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Regulation or Deregulation : The Impact of Trump's Second Presidency on the AI Technologies and Their Influence

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Regulation or Deregulation : The Impact of Trump's Second Presidency on the AI Technologies and Their Influence

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abstract

This paper focuses on the AI (artificial intelligence) policy of US President Trump and the AI strategies of the Big Tech companies. Starting from the concern about deepfake in 2024 election , this paper further summarizes the highly deregulated policy of AI in Trump's Second Presidency. Based on the method of document analysis, this paper tries to summarize the latest AI policy change through 857 news reports from US and British media. This paper argues five important issues, such as :1.Trump not only created his own social media called Truth Social and share deepfake news on the platform, Trump is also the biggest shareholder in Trump Media & Technology Group which owns Truth Social and benefit directly if his posts drive traffic to the site. As disinformation increased, Meta, Google, OpenAI and Microsoft have scaled back their attempts to label and remove disinformation since 2024 presidential elections. 2. After Biden recognized AI systems should balance between risks of harm and award of human rights, Meta, Google, OpenAI and others asked the new Trump administration to block state AI laws and to declare it is legal for them to use copyrighted material to train their AI models. 3.OpenAI, Google and Meta said they believed they had legal access to copyrighted works like books, films and art for training. 4. The Trump administration has taken steps to eliminate regulations addressing climate change, Trump issued executive orders designed to revive the use of coal in power plants. 5.The United States urgently needs more energy to fuel an artificial intelligence race with China. The Trump administration declared AI is the nation's most valuable weapon to outpace China is developing an AI action plan focused on securing and advancing American AI dominance. The paper finally argues that AI policy has been overly politicized, ignoring that AI technology could be misused to create child sexual abuse material, and AI will displace jobs and leave workers worse off.

Introduction

In 2024, over 60 countries held national elections, the rapid advancement and adoption of artificial intelligence (AI), causing public concern over AI technologies might impact global elections. Although the researchers found a lack of evidence on the election result, fears remain that AI-generated threats are eroding trust and allowing harmful narratives to thrive (Carter, 2024, November 13). AI technologies complicate elections, 2024 has seen an uptick in political campaigns using AI-generated content to bolster their cause. This adds to the blurring of boundaries between legitimate campaign content and disinformation (Bae Systems, 2024).

There are different landscapes for researchers to calculate in the issues of fake news. Allcott.& Gentzkow (2017) especially focus on fake news articles that have political implications. Fake news is active on social media. that 'fake news' as a specific new development first came to attention during the 2016 US presidential election, in the form of inaccurate posts with significant viral dissemination on social media, most commonly Facebook (McDougall, 2019, p. 13). When an individual is instantly motivated to process an issue because of exposure to a hoax, he or she can participate in social media action to support their decision without carefully considering their position or engaging in a high-effort activism. Thus, hoax spreading can be a quick-and dirty strategy in online mobilization that evolves non-active publics into active public (Park, 2017, pp. 24-25).

On the other hand, some researchers concern a disinformation ecosystems controlled by Russia and Mainland China, which were called pro-Russia and pro-China mis/disinformation landscapes. More than that, the new connections between Russia and China to make fake news after Ukraine war happened (Blablová et al., 2022).

Until 2024, there are more kinds of social media could spread fake news and make it go viral. The experts have analyzed some major elections in 2024 and highlighted that the US election saw a number of examples of viral AI disinformation. These included bot farms mimicking US voters, the spread of conspiracy theories, and AI-generated content used to undermine candidates (Carter, 2024, November 13). For example, in January 2024, voters in New Hampshire received voice calls allegedly from President Biden encouraging them not to cast their vote in the New Hampshire Presidential Primary Election. This was one of the first instances of voice based deepfakes being used at scale in order to deter voters from participation (Bae Systems, 2024).

AI-Generated Dis/Misinformation

Beyond the perspectives discussed, it is quite important for us to discuss the role of technology in fake news, especially artificial intelligence (AI) generated fake news. The so called “deepfakes” range from face-swapping of movie celebrities to political leaders, making it difficult to tell the difference between real and fake. (CNBC , September 26, 2019). For example, *BuzzFeed* ran a deepfake app for 12 hours in 2018 to make a video of former President Barack Obama saying some out-of-character things, deepfakes are even easier to produce after one year. A deepfake can be made with just a few photographs. Tools and methods for creating realistic but fake audio have also cropped up (Merrdfield, June 27, 2019).

People have known that photos could be doctored or Photoshopped. But now, some people are willing to use AI to make a deepfake attack videos. In a video Harris’s voice was manipulated and said: “I, Kamala Harris, am your Democrat candidate for president because Joe Biden finally exposed his senility at the debate,” the AI voice says in the video (NDTV, 2024, July 30). Images created by Eliot Higgins with the use of artificial intelligence show a fictitious skirmish with Donald Trump and New York City police officers posted on Higgins' Twitter account The highly detailed, sensational images, which are not real, were produced using a sophisticated and widely accessible image generator (Tuquero, 2024, December 19).

Figure1. A fictitious skirmish with Donald Trump and New York City police
Source: AP

Trump's supporters are creating and sharing AI-generated images of the former president with Black voters. The photos appear to be an attempt to inflate Trump's popularity with the Black community, but the photos are nothing but fakes. There are social media and supporters who made AI- video and photos for Trump in 2024 president election. Launched last year, the Texas-based non-profit organization frames itself as a press freedom group with the goal of “empowering independent journalists” and “fortifying the bedrock of democracy”. The truth is, the Milton Freedom Foundation is one of many small groups flooding social media with so-called AI slop (Robins-Early, 2024, August, 26).

