



The AI revolution and global instability: a defining moment for Democracy

The world is at a breaking point. The AI revolution is unfolding alongside an unprecedented geopolitical crisis, where war, authoritarian influence, and technological dominance threaten the very foundations of democracy. The survival of free will, electoral integrity, and political sovereignty is at stake.

AI is no longer just a tool—it is a weapon that can be used to manipulate public opinion, distort elections, and reshape power dynamics on a global scale. Without strong democratic safeguards, AI will accelerate disinformation, weaken fair competition, and shift governance towards centralized, opaque, and potentially authoritarian control. Conversely, if harnessed correctly, AI can empower citizens, enhance governance, and fortify democratic resilience in the face of growing instability. We are at a pivotal moment: will AI become an instrument of control, or a force for democratic renewal?

Recognizing this urgent threat, Make.org, Bertelsmann Stiftung, HEC, and CNNum conducted an extensive study mapping global initiatives that use AI to protect and strengthen democracy. Their findings revealed hundreds of projects dedicated to ensuring AI serves the public good. Among them, the 100 most impactful initiatives were identified, spanning researchers, NGOs, foundations, companies, and public institutions (see annex). However, despite this global surge of action, these efforts remain fragmented. Without greater coordination, support, and visibility, they risk failing against the scale of the challenge.

This is why, at the AI Action Summit, Make.org launched the Worldwide Alliance for AI & Democracy—a global coalition committed to ensuring AI is used to reinforce democracy, rather than dismantle it. The stakes have never been higher. Now is the time to act.

Worldwide Alliance for AI and Democracy

The Worldwide Alliance for AI and Democracy is an independent and neutral groundbreaking coalition bringing together hundreds of key actors from civil society, academia, research institutions, NGOs, foundations, corporations, non-partisan civic movements, and public institutions. United by the mission of strengthening democracy amid geopolitical shifts and the rise of AI, members actively contribute by signing the *Manifesto: Call for a Worldwide Alliance on AI and Democracy* and by leading concrete initiatives to reinforce democratic resilience.

The Alliance already connected with **262 potential member organizations** from more than 30 countries: 91 universities and research centers, 59 NGO, 40 foundations, 20 public institutions and 52 private companies.

Three strategic objectives of the Alliance

1. Safeguarding electoral integrity

Among the many challenges to democracy, the top priority is ensuring that citizens have the power to vote consciously, without manipulation, in a pluralistic system, and to uphold the possibility of political alternation.

- Fighting disinformation and AI-driven interference to preserve informed decision-making.
- Defending elections from external manipulation to uphold electoral integrity.
- Protecting democratic institutions and principles.
- Ensuring trustworthy AI systems for all democratic applications.

2. Strengthening democratic processes

In an era of democratic challenges, AI has the potential to reconnect citizens with public action while expanding democratic principles into new areas of cooperation.

- Leveraging AI for participatory democracy at scale, strengthening citizen involvement in the exercise of public authority.
- Implementing AI-driven democratic initiatives that enable large-scale citizen participation in multilateralism and cross-border conflict resolution.
- Creating and supporting AI-powered initiatives to foster global, multi-stakeholder thematic collaboration with citizens.

3. Building societal resilience to AI

The rise of AI is reshaping global and societal balances, potentially triggering disruptions that can destabilize democracies. To safeguard democratic stability, it is crucial to build societal resilience against the profound changes AI brings.

- Implying citizens into the roll-out of AI
- Ensuring key political and economic leader understanding of AI
- Redesigning education systems to equip citizens with essential skills while preserving critical thinking.
- Redefining social dialogue and labor structures to adapt to AI-driven job transformations.
- Restructuring public and private institutions to ensure resilience in the face of AI integration.

Concrete outcomes and impact of the Alliance

The Alliance is designed to support initiatives and amplify the impact of its members' efforts through four key areas of contribution.

A - Enhancing the visibility of AI & Democracy initiatives

- Labeling the most impactful initiatives (Top 100 first labeled initiatives available in annex)
- Monthly newsletter for members and an annual event at the AI Summit
- Annual Report on the state of the AI & Democracy ecosystem and initiatives

B - Maximizing the impact of initiatives

- Facilitating collaboration among members and synergies among initiatives
- Expanding successful initiatives to other countries
- Bundling initiatives to create a stronger and collective impact

C - Shaping and coordinating policy recommendations

- Active participation in major AI policy workshops
- Issuing public policy recommendations across the three strategic pillars: Safeguarding electoral integrity, Strengthening democratic processes, Building societal resilience to AI.

Membership in the Alliance

Members of the Alliance can include actors from civil society, academia, research institutions, NGOs, foundations, corporations, non-partisan civic movements, and public institutions.

