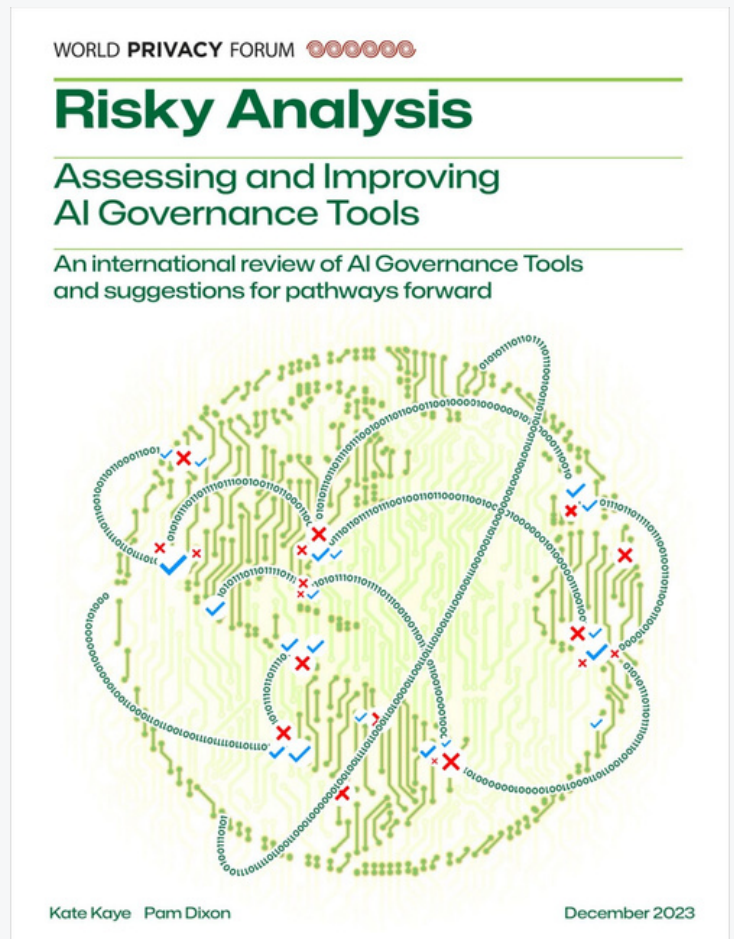
The report focuses on AI governance tools published by multilateral organizations and governments. The survey of AI governance tools in this report includes tools from each region. Some examples include:

- An updated process for acquisition of public sector AI from Chile's public procurement directorate, ChileCompra
- Self-assessment-based scoring systems from the Governments of Canada and Dubai and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana
- Software and a technical testing framework from Singapore's Infocomm Media Development Authority
- An AI risk management framework from the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
- A culturally-sensitive process for reducing risk and protecting data privacy throughout the lifecycle of an algorithm from New Zealand's Ministry for Social Development
- A vast repository of AI governance tool types from The Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), a multilateral institution

The report also includes two detailed case studies in AI fairness and explainability and provides suggestions for how to begin building an evidence basis for an AI governance ecosystem. Going forward, AI governance tools, when fit for purpose, can help provide better health at the implementation layer of AI. AI governance tools are nascent and flexible and, when designed and applied for their intended purpose, can improve the health of the AI ecosystem. However, much more work must be done to build the evidentiary basis to create an evaluation environment for this ecosystem.

"The AI governance tools report is pivotal in bridging the gap between theoretical AI frameworks and their practical, real-world applications. It underscores our commitment to developing AI policies and governance structures that are not only theoretically sound but also robustly tested and proven effective in diverse, real-world contexts."