Figure2. AI faked photos for attracting America-Africa people.

Figure3. Trump mixed the truth and fake news and said “ I accepted it”.

It is really a big contest on 2024 president election in U.S. There is lots of untrue information spread on social media platform. For example, Donald Trump shared several AI-generated images of Taylor Swift and her fans vowing their support for his presidential campaign on Sunday, reposting them with the caption “I accept!” on his Truth Social platform(Robins-Early, August, 15).

By choosing to amplify disinformation and misogynist views, Musk, a South African billionaire who is both the owner of X and the most-followed account on the platform, is promoting radical content to the masses. Musk’s posts, and the lack of scrutiny they receive from his company’s own fact-checking system, lay bare how Musk has turned X into a pro-Trump machine (O’Sullivan,2024, September 3)

Figure4. Musk has spread AI photo of Harris on his X platform.

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dyhVYSiA3w0>

Trump’s embrace of AI-generated images counters some of his past commentary. In an interview on Fox Business this year, Trump called artificial intelligence “very dangerous” and “so scary” because “there’s no real solution” to the issues created by the advancing technology(Merica, Burke, & Swenson, 2024, September 21). In their first and only debate, Kamala Harris and Donald Trump argued about artificial intelligence. Trump has posted faked images of Swift’s endorsement on “his site”, Truth Social. He disclaimed responsibility for what may have been an enormous political mistake: “I don’t know anything about them, other than somebody else generated them. I didn’t generate them.” The images originated from a small Texas foundation that aims to bankroll rightwing tweeters. Trump and company have turned

to images created by artificial intelligence. Before the debate had even begun, Donald Trump Jr tweeted images of his father astride a giant cat and holding a gun. The ex-president's son wrote: "Save our pets!!!" A post made by Trump Jr during the debate reads: "They know who they're rooting for tonight" and shows three cats and a duck or a goose watching the candidates face off on TV(Montgomery, 2024, September 15).

Fake news is weaponized by AI to achieve the goal politically . The role of technology is more significant, especially AI becoming popular now. The widely shared video is an example of how lifelike AI-generated images, videos or audio clips have exposed as high-quality AI tools and become far more accessible (Swenson, 2024, July 30).

The Development of AI Industry

In the same time, since Open AI launched the generative AI, ChatGPT 3.5, on November 30, 2022, it immediately made it available for free registration worldwide. Within just five days, more than one million users went online, causing the OpenAI website to malfunction (Dyner, 2023). In March 2023, Open AI released a new version ChatGPT4.0. 2023 has since been seen as a turning point in AI technology, with a huge impact on society (Lopezosa et al., 2023).

The term artificial intelligence usually describes specific technologies such as "machine learning" or the training of algorithms through large amounts of data (Lin & Lewis, 2022). The key factor in machine learning lies in the algorithm (Marconi, 2020, pp. 75-76). For example, ChatGPT runs a large language model (LLM) on a large generative pre-trained transformer (GPT) format, and has demonstrated the capabilities of ChatGPT in various natural language processing tasks (Pal et al., 2024). Large language models have been around for several years, but reached their peak in recent years when they were presented to the public in the form of a chat interface in ChatGPT (Sundar & Liao, 2023).

The hottest new machine learning techniques, large language models (LLMs) or generative artificial intelligence, can be inspiring in news creation (Seward, 2024, March 13). Today, ChatGPT has become the most famous large-scale language model. ChatGPT uses current algorithms and runs a LLM on a large generative pre-trained transformer (GPT) format. The Transformer model uses a deep learning architecture to process information more quickly, and has demonstrated ChatGPT's capabilities in various natural language processing tasks (Pal et al., 2024). LLM provides productivity-enhancing services to help newsrooms source, train and apply AI-based solutions.

Several global industry leaders saw their market values drop after the launch. In

addition to openAI and Microsoft collaborating to develop ChatGPT, other existing large technology companies have also begun to develop artificial intelligence. Just like Google developed its Gemini, Meta developed its Llama, other large technology companies such as Amazon, Apple and emerging AI companies have invested heavily in resources and manpower to develop various applications of artificial technology. These big technology companies are registered in U.S..

According to an analysis by aitoools.xyz, the number of web visits to artificial intelligence tools grew 36.3% last year to 101.12 billion, The U.S. made the most web visits to AI tools at 17.46 billion, which analyzed traffic from more than 10,500 websites. As of February in 2025, the U.S. is still driving the most traffic to AI websites of any other country. Here are the ten countries using AI the most so far this year, according to aitoools.xyz (Nguyen, 2025, April 3).

This paper is concerned with fake news caused by artificial intelligence, and also focuses on the development of the artificial intelligence industry. Because the United States has close ties with the world in both politics and the artificial intelligence industry, this paper focuses on several major news media in the United States and supplemented by British media, attempting to understand the differences in artificial intelligence policies before and after the US election through media reports.

Literature Review

1. AI-Generated Mis/Dis information in politics

It is easy to catch the term “fake news” in recent news climate, which indicates misinformation, disinformation, propaganda, conspiracy, exaggeration, manipulated facts. In general speaking, the definition of fake news is misinformation and disinformation. More than that, Wardle (2017) deconstruct fake news into seven categories: 1.false connection; 2.false context; 3.manipulated content; 4.misleading content; 5.imposter content; 6. fabricated content;7.satire/parody. Tandoc, Lim, & Ling (2018) analyzed 34 academic articles and concluded 6 typologies of fake new. These are: 1.news satire; 2.news parody; 3. news fabrication; 4. photo manipulation; 5. advertising and public relations; 6.propaganda.Some researchers will focus on hoax. Hoaxes are deceptive alerts designed to undermine the public’s confidence in an organization, product, service, or person. Inherent in all hoaxes is the false claim of harm, threat of such harm, or discomfiture(Vei et al., 2012, p. 328).