- They sign the Manifesto, committing to the Alliance's principles.
- They keep the Alliance informed about the progress of their AI and democracy initiatives.
- No financial contribution is required to join.

Organization and governance

The Alliance is hosted at Make.org Foundation and run by a central team supported by key contact persons in strategic countries. The strategy of the alliance is supervised by an independent supervisory board composed by independent worldwide AI and Democracy personalities, notably ensuring the Alliance's independence and neutrality.

Annex 1:

Manifesto: Call for a Worldwide Alliance on AI and Democracy

At the AI Action Summit, in this crucial moment where the future of artificial intelligence is being shaped, the preservation and strengthening of democracy is not merely another topic of discussion—it is a foundational imperative that demands our collective focus and action.

Artificial intelligence and public governance are deeply intertwined. Without the active participation of AI stakeholders, democracies will face mounting challenges, growing increasingly vulnerable in the face of rapid technological change. Conversely, without strong democratic governance, there is no assurance of creating a level playing field for AI innovation, effectively monitoring artificial generative intelligence, or ensuring that innovation serves the broader needs of society.

Recognizing the urgency of this pivotal moment, over 300 global leaders and organizations from diverse sectors have come together to establish the **Worldwide Alliance for AI and Democracy**. United in purpose, we pledge to harness AI as a powerful tool to strengthen democratic values and institutions.

Our commitments:

- **We, social science researchers**, commit to conducting rigorous research into the social and democratic implications of AI, ensuring that our findings shape public discourse and inform policies that uphold democratic values.
- **We, data science researchers**, pledge to design and develop AI systems that proactively safeguard and advance democratic principles, prioritizing transparency, fairness, and accountability in every stage of their creation.
- **We, AI innovators**, are dedicated to creating AI systems that are transparent, accountable, and deeply respectful of human rights and democratic values. We will actively challenge and resist the misuse of AI for manipulation, discrimination, or any actions that undermine democracy.
- **We, corporations**, pledge to ensure the ethical and responsible use of AI within our organizations and beyond, committing to transparency, accountability, and respect for human rights and democratic values. We will empower and engage our employees and clients to critically assess and challenge the applications of AI.
- **We, democratic activists and NGOs**, will advocate tirelessly for policies that guarantee the equitable and inclusive development and deployment of AI. We will work to empower citizens, ensuring their voices are heard and their participation shapes the future of AI in alignment with democratic ideals.
- **We, public institutions**, commit to championing the development and enforcement of AI policies that safeguard democratic values and build public trust. We will actively involve citizens in scrutinizing and holding AI systems accountable, ensuring that these technologies serve the common good.

The path forward requires unprecedented cooperation. Governments, private enterprises, researchers, and civil society must work together to ensure that AI applications empower humanity and respect each country's democratic sovereignty. Democracy cannot be left to chance, nor can the future of AI. By aligning our efforts, we can build a world where technological innovation serves as a pillar for democratic resilience. Beyond democracy itself, the legitimacy and robustness of each country's democratic governance is a fundamental prerequisite for developing AI that genuinely serves citizens and society. By working together, we can harness the power of AI to build a more democratic future for all.

Annex 2:

Top 100 worldwide AI and Democracy initiatives



| BertelsmannStiftung



To understand the landscape of the AI and Democracy initiatives, on the occasion of the AI Action Summit, Make.org, Bertelsmann Stiftung, HEC, and CNNUM conducted an extensive study to identify the Top 100 global initiatives at the intersection of AI and democracy.

Here, you can access an AI-powered tool that provides insights into all the initiatives below, helping you better understand their content: [Panoramic Top100](#)

	Name of Initiative	Objective	Initiators	Geographic origin	Top Funders
#1	"AI in America: Open AI's Economic Blueprint" (Policy proposal)	Shaping federal AI policy and infrastructure.	Open AI (Company)	US	OpenAI , US Government
#2	ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics (Guide)	Helping regional groups design, develop, and deploy traditional AI.	ASEAN (Public Institution)	ASEAN	ASEAN
#3	Generative AI, Misinformation and 2024 Elections (Research project)	Analyzing AI's election impact on social media ahead of the U.S. election.	Georgetown University (University)	US	Georgetown University
#4	Access Now (NGO)	Defending and expanding digital rights worldwide.	Access Now (NPO)	US	Luminate (\$100K), Mozilla (\$15K), Swiss FDFA (\$8K), UK Foreign, etc.
#5	Africa Just AI (Think tank)	Advocating for ethical AI systems in Africa.	Research ICT Africa (Research Organization)	South Africa	Arab Fact Checkers, AI for Dev Africa, AFDB, etc.
#6	AI and Democracy Innovation Lab (Think tank)	Addressing AI's impact on democracy and its institutions.	Columbia University faculty "SIPA Institute of Global Politics" (University)	US	N/A
#7	AI and Democratic Values Index (Think tank)	Evaluating nations' AI policies against democracy and human rights.	Center for AI and Digital Policy (NPO)	US	Carnegie Council , CFR , Council of Europe , EDPB
#8	AI and the Global South: The Role of Civil Society in AI Decision-Making (Research Initiative)	Amplifying Global South voices for inclusive AI governance.	Care International (NGO), Accenture (Company)	UK	Care International
#9	AI for Electoral Actors initiative (Project)	Educating election bodies, media, and civil groups on AI's role.	International IDEA (intergovernmental organization)	Sweden	Social Resilience Fund (OpenAI & Microsoft)
#10	AI Forensics (Tools & reports)	Revealing algorithmic and data exploitation across major platforms.	AI Forensics (NGO)	France	Civitates , Luminate

