

What is it?

NATO has established itself as a driving force in responsible innovation when it comes to emerging and disruptive technology (EDT), specifically artificial intelligence (AI). The Principles of Responsible Use are strategically necessary and provide operational value. Bias mitigation is one of the ways the Alliance is set to incorporate a gender perspective into the development of AI-enabled capabilities, as well as the robustness of AI systems against attacks. As EDT and AI will be considered as tools to scale and accelerate military decision making, then NATO must ensure that it isn't scaling biased outcomes.

Emerging and Disruptive Technologies

- **Emerging technology** is driven by a recent scientific discovery technological development, that is expected to mature where we don't know the ultimate effects on defence, security and/or enterprise functions yet.
- **Disruptive technology** is scientific discovery or technological development that is expected to have a revolutionary effect on defence, security and/or enterprise functions.

NATO must effectively cope with the uncertainties of technology evolution by building a gender perspective into policy-making base on current knowledge while having the ability be adjusted or corrected in the future.



"INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES ARE PROVIDING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATO MILITARIES, HELPING THEM BECOME MORE EFFECTIVE, RESILIENT, COST-EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE"

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg

Militant Digital Divides

Digital divides indicate how technology worldwide is more accessible to men and how data and machine learning models more often represent them. Facial recognition systems could make men, regardless of their actual combatant or civilian status, hyper-visible as targets. **Biased data sets and inadequately trained algorithms may mean that women and other minorities to be misrecognized at a higher rate, leaving them exposed to differential risks.**

Principles of Responsible Use

NATO's AI strategy (2021) is centered on building responsible-by-design AI. Nations have agreed to six Principles of Responsible Use for AI which are: **lawfulness, responsibility and accountability, explainability and traceability, reliability, governability, and bias mitigation.** Design decisions for AI must start before the initial development in order to properly integrate a gender perspective

4 QUESTIONS TO ASK

to help mitigate bias design:

- **What problem are we trying to solve?**
- **What value is the AI system creating?**
- **What data can we use?**
- **Who will be using the AI system?**

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