It is not an easy work to distinguish from facts and fake news. Fake news are made by stereotype (Brummette et al., 2018) and enhance hatred(Mihailidis & Viotty, 2017). The best effect for fake news is to make people outraged (Tanz, 2017). The

outrage and hatred are disseminated behind fake news online will produce more outrage and hatred (Hassel & Weeks, 2016). Although Syvertsen (2017) argued access to more information than before, we are not “better informed”, but rather “more confused”. Some fake news are driven by profit, “The Americans loved our stories and we make money from them. Who cares if they are true or false?” (Kirby, 2016), said by young boys from Macedonia. The Chinese government directly placing and paying for articles supportive of the PRC and its unification campaign. The Taiwan Affairs Office paid 30,000 yuan (\$4,300) for the two feature stories about the mainland’s efforts to attract Taiwan business people (Schmitt & Mazza, 2019).

The definition of deepfake is new advances in audiovisual manipulation that generate more accessible and realistic falsifications of events and of people’s faces, words and actions and as a phenomena are accompanied by apocalyptic rhetoric about their potential to disrupt. Trends in “authenticity and provenance infrastructure” that attempt to track the origins, manipulation and distribution of audiovisual content (Gregory, 2022, p. 710). Parry-Giles (2001, p. 214) argued the called “authenticity judgments” are embedded in “a symbolic, mediated, interactional, and highly contested process by which political candidates attempt to ‘make real’ a vision of their selves and their political characters within the public sphere”. Candidates in political election campaigns need to construct an authentic image for different audiences in several media contexts. Luebke (2021) conceptualized political authenticity as a social construct which is created and negotiated in different communication processes among politicians, the media, and the audience.

2. Algorithms in Social media

Social media also have facilitated the rise of hyperpartisan news. Hyperpartisan news: (1) has an obviously one-sided political agenda, which makes no effort to balance opposing views; (2) pushes anti-system messages that are critical of both mainstream media and establishment politics, often relying on misinformation to do so; and (3) relies heavily on social media as a platform for dissemination (Barnidge & Peacock, 2019, p. 5). Social media has become associated with issues of fake news, disinformation and hyperpartisan outlets. Hyperpartisan actors emerge as more successful in terms of the degree to which their followers engage as news users, amplifying their content Media (Larsson, 2019, p. 735).

People like to think that they are in charge of their decisions, but psychological research shows that many behaviors are unconsciously influenced by external stimuli and the cognitive mechanisms that underpin the choices people make (Pailhès & Kuhn, 2021). For example, magicians have exploited this illusory sense of agency for a long time and they have developed a wide range of techniques to influence and

control their spectators' choices of such things as cards, words, or numbers. These techniques are called forces. But magicians do not offer any definition. Pailhès & Kuhn(2021, p. 338) define a force as a technique that covertly influences a person's choice without their awareness. Forcing techniques provide powerful tools to investigate illusory sense of agency and freedom over choices. Magicians' forces are successful because the spectator does not have direct access to the cognitive processes preceding their decision. It is possible that some people are more strongly affected by these techniques than others (Pailhès & Kuhn, 2021, p. 341).

Algorithms of social media are the sets of rules for the sequence of actions that must be taken to process data, perform calculations or automate a decision-making process(Bossio, 2017, p. 92). In financial markets, algorithmic trading has become the rule (Hwang, 2020). Algorithms belong to fields such as applied mathematics. Before 2010, mathematics was considered not to interfere with human affairs, but now it has seen trouble coming. These mathematical patterns are opaque and their work invisible; mathematicians and computer engineers are like priests. Even if they make a wrong decision, they will not be criticized or complained about(O'Nel, 2016). Besides this, more and more algorithms have taken control of what we read and see than the decades before (Osburg & Heinecke, 2019). The companies behind these algorithms also dominated the online ad and built their business models. The experiences of almost all web and mobile app users are organized by optimizing schemes from mechanism design algorithms—such as advertising auctions that monetize online traffic and decision systems that configure Facebook newsfeeds. Social media companies such as Facebook can sort us ever more efficiently into groups of the like-minded, creating echo chambers that amplify our views(Sunstein, 2017).

As Google's chief economist Hal Varian put it: "Online advertising serves as a poster child for algorithmic mechanism design" (Viljoen et al., 2021, p. 2). The search engines' algorithmic content selection strongly influences the diversity of the content received by the users – particularly since most users highly trust search engines and often click on only the first result (Steiner et al., 2022). The companies behind these algorithms also dominated the online ad and built their business models. The experiences of almost all web and mobile app users are organized by optimizing schemes from mechanism design algorithms—such as advertising auctions that monetize online traffic and decision systems that configure Facebook newsfeeds.

3. AI Policy

An important explanation lies in what some analysts view as a structural change in the global economy from neoliberalism, which prioritises "free market" mechanisms as a way of addressing economic as much as social problems, towards neo-feudalism,

which describes a time of extreme inequality under which a growing underclass services the needs of a handful of the mega-rich – or as the academic, Jodi Dean, puts it: “a few billionaires, a billion precarious workers”. This neo-feudal setup is evidenced by today’s unprecedented rise of global inequality. Since the 1980s, income inequality, for example, has increased sharply across the world. Perhaps most emblematic of such neo-feudalism is what is happening in the current “platform economy”, under which a small number of tech companies, eg, Apple, Google, Meta, Uber, and Airbnb, have grown increasingly super-wealthy and exploitative. (Kapoor, 2024, December 26).