	Name of Initiative	Objective	Initiators	Geographic origin	Top Funders
#11	AI Hiroshima Process (International framework)	Promoting global AI rule-making.	G7 members (7 public institutions)	G7 summit in Japan	G7, GPAI
#12	AI Localism Repository (Research initiative)	Studying AI governance at state and city levels worldwide.	The GovLab at New York University (Research Institution)	US	Amazon (\$25K), Anonymous (UAE - \$18K), ARP (\$22K), AARP (\$50K), etc.
#13	AI Media for Democracy (aim4dem) (Laboratory)	Anticipating AI's effects on democracy and media, sharing solutions.	University of Amsterdam (University), Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, etc.	The Netherlands	BBC, Dutch Research Council (€2M), University of Amsterdam, etc.
#14	AI Now Institute (NGO)	Researching policy to limit tech power concentration.	AI Now (Research Institute)	US	Open Society Foundations, Ford Foundation
#15	AI Objective Institute (Research project & development lab)	Ensuring AI serves humanity with broad public input.	AI Objectives Institute (Research Organization)	US	Future of Life Institute, Plurality Institute
#16	AI Verify Foundation (Foundation)	Creating AI testing tools and promoting responsible use.	DELL (Company), Google (Company), Microsoft (Company)	Singapore	AWS, DBS, IMDA, Agency for Science, etc.
#17	AI-Democratic Resilience (Research program)	Helping nations use AI to strengthen democratic resilience.	Make.org (Company), Hugging Face (Company), Mozilla.ai, etc.	France	N/A
#18	AI: Argentina Intelligence (Non-profit organization)	Analyzing presidential speeches to foster democratic dialogue.	Inteligencia Argentina (NPO)	Argentina	UNDP Argentina Accelerator Lab
#19	AI/Democracy Initiative (Think tank)	Safeguarding democracy from AI-driven misinformation.	Friedrich Naumann Foundation (Foundation), German Council on Foreign Relations, etc.	Germany	Dr. Arend Oetker (>€100K), Friede Springer Stiftung, BAMF (>€100K), etc.
#20	Center for the Governance of Change at IE University (Global research coalition)	Defending democracy from threats and enhancing inclusivity.	IE (University), Microsoft (Company)	Spain	Microsoft
#21	AI4TRUST (AI-based technology)	Preventing false information from undermining democracy.	Fondazione Bruno Kessler (Foundation), 11 partner countries financed by the EU, etc.	European Union	Horizon Europe Programme
#22	Algo Transparency (NGO)	Investigating YouTube's AI-driven content influence.	AlgoTransparency (NGO)	France	Moz://a, Graphika, Berkeley School of Info, Human Rights Center, etc.
#23	Algorithmic Impact Methods Lab (Research lab and collaborative platform)	Creating public tools to assess algorithmic impact.	Data & Society (Research Organization)	US	2024-2020: Annie E. Casey Foundation, Craig Newmark Philanthropies, etc.
#24	Algorithmic Justice League (NGO)	Raising AI awareness and promoting accountability.	Algorithmic Justice League (NPO)	US	Ford Foundation, MacArthur Foundation
#25	AlgorithmWatch (NGO)	Ensuring AI supports justice, democracy, and sustainability.	AlgorithmWatch (NGO)	Germany	Alfred Landecker Foundation, Deutsche Postcode Lotterie, BMBF, etc.
#26	Alignment Assemblies (LLM)	Integrating public input into AI language models.	Collective Intelligence Project (Incubator),	US	TheGovLab, Moda (Taiwan)