- Pam Dixon, World Privacy Forum

OPPORTUNITIES & IMPACT: STRIKING A BALANCE BETWEEN INNOVATION, REGULATION, AND ETHICS

In an era marked by rapid digital transformation, the intersection of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Metaverse presents groundbreaking opportunities and complex challenges. This section offers an in-depth analysis of these emerging domains, focusing on the need for international collaboration, balancing innovation with ethical regulation, and ensuring transparency and accountability. It examines the impacts of major regulatory frameworks like the Biden Executive Order on AI and the European Union AI Act, evaluating their influence on industries, startups, and societal perceptions. Aimed at policymakers, industry leaders, and technologists, this analysis strives to contribute to the global discourse on shaping a balanced, ethical, and forward-looking digital future, ensuring that the development of AI and the Metaverse aligns with the broader objectives of societal welfare and sustainable innovation.

- **International Collaboration in AI and the Metaverse**
    - The inherent global nature of AI and Metaverse technologies calls for an international collaborative effort in policymaking.
    - Harmonization of regulations across borders is critical to support technological progress and innovation in these emerging fields.

- **Balancing Innovation and Regulation**
    - A key challenge for regulators is promoting technological growth in AI and the Metaverse while safeguarding ethical practices and user protections.
    - Developing flexible regulatory frameworks that can adapt to the rapid evolution of these technologies is essential for balanced progress.

- **Transparency and Accountability**
    - The demand for transparency in AI algorithms is increasingly relevant in the Metaverse, where user interactions and data processing raise new concerns.

- Ensuring accountability in AI systems is vital for maintaining public confidence, reducing biases, and encouraging ethical applications.

- **Intellectual Property and Public Interest**
  - A central aspect of AI and Metaverse development involves balancing corporate intellectual property rights with public safety and ethical considerations.
  - Ensuring fairness, trust, and responsible innovation is fundamental for the sustainable growth of these technologies.

- **Inclusive Policymaking**
  - Effective regulation of AI and the Metaverse requires the involvement of diverse stakeholders, including technology developers, legal experts, end-users, and community advocates.
  - Comprehensive and inclusive policymaking ensures that regulations reflect various perspectives and needs, fostering a well-rounded and equitable technological advancement.

- **Impact on Industries and Startups**
  - Biden's Executive Order [17] on AI encourages American leadership in AI, promoting industry participation while addressing ethical and governance challenges.
  - The EU AI Act [18] aims for safe, transparent AI use, introducing regulatory compliance that impacts the pace of AI adoption and startup innovation.

- **Impact on Individuals and Societal Sentiments**
  - Biden's Executive Order focuses on ethical AI use and improving government services, while the EU AI Act emphasizes protecting individual rights and aligns with GDPR principles.
  - Both initiatives generate varying societal sentiments, from optimism in business circles to concerns about regulatory sufficiency and innovation hindrances.

17. see Footnote 3
18. see Footnote 1

GLOBAL POLICY AND REGULATIONS

BLACK BOX VS. GLASS BOX: NAVIGATING THE GREY AREAS OF TRANSPARENCY AND OPENNESS

The ongoing debate between the 'Black Box' and 'Glass Box' approaches in AI and the Metaverse is not just a binary choice but a complex spectrum that requires careful navigation. This analysis explores these approaches' nuances and contextual dependencies, underlining that various factors, including context, timing, and potential risks, influence the decision to opt for either model.

The 'Black Box' model, often criticized for its lack of transparency, is sometimes necessary to safeguard sensitive information and prevent premature disclosures that could lead to misuse or unintended consequences. On the other hand, the 'Glass Box' approach, advocating for openness and transparency, is lauded for fostering trust and enabling broader scrutiny and development, which is especially beneficial for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and startups. However, it is essential to recognize that excessive transparency can sometimes be detrimental, leading to free competition challenges or malicious exploitation.

A case in point is Meta's handling of Project Aria's dataset.[19] Initially withheld from public release; this decision was made to understand the implications fully and avoid potential misuse. After extensive consideration and establishing responsible use guidelines,[20] Meta eventually decided to share the dataset, albeit with an awareness of the risks involved. This instance exemplifies the need for 'contextual diligence' - a careful assessment of the potential impacts and appropriate timing for data sharing.