The development of generative artificial intelligence raises justified concerns about the possibility of undermining trust in democratic processes, especially elections. Deep fakes are often considered one of the particularly dangerous forms of media manipulation. Subsequent research confirms that they contribute to strengthening the sense of uncertainty among citizens and negatively affect the information environment (Labuz & Nehring, 2024). Policymakers are beginning to act, with new laws requiring the disclosure of AI recommendations being considered in several countries (Ma et al., 2024).

Since gen AI models can produce digital content at scale and for a fraction of the cost of human-generated content, it is unsurprising that corporations are impatient to exploit them for various business applications, including digital marketing.³ From multinationals like Microsoft’s Co-Pilot and Google’s Gemini to fast-growing firms like DeepSeek, tech firms are in the equivalent of an arms race to develop the commercial applications of generative AI. Among them, the US-based organization OpenAI reached a milestone when, in 2022, it released ChatGPT, an interface that offers generative AI capabilities in a text format (Ruiz, 2025, P. 196).

Artificial intelligence (AI) policy is at a nascent stage. While dozens of countries have begun to put forward preliminary policy strategies, relatively few have adopted formal regulation. Indeed, the 2020s are expected to be a period of significant policymaking activity. As such, AI policy is arguably best understood to be undergoing agenda-setting, the often contentious process wherein policy actors compete to shape the key policy problems and solutions that will set the stage for future policymaking (Schiff, 2022, p. 730).

Research Method

Based on the method of document analysis, this paper treats relevant AI news reports as a kind of archive. The so called “Document analysis” is a systematic analytical process of observing and evaluating archival documents. The archival documents include text and images. Archival document analysis is often used in conjunction with

other qualitative methods because qualitative researchers want to obtain multiple lines of evidence and therefore integrate different data through different methods (Bowen, 2009). In this paper, the author tries to gather more data from adding more news media to learn about policy changes

The research focuses on AI issues before and after the 2024 US. Presidential Election, therefore, this study is divided into two phases. In each of the two phases, five graduate students were invited to form a research team and each was responsible for conducting research observations on a specific media.

For the first phase, the research questions include: 1. Focus on the impact of AI technology on news information dissemination and reporting during the US presidential election. 2. Understand the actual impact of generative AI technology on news reporting and information dissemination. In terms of time factors, the first phase of the research is from September 1, 2024 to December 1, 2024. The research subjects are five leading media outlets, namely, four American media outlets: 1. The New York Times, 2. The Washington Post, 3. Quartz, 4. BuzzFeed News, and 5. a British media outlet: The Guardian. The number of observed reports is 322.

The second phase include: 1. The Trump administration’s technology platforms, AI policies and social effects (such as fake news, freedom of speech, media industry, etc.). Second, the policies announced and implemented by Musk’s government officials, X platform holders, and other roles, as well as their related impacts and social responses. 3. Technology platforms, AI development, policy formulation and related global responses. The second phase of the research runs from February 1, 2025 to May 10, 2025. The research subjects are five leading media outlets in U.S.: 1. The New York Times, 2. The Washington Post, 3. Quartz, 4. ProPublic, and 5. The Guardian. The number of observed reports is 535. This research tries to figure out the policy change in:

Table1:

News Media	Time September 1, 2024 to December 1, 2024	Time February 1, 2025 to May 13, 2025.	Total
The New York Times	75	77	152

The Washington Post	58	66	124
The Guardian	54	107	161
Quartz	53	200	253
BuzzFeed/ ProPublica	16	32	48
Other news media	66	53	119
Total	322	535	857

Findings and Discussions

1. AI- Generated Mis/Disinformation

With the 2024 election looming, the first since the mass popularization of generative artificial intelligence, experts feared the worst: social media flooded with AI-generated deepfakes that were so realistic, baffled voters wouldn't know what to believe. In New Hampshire's primary in January, audio deepfakes of President Joe Biden were sent in robocalls to Democratic voters, urging them not to vote. The incident was quickly publicized and resulted in criminal charges. On one hand, AI is playing a major role in the presidential campaign, even if the greatest fears about how it could threaten the U.S. presidential election haven't materialized yet. Fake AI-generated images regularly ricochet around the web, but many of them are so cartoonish and absurd that even the most naïve viewer couldn't take them seriously.¹

On the other hand, according the reporting from these leading news media, Russia's attempts to influence the 2024 election in favor of Republican presidential

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<https://apnews.com/article/artificial-intelligence-memes-trump-harris-deepfakes-256282c31fa9316c4059f09036c70fa9>

candidate Donald Trump are accelerating. A group of prominent far-right influencers was exposed for taking money provided by Russian state media figures.² Russia, Iran and China are using artificial intelligence tools as they increase their effort to sway the American population ahead of the November election.³

After the election, an AI-generated video depicting the devastated Gaza Strip as an opulent resort emblazoned with Trump's name had appeared on his social media "Truth Social", including LinkedIn, X and Instagram social media sites in recent weeks (Odenheimer & Yuhas, 2025, February 26). The creator of the viral "Trump Gaza" AI-generated video depicting the Gaza Strip as a Dubai-style paradise has said it was intended as a political satire but repurposed by Trump as "very compelling, visceral" propaganda by Trump highlighted the risk of AI-generated video (Hall, 2025, March 6). The video shared on Mr. Trump's account appeared to have been downloaded from Rumble, a Florida-based video platform popular on the right.⁴