	Name of Initiative	Objective	Initiators	Geographic origin	Top Funders
			Anthropic (AI Company)		
#27	Amnesty Tech - Algorithmic Accountability Lab (NGO)	Pushing for human rights-based AI regulations.	Amnesty Tech's Algorithmic Accountability Lab (NGO)	US	Amnesty International Germany, Ford Foundation, etc.
#28	Aspen Digital: AI Elections Initiative (Think tank)	Strengthening U.S. elections against AI threats.	Aspen Institute (NGO)	US	Additional Ventures, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, etc.
#29	Bayes Impact (NGO)	Supporting policymakers and firms amid rapid tech growth.	Bayes Impact (NGO)	France	Google.org (€1M), Gates Foundation, France Travail, DINUM, etc.
#30	Betterplace Lab (Digital lab & digital-social think-and-do tank)	Facilitating research and networking.	Betterplace Lab (NGO)	Germany	Crowdfunding on some projects
#31	Bits of Freedom (Non profit organization)	Shaping internet policy for an open and fair society.	Bits of Freedom (NGO)	The Netherlands	The Adessium Foundation, Ford Foundation
#32	Café IA (Platform (for semi-guided workshops))	Hosting AI workshops for public understanding.	Conseil national du numérique (Public Institution)	France	Conseil National du Numérique
#33	Center for Democracy and Technologies (NGO)	Advancing effective AI regulation and governance.	Center for Democracy and Technologies (NGO)	US	Carnegie Council, CFR, Council of Europe, EDPB, etc.
#34	Center for Humane Technology (NGO)	Establishing standards that protect democracy.	Center for Humane Technology (NGO)	US	Pershing Square Foundation, Craig Newmark Philanthropy
#35	Center for Informed Democracy & Social - cybersecurity (IDeas) - (Research center)	Strengthening cybersecurity for informed democracies.	Carnegie Mellon (University)	US	Atlantic Council, Knight Foundation
#36	CESE (Government advisory body)	Advising the French government on civil society issues.	Conseil économique, social et environnemental (Public Institution)	France	French Government
#37	Collective Intelligence Project (Research and development initiative)	Using AI for decentralized democratic decision-making.	The Collective Intelligence Project (Incubator)	US	The Omidyar Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
#38	Compar:IA (Educational website)	Raising awareness of generative AI's impact.	Ministère de la Culture France (Public Institution)	France	DINUM, Atelier Numérique Incubateur, etc.
#39	Contre la désinformation avec l'IA (Fact Checking Initiative)	Fighting disinformation and hate speech with AI.	Studio Hironnelle RDC (Foundation)	DRC	Fondation Studio Hironnelle, European Union
#40	Cooperative AI Foundation (Philanthropic foundation)	Supporting research on cooperative AI intelligence.	Cooperative AI Foundation (Foundation)	US	Polaris Ventures (\$15M)
#41	Decidim (Open-source software platform)	Enabling participatory decision-making in organizations.	Decidim (NPO)	Spain	Pokecode, Octree, Ajuntament de Barcelona, etc.
#42	DemocraIA.Lab (Digital capacity-building platform)	A space where democracy and artificial intelligence converge to address the opportunities and challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean.	Democracia Digital (Think Tank)	Peru	Crowdfunding

	Name of Initiative	Objective	Initiators	Geographic origin	Top Funders
#43	Democratic Commons Programme (research program)	Enhancing public engagement with AI-driven democratic tools.	Make.org (Company), SciencesPo (University), CNRS-Sorbonne, etc.	France	Make.org, SciencesPo, CNRS-Sorbonne, BPI (€6M), etc.
#44	Democratic Shield (Civil Society Initiative)	Protecting the 2024 EU elections from interference.	Make.org (Company), EU Desinfo Lab, Science Po, RSF, New Digital Deal, Mozilla, etc.	France	N/A
#45	Digital Democracy initiative (DDI) (Civil society initiative)	Advancing digital democracy in the MENA region.	Innovation for Change MENA Hub (CSO), CIVICUS (CSO)	MENA region	Civicus, European Commission, Danish MFA, etc.
#46	Digital Society Project (DSP) (Research Initiative)	Assessing digital tech's effects on democracy.	Digital Society Project (DSP) (Academic Research Network)	US	Facebook, NSF, UNESCO, etc.
#47	Digital Twins & Citizen Participation (Digital urban research)	Using technology to boost civic participation.	Fari-AI for the Common Good (Citizen Engagement Hub)	Belgium	King Baudouin Foundation, SMIT, European Commission, etc.
#48	EDRi (Non-profit organization network)	Defending civil rights in information technology.	10 NGOs from 7 countries (10 NGOs)	Belgium	DuckDuckGo (€50K), NordVPN (€5K), EDPS (€10K), EPIC (€500), etc.
#49	EveryoneAI (Think tank)	Protecting children's rights and online safety.	Everyone.ai (NGO)	France	Crowdfunding
#50	Freedom Online Coalition (Coalition)	Advocating global internet freedom and privacy.	42 governments (42 Public Institutions)	US	Australian MFA, Canadian MFA, etc.
#51	FullFact AI (AI-based technology)	Preventing false information from undermining democracy.	Full Fact (NGO)	UK	Google.org (£522K), IFCN & NED (\$26K), IFCN & YouTube (\$17K), etc.
#52	Future AI Center (Website-integrated tool)	Preventing AI from disrupting elections.	NAVER (Company)	Korea	NAVER
#53	Future of Technology Institute (Research and innovation institute)	Exploring new technologies for societal good.	Vrije Universiteit Brussel (University), Université libre de Bruxelles, etc.	Belgium	N/A
#54	Global Center on AI Governance (Think tank)	Ensuring fair AI governance frameworks.	Global Center on AI Governance (Think Tank)		N/A
#55	Global Citizen Deliberation on Artificial Intelligence Options and design considerations (report) (Research initiative)	Engaging citizens in AI policy.	Connected by Data (NGO), ISWE Foundation (Innovation Centre)	UK	The Omidyar Network
#56	Global Dialogues (public input process)	Uniting people to shape a shared global vision.	The Collective Intelligence Project (Incubator)	US	The Omidyar Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, etc.
#57	Global Digital Compact (Pact)	Promoting responsible tech use for all.	UN (Global Organization)	Worldwide	UN
#58	Global Trust Challenge (Global Initiative)	Combating AI-driven disinformation and ensuring content integrity.	Intergovernmental organizations (OECD, GPAI, etc.)	Worldwide	IDB, AICommmons, ECD.AI, FPAI, etc.
#59	Google Impact Challenge (Fund)	Funding projects that strengthen European democracy.	Google (Company)	US	Google (\$15M)