This use case analysis emphasizes that the choice between 'Black Box' and 'Glass Box' is not straightforward and should be made with a deep understanding of the specific context and potential ramifications. It highlights the importance of a balanced approach that considers both the benefits of transparency and the need for protecting sensitive data and intellectual property. This nuanced understanding is crucial for guiding policies and practices in AI and the Metaverse, ensuring they are adaptable, responsible, and aligned with the broader goals of innovation, safety, and ethical usage.

19. Meta AI. (2023, November 30). Introducing Ego-Exo4D: A foundational dataset for research on video learning and multimodal perception. Meta AI. https://ai.meta.com/blog/ego-exo4d-video-learning-perception/
20. Meta AI. (2023). Llama 2 - Responsible Use Guide. Meta AI. https://ai.meta.com/llama/responsible-use-guide/

FORGING A SAFE AND ETHICAL PATH IN AI AND THE METAVERSE: A COLLECTIVE ENDEAVOR

The Global Roundtable Discussion at Metaverse Safety Week 2023 epitomizes the urgent need for a unified approach in navigating the complex realms of AI and the Metaverse. As these technologies rapidly evolve, the insights and collaborations fostered during the roundtable are crucial in shaping a digital future that is safe, innovative, and ethically responsible. This gathering of diverse global stakeholders marks a significant step towards developing comprehensive policies that effectively balance innovation with ethical standards, privacy, and public safety. The outcomes of this event underscore the importance of international collaboration and inclusive policymaking, setting a precedent for ongoing efforts in 2024 and beyond. As we continue on this journey, the collective wisdom and concerted action from this roundtable will be pivotal in ensuring that AI and immersive technologies advance in a manner that benefits society.

"We are at a tipping point where immersive technologies combined with AI suggest a sudden change. It is time to take a look at the future development of this technology, understanding the opportunities and risks they bring."

- Lorena Coutinho, OECD-OCDE

CALL TO ACTION : ADOPT MSW

Since its inception in 2020, Metaverse Safety Week (MSW) has illuminated the intricate fusion of Immersive and emerging technologies. MSW 2023, in particular, highlighted the symbiotic relationship between AI and these environments, unveiling their immense potential alongside inherent risks. As the Founder and CEO of XRSI, I urge stakeholders to <u>adopt MSW as an annual awareness campaign</u>, galvanizing action to shape a secure future for the Metaverse.

- **The Imperative for 2023 and Beyond**

  MSW 2023 emphasized the urgency to safeguard the Metaverse, calling for action beyond risk acknowledgments. It's about actively shaping a secure future within this evolving landscape.

- **Empowering through Education**

  Engage with us and partake in a wide range of activities aimed at raising awareness, educating stakeholders, and promoting a safer and healthier Metaverse for global citizens. Prioritize educating teams about this evolving landscape, issuing transparency reports, and making commitments to drive collective action.

- **Shared Responsibility, Collective Action**

  Join us in adopting MSW as a yearly initiative to fortify alliances, develop best practices, and craft protective policies for these immersive landscapes. It's a shared responsibility across individuals, organizations, policymakers, and creators to ensure a secure Metaverse.

This isn't just a campaign; it's a commitment—a shared responsibility to safeguard the future of the Metaverse. Whether you're a government, a big technology organization, a creator, an educator, or a policymaker, your role is pivotal in promoting a culture of safety and trust within these emerging realities.

> *"Let's unite in this endeavor to fortify our shared vision of a secure and transformative Metaverse. **I implore you to join hands and hearts in adopting the Metaverse Safety Week (MSW) campaign by signing the MSW charter** and standing with us as we shape a future that's safe, ethical, and full of boundless possibilities."*
>
> **- Kavya Pearlman, Founder & CEO - XRSI**

CO-ORGANIZER DETAILS

ABOUT GPA

The Global Privacy Assembly (GPA) is an international network of data protection and privacy authorities that aims to provide leadership and guidance in this rapidly evolving field. Founded in 1979, the GPA has grown to include more than 130 members from across the globe, representing diverse legal systems and cultures. The GPA facilitates cooperation and information exchange among its members and engages with other stakeholders and international organizations on data protection and privacy issues.