In the 2016 election, Donald Trump took a unique path, especially the impact of his tweets, many of which received attention in the national media and hence were greatly amplified. There is no doubt that his activity on Twitter put him at the center of what was, for many, an engine for group polarization—and helped vault him to the presidency. Trump created his own social media platform, seemingly modeled after Twitter, called Truth Social, which was launched in February 2022, which Trump and his supporters claim "discriminate against their views and limit free expression" (Ramirez, 2024, August 16). Anyone who wants to keep up with President Trump's views knows to go to his Truth Social account. But Trump is the biggest shareholder in Trump Media & Technology Group which owns Truth Social, and so stands to benefit directly if his posts drive traffic to the site. While Mr. Trump is not an officer or director of Trump Media, he owns 53 percent of the company's shares, a stake now valued at about \$3.5 billion. Truth Social could be a straightforward avenue to try to influence him.⁵

During the chaos after the 2020 election, tech companies has erected unprecedented defenses to prevent misinformation from spreading on their platforms. Four years later, all those platforms are in retreat. Under Elon Musk, Twitter — now X — eliminated most of its content moderation staff, replacing them with a crowdsourced, and flawed, fact-checking experiment. Facebook, now Meta, has scaled down its voter information center, and has decreased the visibility of posts

2

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2024/10/01/russia-influencers-presidential-election-2024/>

3 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2024/09/23/us-election-foreign-influence-russia-china-iran-ai/>

4 <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/02/26/world/middleeast/trump-gaza-ai-video.html>

5 <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/02/19/us/politics/truth-social-trump-media.html>

about politics across Facebook and Instagram. And YouTube now allows claims of election fraud on the network. Facing legal threats and political pressure, programs to combat the spread of disinformation have waned at social media giants; most companies have declined to update their policies to respond to the 2024 election.⁶

Technology companies aren't doing as much to stop disinformation. The foreign disinformation has exploded as tech giants have all but given up their efforts to combat disinformation. The largest companies, including Meta, Google, OpenAI and Microsoft, have scaled back their attempts to label and remove disinformation since the last presidential elections. Others have no teams in place at all.⁷ Musk's X and Mark Zuckerberg's Meta have shut down tools for researchers and pulled back from moderating online content in recent years amid a Republican-led push against online content moderation, which many on the right view as censorship. The administration of President Donald Trump has disbanded government units focused on tracking and countering foreign disinformation, such as the State Department's Global Engagement Center. It also began canceling National Science Foundation grants for research on misinformation and disinformation.⁸

Many social media sites allow users to make money from their posts or to share sponsored content. But they often have rules which allow them to de-monetise or suspend profiles that post misinformation. X does not have guidelines on misinformation in the same way. Some misleading and false posts that originated on X have also spilled on to other social media sites with a bigger audience, such as Facebook and TikTok.⁹

LLM technology also could aid in avoiding detection by allowing for the quick generation of new content, rather than copying and pasting. The researchers found uses LLMs to reply and shape political conversations, there is evidence that others are also using AI in propaganda campaigns on X (Collier, 2024, October 17). Disinformation researchers have long warned that generative AI has the ability to lower the bar for creating misleading content and threaten information around elections. According to Simon Horswell, senior fraud specialist at Onfido, this proliferation of fake content is evidenced by a 3000% increase in deepfake attempts in 2023(Lee,2024 October 18). After Musk's AI company released its largely unregulated Grok image generator last week, there has been a surge of AI content that has included depictions of Trump, Kamala Harris and other political figures(Robins-Early, 2024, August, 26).

⁶ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2024/11/02/social-media-election-voter-fraud-x-meta/>

⁷ <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/29/technology/election-interference-russia-china-iran.html>

⁸

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/05/06/operation-overload-russian-disinfo-usaid-musk-x/>

⁹ <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2dpj485nno>

2. Executive order on AI regulation

Scientists who helped pioneer artificial intelligence are warning that countries must create a global system of oversight to check the potentially grave risks posed by the fast-developing technology. A group of influential A.I. scientists raised concerns that the technology they helped build could cause serious harm. They warned that A.I. technology could, within a matter of years, overtake the capabilities of its makers and that “loss of human control or malicious use of these A.I. systems could lead to catastrophic outcomes for all of humanity.”¹⁰ Altman’s congressional testimony in May 2023, shortly after ChatGPT had captured the world’s attention. He was a picture of humility and cooperation. He professed acute awareness of artificial intelligence’s dangers and encouraged the regulation of OpenAI and other such companies. For a CEO to issue this kind of invitation was so unusual that it became the headline of the New York Times story about the hearings.”¹¹

Then, Biden signed an executive order on AI on Oct. 30, 2023, that recognized AI systems can pose unacceptable risks of harm to civil and human rights and individual well-being. In parallel, federal agencies such as the Federal Trade Commission have carried out enforcement actions to guard against algorithmic harms. By contrast, the Trump administration did not take a public stance on mitigation of algorithmic harms. Trump has said he wants to repeal President Biden’s AI executive order..¹²

But since President Trump’s election, tech leaders and their companies have changed their tune, and in some cases reversed course, with bold requests of government to stay out of their way, in what has become the most forceful push to advance their products. Meta, Google, OpenAI and others have asked the Trump administration to block state A.I. laws. They are also lobbying to use federal data to develop the technology, as well as for easier access to energy sources for their computing demands. And they have asked for tax breaks, grants and other incentives.