	Name of Initiative	Objective	Initiators	Geographic origin	Top Funders
#60	Human Technology Foundation (Think Tank)	Centering technology in social debates.	Human Technology Foundation (Foundation)	France	Desjardins, Palantir, Caisse des Dépôts, etc.
#61	Information Ecosystems and Troubled Democracies (Forum)	Upholding democratic values in digital spaces.	Forum Information & Democracy (NGO)	Global	Postcode Foundation, Ford Foundation, French MFA, etc.
#62	Interoperable Deliberative Tools (Lab)	Advancing AI governance and interoperability.	Metagov (Private Lab)	US	Metagov, Mina Foundation
#63	Jigsaw	Addressing AI threats and scaling solutions.	Alphabet Inc.: Google (Company)	US	Google
#64	Khan Academy (NGO)	Reinventing education through AI.	Salman Khan (Entrepreneurial Educator)	US	Amgen (\$10M+), Fundação Lemann (\$10M+), SBI Foundation, etc.
#65	Love Serenade (AI-bot)	Using AI for financial audits and transparency.	Digital Ocean (Company), Open Knowledge Brazil, etc.	Brazil	Crowdfunding
#66	MAPLE (Free public platform)	Enhancing public access to legislative institutions.	MAPLE (NGO)	US	Crowdfunding
#67	Mapping America's Healthy Democracy Ecosystem (Project)	Creating interactive tools for user education.	National Civic League (NGO)	US	APQ Solutions, Carl & Lily Pforzheimer Foundation, City of Asheboro, etc.
#68	Network for Civil Society and Academia (Platform)	Empowering civil society to shape AI policy.	Tech and Global Affairs Innovation Hub, AI & Society Institute, Make.org, etc.	Global	Tech & Global Affairs (SciencesPo), Make.org, AI & Society (ENS-PSL), etc.
#69	Observatoire africain de l'intelligence artificielle responsable (Research Observatory)	Elevating Africa's role in AI governance.	IDRC-CRDI (Research Center)	N/A	Swedish Dev Cooperation Agency, IDRC, etc.
#70	Open Future Foundation (Think Tank)	Safeguarding the open internet.	Open Future (NPO)	The Netherlands	Open Society (€270K/3yrs), Omidyar (€30K), Horizon Europe (€450K/3yrs), etc.
#71	Open Society Foundations (Philanthropy fund)	Ensuring AI is ethical, transparent, and accountable.	Open Society Foundations (Philanthropic Fund), Packard Foundation, etc.	US	George Soros
#72	Parla (App)	Using AI to analyze citizens' questions to the Berlin Senate.	CityLab Berlin (Laboratory)	Germany	CityLAB Berlin, Berlin Parliament, etc.
#73	<u>Partnership on AI (Coalition)</u>	Promoting responsible AI while preventing misuse.	Amazon, Apple, DeepMind, Google, Facebook, IBM, Microsoft, etc.	US	Ford Foundation, Knight Foundation, etc.
#74	People vs BigTech (Advocacy organization)	Challenging Big Tech's impact on society.	People vs Big Tech (Civil Society Organization)	Europe	123 orgs including AI Forensics, Amnesty International, etc.
#75	Pluralism (SaaS platform for media monitoring)	Providing transparent, reliable information for democracy.	MagicLemp & LexBase (Company)	France	LexBase, Magic LEMP, etc.
#76	Plurality: The Future of Collaborative Technology and Democracy (Book)	Leveraging AI for a more inclusive world.	Audrey Tang (Public Official), E. Glen Weyl (Researcher), etc.	Taiwan	N/A