The GPA also organizes an annual conference where members adopt resolutions, declarations, and reports on various topics of common interest. The GPA's website serves as a permanent repository of its core documents and activities and a platform for sharing news and updates from its members and working groups. The GPA envisions a world where privacy and data protection authorities can effectively fulfill their mandates and promote the rights and interests of individuals.

CO-ORGANIZER DETAILS

ABOUT XRSI

Headquartered in the San Francisco Bay Area in the United States and Torino, Italy, in Europe, X Reality Safety Intelligence (XRSI) is the world's leading organization dedicated to providing intelligence and advisory services that are vital for the protection and well-being of emerging technology ecosystems. With a strong emphasis on critical aspects such as safety, privacy, security, human rights, human well-being, responsible innovation, governance, and regulation, XRSI offers comprehensive expertise to ensure the responsible and ethical advancement of emerging technologies.

By emphasizing Human Intelligence, XRSI brings together a global network of experts and thought leaders committed to shaping the future of technology in a way that prioritizes the welfare of individuals and society as a whole. We offer standardization, certification, policymaking, and workforce development professional advisory services for the emerging technology domain.

"As the Events Director of MSW 2023, I'm thrilled by the resounding success of our campaign, bringing together brilliant minds dedicated to safeguarding the intersections of AI and emerging technologies. Our achievements this year stand as a testament to collective dedication of XRSI advisors, our volunteers, community partners, supporters and most importantly sponsors. I'm excited to continue this vital work beyond 2023, forging a future where innovation thrives hand-in-hand with safety and responsibility."

- Bhanujeet Choudhary, XRSI | MSW Events Director

CO-ORGANIZER DETAILS

ABOUT STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Standards Australia is the leading independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit standards organization representing Australia in ISO and IEC. It is responsible for developing and updating valuable standards for Australia through a collaborative process involving stakeholders from various sectors. Standards Australia also participates in developing and adopting a wide range of International Standards.

Standards Australia accredits other organizations to develop Australian Standard® brand standards. The accreditation function provides a framework to ensure accredited organizations can develop their industry standards and be recognized as Australian Standards®. The accreditation responsibilities of the Standards Australia Board, which have been delegated to the Standards Development and Accreditation Committee (SDAC), include accrediting (or, where appropriate, declining to accredit) bodies in Australia to develop and maintain Australian Standards®, withdrawing any accreditation granted, setting policies and guidelines concerning the preparation, maintenance, development, and publication of Australian Standards®, and auditing accredited bodies to ensure compliance with all policies and guidelines of SDAC.

APPENDIX 1: OUTPUT FROM SWARM AI SESSIONS

Question & Answer	Conviction
Which is more beneficial for the AI economy **Answer: Promoting open-source innovation (by a lot)**	**67%**
Most impactful on AI & metaverse market dynamics in the next 5 years **Answer: Technological Breakthroughs**	**81%**
The primary focus for maintaining competitive advantage should be **Answer: User Experience**	**60%**
Importance of transparency for building trust in the metaverse market **Answer: 5 – Critical**	**88%**
Likelihood trade secret protection laws will need to be reformed **Answer: 5 - Very likely**	**59%**
Effectiveness of public-private partnerships in shaping governance **Answer: 4 - Effective**	**61%**
Who should primarily drive the development of metaverse regulations? **Answer: Independent Regulatory Bodies**	**75%**
Effectiveness of current regulatory frameworks **Answer: 2 - Ineffective**	**79%**
Likelihood of int'l collaboration on regulatory standards in 5 years **Answer: 20%**	**48%**
Likelihood of int'l collaboration on regulatory standards in 5 years **Answer: 20-40%**	**66%**
Most critical for effective governance in the metaverse **Answer: Data Privacy**	**37%**

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