It’s not surprising that technology regulation is an important issue. When Donald Trump was last President, ChatGPT had not yet been launched. Now, as he prepares to return to the White House, the competing pressures that will shape AI policy during Trump’s second term.¹³ On his first day in office, Mr. Trump signed an executive order to roll back safety testing rules for A.I. used by the government. Two days later, he signed another order, soliciting industry suggestions to create policy to “sustain and

¹⁰ <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/09/16/business/china-ai-safety.html>

¹¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/10/07/sam-altman-ai-power-danger/>

¹² <https://qz.com/donald-trump-kamala-harris-ai-crypto-tech-policy-1851677304>

¹³ <https://time.com/7174210/what-donald-trump-win-means-for-ai/>

enhance America's global A.I. dominance.”¹⁴

The landmark legislation, the AI Act which became law in 2024, began its rollout with provisions banning certain “unacceptable risk” AI applications, including social scoring systems and manipulative AI techniques. The clash highlights a growing divide in approaches to AI governance. While the E.U. has opted for comprehensive regulation aimed at ensuring AI development aligns with European values and rights, the U.S. has not passed anything at the federal level. President Donald Trump is advocating minimal oversight to promote innovation — and against the AI Act.

“These are American companies whether you like it or not,” Trump told the crowd at the World Economic Forum in Davos last month, characterizing the E.U.’s regulatory approach as “a form of taxation.” Big Tech leaders have echoed these concerns. Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg criticized what he called Europe’s “institutionalized censorship,” while Meta’s policy chief Joel Kaplan indicated the company would seek Trump administration intervention if it felt unfairly targeted by E.U. enforcement.¹⁵

3. Copyrights and AI company

A coalition of Canada’s biggest news organizations is suing OpenAI, the maker of the artificial intelligence chatbot, ChatGPT, accusing the company of illegally using their content. While this is the first such lawsuit in Canada, it is similar to a suit brought against OpenAI and Microsoft in the United States in 2023 by The New York Times, claiming copyright infringement of news content related to A.I. systems. The Canadian outlets, which include the Globe and Mail, the Toronto Star and the CBC(the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation) are seeking what could add up to billions of dollars in damages. They are asking for 20,000 Canadian dollars, or \$14,700, per article they claim was illegally scraped and used to train ChatGPT. They are also seeking a share of the profits made by what they claim is OpenAI’s misuse of their content, as well as for the company to stop such practices in the future.¹⁶

Even the two companies OpenAI and Microsoft have both denied the suit’s claims, the media baron Rupert Murdoch’s Dow Jones and the New York Post filed a lawsuit against Perplexity AI on Monday, claiming the artificial intelligence startup engages in a “massive amount of illegal copying” of their copyrighted work. The lawsuit is the latest salvo in a bitter ongoing battle between publishers and tech companies over how the latter may use copyrighted content without authorization to

¹⁴ <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/24/technology/trump-ai-regulation.html>

¹⁵ <https://qz.com/ai-eu-european-union-regulations-silicon-valley-1851765829>

¹⁶ <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/29/world/canada/canada-openai-lawsuit-copyright.html>

build and operate their AI systems.¹⁷

Besides the news media, the musician Sir Elton John has joined Sir Paul McCartney in calling for new rules to prevent tech companies from riding “roughshod over the traditional copyright laws that protect artists’ livelihoods”. A petition against the unlicensed use of creative works for training generative AI now has more than 40,000 signatories including Julianne Moore, Kazuo Ishiguro, Kate Bush and Sir Simon Rattle. It is a battle that has united artists of every kind.¹⁸

Throughout a trial is just getting started, the FTC will argue that Facebook engaged in a “buy or bury” ploy to eliminate its rivals and gain monopoly power in the social media market.¹⁹ Japan’s Fair Trade Commission issued a cease and desist order to Google on Tuesday, finding its practices to be monopolistic.²⁰ OpenAI CEO Sam Altman visits India this week as his company fights off a major copyright lawsuit in its second-largest market. The suit alleges that OpenAI has illegally used copyrighted content to train the algorithms that power its popular chatbots.²¹

Twelve US copyright cases against OpenAI and Microsoft have been consolidated in New York, despite most of the authors and news outlets suing the companies being opposed to centralisation. Most of the plaintiffs opposed consolidation, arguing that their cases were too different to be combined. However, the transfer order states that the cases “share factual questions arising from allegations that OpenAI and Microsoft used copyrighted works, without consent or compensation, to train their large language models (LLMs) ... which underlie defendants’ generative artificial intelligence products” such as OpenAI’s ChatGPT and Microsoft’s Copilot. Many of the prominent authors suing OpenAI have also sued Meta for copyright infringement in its training of AI models. A court filing alleged that Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg approved the company’s use of a notorious “shadow library”, LibGen, which contains more than 7.5m books.²²

Meta, Google, OpenAI and others have asked the Trump administration to block state A.I. laws and to declare that it is legal for them to use copyrighted material to train their A.I. models. Google, Meta, OpenAI and Microsoft said their use of copyrighted data was legal because the information was transformed in the process of

¹⁷

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2024/oct/21/rupert-murdoch-ai-lawsuit-new-york-post-dow-jones>

¹⁸

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/jan/31/the-guardian-view-on-ai-and-copyright-law-big-tech-must-pay>

¹⁹ <https://qz.com/meta-ftc-antitrust-trial-week-1-zuckerberg-1851776650>

²⁰ <https://qz.com/japan-tells-google-to-cease-and-desist-1851776227>

²¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2025/02/05/india-openai-sam-altman-lawsuits-ai/>