	Name of Initiative	Objective	Initiators	Geographic origin	Top Funders
#77	Pol.is (Digital platform)	Collecting and analyzing public opinion.	Pol.is (NGO)	US	N/A
#78	Programme on Democracy and Technology (University program)	Using social science and AI to uphold democracy.	Oxford (University)	UK	Ford (\$1.1M), Craig Newmark (\$200K), Civitates (€175K), ERC (€2M), etc.
#79	Prosocial Ranking Challenge (Funding challenge)	Improving social media algorithms for society's benefit.	Center for Human-Compatible AI, UC Berkeley, etc.	US	Center for Human-Compatible AI (\$60K)
#80	Public AI (Coalition)	Advancing public AI through policy and research.	Stanford Professors, Former JP Morgan employees, Former Goldman employees, etc.	US	IOBC Capital, Foresight Ventures, etc.
#81	Public Interest AI Projects Connected to Democracy (Dataset)	Mapping global public-interest AI projects.	Public interest AI at the Alexander von Humboldt Institute (NGO)	Germany	Federal Ministry for Education & Research of Germany
#82	Public Voices in AI (Research project)	Prioritizing public voices in AI development.	Digital Good Network, Ada Lovelace Institute, Alan Turing Institute, UCL, etc.	UK	UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)
#83	Reconciliation Pact (Civil Society Initiative)	Revitalizing French democracy through citizen unity.	Make.org, SciencesPo, Démocratie Ouverte, HEC, CNNum, Advens, etc.	France	N/A
#84	Reset.tech (Non-profit technology advocacy organization)	Protecting digital rights and democratic communication.	Sandler Foundation, Luminate (Foundation), etc.	UK	Sandler Foundation, Luminate, etc.
#85	Rest of world (Non profit publication)	Redefining whose tech experiences matter.	Rest of World (NPO)	US	Schmidt Family Foundation, Ford Foundation, etc.
#86	Safer Internet Day - Citoyenneté Numérique & IA (Workshop)	Educating youth and families on digital citizenship.	Safer Internet France, 3018, Point de Contact, Everyone.AI, etc.	France	ConnectSafely, Walt Disney Company, Digital Europe Programme, etc.
#87	SameSource.org (Software)	Helping users identify AI-altered media.	Harvard (University)	US	Harvard University
#88	She Shapes AI (NGO)	Supporting women leading AI for social good.	She Shapes AI (NGO)	UK	N/A
#89	Stanford Deliberate (Project)	Facilitating fair, inclusive conversations.	Stanford (University)	US	Stanford University
#90	Sunstorm Foundation (Philanthropic tech initiative)	Strengthening democracy in the digital age.	Tech founders and investors (specific names not provided)	Europe	N/A
#91	Taiwan AI Labs (Research Institute)	Merging AI with nature and humanity for impact.	Taiwan AI Labs (Research Institute)	Taiwan	Yi-Chin Tu (€12M)
#92	Talk to the City (Software)	Enhancing collective decision-making.	AI Objectives Institute (Non-profit Research Lab)	Taiwan	Future of Life Institute (\$500K), Audrey Tang, etc.
#93	Tech-Enhanced Deliberative Assemblies (Think tank)	Building trust in deliberation through technology.	DemNext (NGO), MIT Center for Constructive Communication, etc.	US	Rockefeller (\$345K), Open Society (\$225K), National Endowment for Democracy, etc.
#94	The AI Democracy Projects (Investigative journalism project)	Investigating AI's role in democratic media.	ProofNews, The Science, Technology, and Social Values Lab, etc.	US	Internet Society Foundation, Omidyar Network, etc.

