6TH INTERNATIONAL WOMEN AND JUSTICE SUMMIT LEADERS SESSION

WOMEN IN THE AGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI): GROWING CHALLENGES AND INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES

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Technology is one of the most significant elements shaping the modern world. With the proliferation of the internet, the increased use of smart devices, and the acceleration of digitalization, technology has become an indispensable part of our lives. From business to education, communication to healthcare, and fashion to art, all sectors are transforming under the influence of these technological advancements.

The pinnacle of the technological advancements, which continue to play an increasingly significant role in our lives, is artificial intelligence (AI). AI not only simulates human cognitive functions like reasoning and decision-making but also surpasses human capabilities in speed and accuracy. With these capabilities, AI is altering the way we receive information, make decisions, and even the functioning of our societies.

AI systems have significant potential for promoting economic growth, innovation, and global competitiveness. However, the use of AI also introduces a range of new risks and challenges. Chief among these are the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms and security.

Equality between women and men is among the most critical areas where the impact of AI on fundamental rights is observed. AI offers significant opportunities for promoting equality for women and men by contributing to the creation of a more just and equitable environment in society. However, it also carries major risks such as data privacy violations, cyber-attacks, and unemployment, which can exacerbate existing inequalities.

To effectively utilize AI for ensuring equality between women and men and to minimize its risks, it is essential to examine the issue comprehensively and develop a human-centered, comprehensive approach. This requires multifaceted efforts in areas such as providing digital literacy training for women, taking measures against algorithms that produce discriminatory representations within AI systems, ensuring the safety and respect for fundamental rights in AI systems, securing the right of individuals to legal recourse against decisions made using AI, evaluating AI systems before and during their use, mitigating negative impacts, and preventing technology-facilitated violence against women and girls.

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In this regard, the Ministry of Family and Social Services of the Republic of Türkiye conducts multi-stakeholder efforts with private sector, non-governmental organizations, and international institutions to support women and girls, particularly through education, guiding them towards STEM fields, increasing digital literacy, and promoting equality between women and men across society.

On the other hand, in addition to the efforts carried out by the Ministry of Family and Social Services, non-governmental organizations are also making significant contributions to this process through various projects and educational programs aimed at enabling women to take a more active role in society. Among these NGOs, Women and Democracy Association (KADEM), one of the non-governmental organizations aimed at empowering women and ensuring their access to rights since its establishment, plays an important role with its projects focused on increasing women's participation in education and employment.

Women and Democracy Association (KADEM), has been organizing the "Women and Justice Summit" biennially in cooperation with the Ministry of Family and Social Services of the Republic of Türkiye since 2014 with various themes.

The theme of the VI. Women and Justice Summit, organized by the Ministry of Family and Social Services of the Republic of Türkiye and KADEM, is set as "Artificial Intelligence and Women". The sixth summit aims to comprehensively discuss how the gains acquired in the age of AI can be utilized, using a holistic approach, for a more just and equal future for women. The summit will address the following key questions:

What are the positive and negative impacts of AI technologies and algorithms on women? Can advancements in AI technology offer a more just and equal future for women? Can AI create new negative social norms for women or reinforce existing ones? Alternatively, does AI have the potential to make negative social norms more inclusive and fair for women? Do the perceptions of AI developers and producers regarding equality between women and men reflect in the algorithms? How can AI be approached to ensure that women are equal participants in future technology uses? What can be done to increase female representation in AI-related fields?