²²

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2025/apr/04/us-authors-copyright-lawsuits-against-openai-and-microsoft-combined-in-new-york-with-newspaper-actions>

training their models and was not being used to replicate the intellectual property of rights holders. Some tech companies have also lobbied the Trump administration to endorse “open source” A.I., which essentially makes computer code freely available to be copied, modified and reused. And they have asked for tax breaks, grants and other incentives. Many tech companies also argued that their use of copyrighted works for training A.I. models was legal and that the administration should take their side. OpenAI, Google and Meta said they believed they had legal access to copyrighted works like books, films and art for training.²³

4. Eliminate regulations addressing climate change

For all its advanced features, running AI is considerably expensive, necessitating extensive capital for the underlying hardware and power consumption. It turns out that engaging in casual conversation and polite exchanges leads to "tens of millions of dollars" in expenses for companies like OpenAI. Still, that company's CEO, Sam Altman, considers this investment worthwhile because even though these responses might seem insignificant, they make using AI a touch more humane.²⁴

It's not just that these data centers have more gear packed into a tighter space. The computer chips that A.I. revolves around need far more electricity than traditional chips. A typical CPU needs about 250 to 500 watts to run, while GPUs use up to 1,000 watts. Data centers consumed about 4.4 percent of total electricity in the United States in 2023, or more than twice as much power as the facilities used to mine cryptocurrencies. That could triple by 2028, according to a report published by the Department of Energy.²⁵ Because of this, Trump has also called for American “energy dominance,” declaring a national energy emergency and removing the country from the Paris climate agreement.²⁶

Industry leaders told lawmakers at a House hearing in April, 2025. It was a nearly unanimous sentiment at the four-hour-plus hearing of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which revealed bipartisan support for ramping up U.S. energy production to meet skyrocketing demand for energy-thirsty AI data centers. Trump

²³ <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/24/technology/trump-ai-regulation.html>

²⁴

<https://www.tomshardware.com/tech-industry/artificial-intelligence/openai-spends-millions-to-process-polite-phrases-such-as-thank-you-and-please-with-chatgpt>

²⁵ <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2025/03/16/technology/ai-data-centers.html>

²⁶ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/04/10/ai-race-china-energy-congress/>

rescinded that order within days of taking office, saying its “onerous” requirements would “threaten American technological leadership.”²⁷

The Trump administration has taken steps to eliminate regulations addressing climate change, pull back funding for climate programs and cancel methods used to evaluate how climate change is affecting American society and its economy. Now it is directly undermining the science and research of climate change itself, in ways that some of the nation’s most distinguished scientists say will have dangerous consequences.²⁸

Elon Musk, the world’s richest man, is building what he says will be the world’s largest supercomputer. Its electricity needs will rival those of 100,000 homes. The supercomputer’s neighbors in southwest Memphis have a problem with that. The project, part of Mr. Musk’s xAI artificial intelligence business, sits in an old manufacturing plant on more than 550 acres. Before beginning operations there in July, xAI rolled in flatbed trucks loaded with almost 20 mobile power plants, fueled by natural gas, to help meet its electricity demands. Residents of the heavily industrial community — already home to an oil refinery, a steel mill and chemical plants — see no upside. They contend that Mr. Musk’s project has made pollution worse in an area already enveloped in smog.²⁹

Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg reportedly told employees that Meta would’ve been the first among its Big Tech peers to have nuclear-powered AI and that it would’ve had the largest nuclear plant for its data centers if the deal had worked out. Meanwhile, Amazon, Google, and Microsoft have all recently signed nuclear power deals as tech companies grapple with AI’s massive energy consumption. Amazon said. Amazon and Google signed and announced that they had signed “the world’s first corporate agreement to purchase nuclear energy” from SMRs developed by California-based Kairos Power.³⁰

Oil and gas barons who donated millions of dollars to Donald Trump’s presidential campaign are on the cusp of cashing in on the administration’s support for energy-guzzling data centers – and a slew of unprecedented environmental rollbacks. The fossil-fuel gold rush threatens to unleash massive amounts of pollution and greenhouse gases while undermining the renewable energy industry.³¹ Coal has been displaced by cheap and plentiful natural gas and the rapid growth of wind and solar energy — forces that President Trump will struggle to do away with. President Trump

²⁷ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/04/10/ai-race-china-energy-congress/>

²⁸ <https://www.propublica.org/article/trump-noaa-budget-cuts-climate-change-modeling-princeton-gfdl>

²⁹ [https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/31/business/energy-environment/elon-musk-ai-memphis-pollution.h
tml](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/31/business/energy-environment/elon-musk-ai-memphis-pollution.html)

³⁰ <https://qz.com/meta-tech-nuclear-power-ai-data-center-plans-bees-1851688910>

³¹ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/apr/03/trump-fossil-fuel-donors-data-centers>

issued executive orders designed to revive the use of coal in power plants, a practice that has been steadily declining for more than a decade.³²

5. AI Competition with China

Overall, the 10 countries that use AI the most: U.S., India, Kenya, Brazil, China, Germany, U.K., Indonesia, Philippine, and Canada.³³

The United States urgently needs more energy to fuel an artificial intelligence race with China that the country can't afford to lose, industry leaders told lawmakers at a House hearing in April, 2025. It was a nearly unanimous sentiment at the four-hour-plus hearing of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which revealed bipartisan support for ramping up U.S. energy production to meet skyrocketing demand for energy-thirsty AI data centers. Trump rescinded that order within days of taking office, saying its "onerous" requirements would "threaten American technological leadership." His administration is developing an AI action plan focused on "securing and advancing American AI dominance."³⁴