	Name of Initiative	Objective	Initiators	Geographic origin	Top Funders
#95	Transforming Citizen service with AI (AI Development Initiative)	Improving access to public info and civic engagement.	AI71, Technology Innovation Institute, etc.	UAE	UAE Gov via ATRC
#96	Viginum (French government)	Detecting foreign interference in French public debate.	Secrétariat général de la Défense et de la Sécurité nationale (SGDSN)	France	SGDSN & subsidiaries (€7.3M)
#97	vTaiwan (Decentralized open consultation process)	Bringing Taiwan's citizens and government together.	vTaiwan, g0v, Pol.is, GitBook, Discourse, etc.	Taiwan	g0v.tw, Taiwanese Gov, etc.
#98	Wadhvani IA (Research Institute)	Developing AI solutions for social good.	Dr. Romesh Wadhvani, Sunil Wadhvani (Individual Initiators)	India	Wadhvani brothers, Google.org, USID, Karnataka State Dept of Agriculture, etc.
#99	WeVerify (Open Source Platform)	Engaging communities in collaborative fact-checking.	ONTOTEXT, The University of Sheffield, Deutsche Welle, AFP, etc.	UK	EU Commission via Horizon 2030 (€2.9M)
#100	Global AI Dialogue (NGO)	Fostering accountability, inclusivity, and forward-thinking AI governance for all.	Missions Publiques (Company), Stanford DDL (Academic research center)	France/US	N/A

Annex 3:

Position paper on the Top 100 initiatives



| BertelsmannStiftung



To adjust the positioning of the Alliance, on the occasion of the AI Action Summit, Yann Algan and Gilles Babinet presented a position paper based on their analysis of the Top 100 global AI and Democracy initiatives, summarized below.

Yann Algan: Professor of Economics and Dean of HEC Paris pre-experience programs.



Gilles Babinet: Co-chairman of the Conseil national du numérique, Digital Champion for France at the European Commission and member of the Comité de l'intelligence artificielle générative.



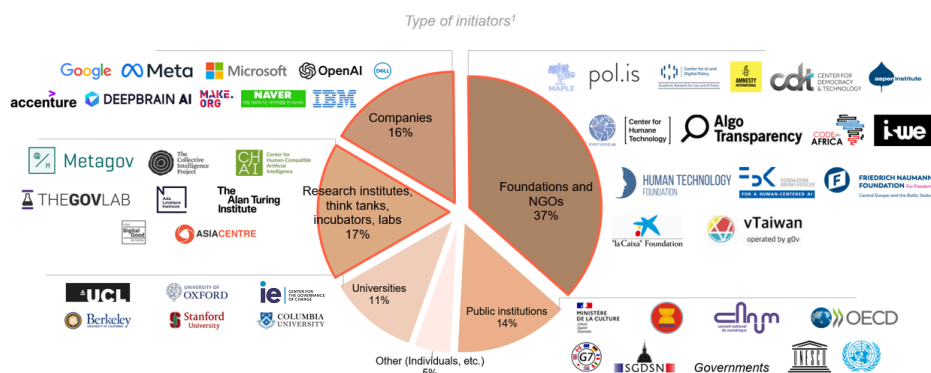
AI and Democracy: the coming civilization

Executive summary

AI represents both a threat and an opportunity for democracy. While it can fuel polarization, influence and disinformation, risking the undermining of representative democracies, it can also be a formidable lever for rethinking public services and strengthening the link between institutions and citizens. In a totally transformed geopolitical context, where technology and power are intertwined - as illustrated by the alliance between Musk and Trump - the relationship between AI and democracy is becoming the issue of the century.

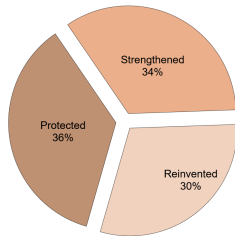
To grasp this pivotal moment in civilization, we have mapped out 100 of the world's most emblematic initiatives and players on this issue. This completely new mapping reveals three main areas of initiative:

Foundations/NGOs, research entities and companies are by far the most active initiators of AI-linked solutions for democracy



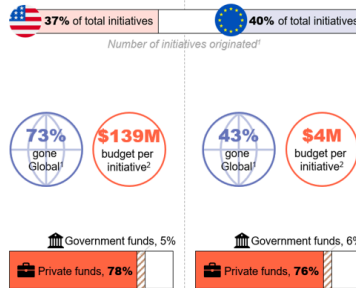
100's of AI x democracy initiatives worldwide

Aiming for democracy to be¹...



