

# The Geopolitics of AI



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ITEMS Global Forum - *Angers 7/10/2019*

# The Speaker

20 Years in Information Security and Data Protection



Horizon Projects



Speaker  
Author



2013



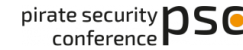
2013-2018



2016 →



2017



2018



2019

Standards and Policy



Cyber Security Coordination Group



2011 →



# The World of AI

Artificial Intelligence seems currently not only to have finally come of age but also to be the technological area most impacting geopolitics and national security.



AI will soon be able to directly influence the balance of power, representing both a challenge and an opportunity for governments worldwide.

# Beyond the boundaries of the tech world

## Accelerating America's Leadership in Artificial Intelligence

February 11, 2019 | 4 minute read

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“  
Continued American leadership in Artificial Intelligence is of paramount importance to maintaining the economic and national security of the United States.”

*President Donald J. Trump*

2018 世界人工智  
WORLD ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



[Chinese Vice-Premier Liu He speaks at the World Artificial Intelligence Conference in Shanghai.](#)



# The Context and the AI race

The general context.

Two major powers moving towards competition/rivalry and possible isolation.

Secondary powers (second-tier): Russia, UK, Israel, France, India

Trade confrontation (first phase of rivalry):

ZTE banned in April 2018 on doing business with US suppliers (later retracted)

Europe: The EU is an insignificant geopolitical power in general, and also in AI

EU also possibly hindered by GDPR – The challenge is leveraging datasets while respecting individuals' rights. Europe could be a leader or a complete disaster

The tenets of open internet (and liberal democracy spreading by default) fading away: borders are coming up in cyberspace. China took control of its cyber borders and uses technology as an enabler for the state. Russia is following suit.



# China

Sphere of influence building: SEA, Africa

May 2018 – CloudWalk builds AI face recognition system in Zimbabwe.

This can be considered as an exemplar of “data colonization”...

## Advantages:

Access to huge amounts of data (800 million users online in the PRC sovereign space).

Lax privacy protection and barriers to reuse and aggregation of data.

Close connection of the tech companies with the state (the party). (“Communist party committed” inside companies expanded under Xi).

## The AI National Team:



# The American AI Initiative

EXECUTIVE ORDERS

## Executive Order on Maintaining American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence

— INFRASTRUCTURE & TECHNOLOGY | Issued on: February 11, 2019



1. Investing in AI Research and Development (R&D)
2. Unleashing AI Resources
3. Setting AI Governance Standards
4. Building the AI Workforce
5. International Engagement and Protecting our AI Advantage



# The others

**France** – The president himself engaged in AI in a speech at the College de France in March 2018

€ 1.5 Billion investment plan

1 – Attractiveness: National AI Programme of five research centres

2 – Open data policy to drive adoption

3 – Regulatory and financial framework

4 – Ethics regulation

## UK

AI sector deal – April 2018 – comprehensive approach

Lords' AI in the UK report and Government response

## Israel

Strong integrated approach, state-driven and emphasising defence

**The EU...** too worried about the risks.





# Thanks for Your Time

## What are your questions?

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**Slides available on:**

**[www.studioag.pro](http://www.studioag.pro)**



# References

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