The shift has been enabled by Mr. Trump, who has declared that A.I. is the nation's most valuable weapon to outpace China in advanced technologies. and cyberattacks.³⁵ In order to develop the United States' leading position in artificial intelligence, several American technology companies have cooperated not only with the government but also with the military. Google updated its ethical guidelines around artificial intelligence, removing commitments not to apply the technology to weapons or surveillance. "There's a global competition taking place for AI leadership within an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape. We believe democracies should lead in AI development, guided by core values like freedom, equality, and respect for human rights," according from a spokesperson for Google. Another thing, ChatGPT-maker OpenAI has said it would work with military manufacturer Anduril to develop technology for the Pentagon.³⁶

While the Silicon Valley make efforts to develop artificial intelligence technology, the rise of Chinese company DeepSeek is even more amazing. DeepSeek showed AI could be developed using a fraction of the cost and processing required to train models such as ChatGPT or Meta's Llama. Its arrival may signal a new industry shift.³⁷ The proximate cause of this chaos was the news that a Chinese tech startup of

³² <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/14/business/energy-environment/trump-coal-power-plants.html>

³³ <https://qz.com/top-countries-using-ai-tools-websites-chatgpt-us-india-1851774190>

³⁴ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/04/10/ai-race-china-energy-congress/>

³⁵ <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/24/technology/trump-ai-regulation.html>

³⁶ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2025/02/04/google-ai-policies-weapons-harm/>

³⁷

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/feb/02/as-deepseek-upends-the-ai-industry-one-group-i>

whom few had hitherto heard had released DeepSeek R1, a powerful AI assistant that was much cheaper to train and operate than the dominant models of the US tech giants – and yet was comparable in competence to OpenAI’s o1 “reasoning” model. Just to illustrate the difference: R1 was said to have cost only \$5.58m to build, which is small change compared with the billions that OpenAI and co have spent on their models; and R1 is about 15 times more efficient (in terms of resource use) than anything comparable made by Meta. The DeepSeek app immediately zoomed to the top of the Apple app store, where it attracted huge numbers of users who were clearly unfazed by the fact that the terms and conditions and the privacy policy they needed to accept were in Chinese.³⁸

Several global industry leaders saw their market values drop after the launch, as DeepSeek showed AI could be developed using a fraction of the cost and processing required to train models such as ChatGPT or Meta’s Llama. Its arrival may signal a new industry shift.³⁹ With a trade war raging, demographic challenges dragging on the economy and the prospect of a productive relationship with the world’s largest economy looking ever more remote, Beijing is doubling down on the industries where it sees the potential – and the need – to develop ahead of the US. China’s leaders see artificial intelligence as being the key to upgrading its military strength, solving the problems created by a shrinking workforce, and a source of national pride – especially when Chinese firms manage to circumvent US-led sanctions on core technology. And technology firms, for many years shunned by China’s leader, Xi Jinping, as he sought to crack down on excessive wealth and influence outside the Chinese Communist party’s control, are being welcomed back into the fold as Xi seeks to restore confidence in the private sector and encourage domestic innovation.⁴⁰

The Chinese internet giant ByteDance has made some of the world’s most popular apps: TikTok and, in China, Douyin and Toutiao. ByteDance is also using the data as the linchpin of a growing business in artificial intelligence. The company has invested billions of dollars in the infrastructure needed to power A.I. systems, building vast data centers in China and Southeast Asia and buying up advanced semiconductors. ByteDance is best known outside China for TikTok, an app so popular that at least 20 governments have adopted partial bans over concerns about its influence on national security and public opinion. Concern over how ByteDance uses

s-urging-australia-to-embrace-the-opportunity

³⁸ <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/feb/01/ai-deepseek-cheap-china-google-apple>

³⁹

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/feb/02/as-deepseek-upends-the-ai-industry-one-group-is-urging-australia-to-embrace-the-opportunity>

⁴⁰

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/apr/21/humanoid-workers-and-surveillance-buggies-embodied-ai-is-reshaping-daily-life-in-china>

data has driven lawmakers in Washington to try to force a sale of TikTok's U.S. operations. President Trump extended a looming deadline by 75 days into mid-June. But in China all that data has helped ByteDance expand its business far beyond social media and gain an edge in the global race to build advanced A.I. technology.⁴¹

Conclusion

After studying nearly 900 AI news reports, this article argues the whole world put too many focuses on deepfake disinformation in politics. There is a dark side to this new capability: "This AI tech is being used to create child sexual abuse material, non-consensual intimate imagery, hoaxes, conspiracies, lies that are dangerous to democracies." AI platforms have a responsibility to "put guardrails" on this technology, to prevent it from being misused (Milmo, 2025, April 23).

This article also claims that it is neglected the opinions from the public and ordinary people in communities. A survey by Pew Research Center (2025, April 3) found that a plurality of American adults believe AI's impacts will be more negative than positive, with many fearing it will displace jobs and leave workers worse off. It also found that a majority of both the public and AI experts worry that government oversight of the technology will prove too lax, rather than excessive.

However, with great power comes great responsibility, the rise of AI has brought various security issues, including risks of data privacy breaches, potential for misuse in generating deceptive content, inherent biases from training data affecting output fairness, vulnerability to adversarial attacks, and issues with hallucinations leading to reliability concerns (Zhou, et al., 2025). When we discuss AI policy, we should include all of the opinions in the discussion, and not just care about the interests of politicians and AI companies.

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⁴¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/11/business/tiktok-china-bytedance-ai.html>

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