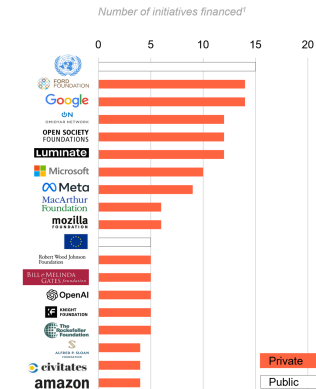
Source: Fast Up Partners, Laitao, Make.org ; 1.n=100 initiatives

77% of initiatives are from the USA or Europe, yet with a different profile



Source: Fast Up Partners, Laitao, Make.org ; 1.n=100 initiatives ; 2.n=19 initiatives (US) and n=21 (Europe), including non-AI-linked initiatives ; 3.n=253 fundings per funder (US) and n=362 (Europe)

Many top-funders have a libertarian approach to AI



Source: Fast Up Partners, Laitao, Make.org ; 1.n=100 initiatives

1. **Protecting democracies from AI.** This approach assumes that representative democracies, or liberal democracies, remain the best systems of governance for finding peaceful compromises to the economic, social, and political conflicts running through our societies. They propose protecting democracies from the potentially disruptive effects of AI, such as the polarization of debates, the destabilizing impact of *deepfakes*, and the subversion of democratic state sovereignty through appropriate regulations. This vision is also critical of digital capitalism, which, by seeking to optimize human interactions, paradoxically produces more impulsive and irrational *Homo numericus*, thus threatening democratic stability. Proactive initiatives in this area include those focusing on the regulation of algorithms (e.g. **AI and Democracy Innovation Lab**), research into moderation mechanisms (e.g. **Full Fact AI**), and the development of mechanisms to detect foreign interference (e.g. **Viginum**).
2. **Using AI to strengthen or even reinvent democracy.** This perspective sees AI as a tremendous opportunity to address citizens' dissatisfaction with representative democracy through, for example, democratic commons or platform states, and greater efficiency of decision-making processes in institutions. AI is being used to optimize the management of public services, in order to guarantee transparency and increase the efficiency of public decision-making. However, this approach raises fears of a dehumanization of public services. In response to this, virtuous practices are developing, such as the use of AI to inform citizens about complex issues (e.g. **Transforming Citizen service with AI**) or in the case of open citizen consultations (e.g. **Pol.is**).
3. **Promoting liquid democracy with AI.** Inspired by a libertarian philosophy, this approach advocates a horizontal democracy freed from traditional structures. The state and liberal democracy not only hinder innovation and the efficiency of algorithms, but are even perceived as liberticidal. According to its proponents, technology, via AI and decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs), would offer a new way of living unprecedented in the history of civilization. Embodied by most of Silicon Valley's CEOs, this trend embraces the messianic discourse of one of its ambassadors, Peter Thiel, according to whom freedom is more important than democracy.

Between these different models, how can we shape a desirable future for AI and democracy? How can we ensure that AI serves democracy rather than weakening it through cold, algorithmic governance?

First of all, we need to avoid two pitfalls. The first is to attribute to AI and technology an autonomous power that they do not have. The second is to underestimate the disruptive capacities of AI on democracies. We can always make choices. The challenge is not to let a few individuals, or technological oligarchies, dictate these choices (**65% of the initiatives listed are financed by at least one private American player - the top-funders are the GAFAM**, Figure 1), but to involve society as a whole.

Finding a way forward then requires a diagnosis of the crisis of representative democracies that goes beyond AI and grasps the scale of the civilizational clash. We need to respond to the social anger of citizens, but also to their loneliness at work, in the territories and on the networks in our post-industrial societies, collections of isolated individuals. AI amplifies these tensions without being the primary cause. To reinvent a democracy fit for this era, four lines of action are needed:

- **Addressing the causes of social anger:** the first is to tackle the causes of the anger generated by the digital revolution. If anti-system voters distrust democracy, it's because they don't feel adequately protected by institutions and companies against disruptions. In particular, a key question is how to generate quality jobs in the age of AI, in line with the work of 2024 Nobel laureate in economics Daron Acemoglu and economist Dani Rodrik.
- **Recreating social ties:** The second is to also recreate spaces for sociability. Virtual links do not cure the desire to live in the flesh among human beings. Democracy needs spaces for exchange outside social networks: local discussion forums, spaces for socializing at work, and initiatives like "Café IA" in local areas that facilitate citizen debate on artificial intelligence.
- **Regaining control over algorithms:** We need citizen governance over AI, involving intermediary bodies, trade unions, political parties and other social actors. Proposals include creating an intermediary citizen body to oversee AI, or taking inspiration from the Swiss model of the citizen army to monitor algorithms; Regularly reporting technological developments to the population; or Identifying decisions requiring an "emotional transfer" (justice, welfare, ethics). Our mapping reveals the profusion of these initiatives around the world, and not just in Europe.
- **Educating about AI and strengthening social skills:** Shaping a society enlightened about the challenges of AI is crucial, not least through the integration of AI into school curricula. Education also has a crucial role to play in developing social skills. How to learn to work in a group from the earliest age to teach cooperation and trust, the cement of representative democracies, is one of the essential objectives of 21st century education!

The purpose? To make AI a tool at the service of democracy, rather than a factor of social and political fragmentation. Let AI take care of democracy, just as democracy takes care of the virtuous developments of AI!