# 18 NO ESCAPE

FAST, ACCURATE, EMOTIONLESS?!

Imagine a person who has committed serious crimes is wanted. Instead of invading another country with an army or special police task force and risking lives in the search, a small drone with an AI system is sent. It locates the person, identifies him or her using AI-driven facial recognition software, and monitors him or her unobtrusively. Sounds like science fiction, doesn't it?

But that's not all. Nowadays, AI systems play an increasingly important role in modern weapon systems based on drones and robots. They can track and monitor people and assist soldiers with battle analysis and situational awareness. They can suggest responses or coordinate multiple weapon systems. There doesn't even have to be a human on the battlefield. Depending on the weapon system, the drones or robots can be controlled from a distance or even operate without human control.

The advantage: you can act faster and more precisely. There is no longer any need for people to die in the battle, as the control can be carried out from a safe and secure location. More than 30 nations are now working on such technologies and developing them rapidly. The hope is that they will provide a new kind of support that will cost fewer human lives.
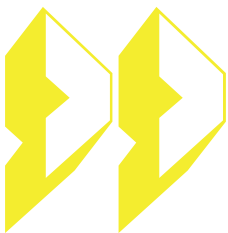
But what if an AI system identifies, pursues, and possibly shoots the wrong person

What if innocent people die as a result of the use of weapons systems?

Do soldiers thousands of miles away feel like they are playing a video game when they kill someone?

Should an AI system alone decide whether a person will be monitored, their privacy invaded, or even killed?

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The international community is also asking these questions. While some states are calling for a ban on autonomous, AI-driven weapons systems, others are requesting clear guidelines. If you ask experts, they say that AI systems should never be allowed to make decisions on their own. Decisions about the use of weapons systems should always be made by a human. They argue that if soldiers do not have direct contact with a target, it will be easier for them to monitor that target and invade its privacy or even kill it. This increases the risk of quick and rash action and the danger of escalation to war.

AI use in weapon systems? A topic with explosive power!

Another risk is that terrorists or authoritarian regimes could misuse AI-driven weapons systems for attacks or repression. The task of this station is to address this very scenario. It is a real danger that must be prevented at all costs. And the only way to do that is to prevent these technologies from being developed in the first place, and to ban the use of AI algorithms in weapons systems.

There are other controversial issues:
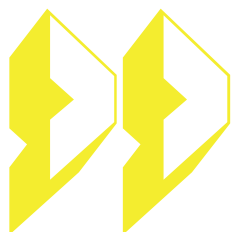
Who is to blame when an AI system makes a decision that is wrong?

Is it the programmer, because he or she made a mistake?

Or is it the commander, because he or she made the wrong decision?

Or the soldiers who carried out the action?

Or is it the AI-driven weapon system that can be held responsible for the action at all?

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==Using weapons systems is always a tricky issue, but when you add AI systems into it, it doesn't get any easier.==

Of course, drones and AI systems can be used not only to monitor people or in weapons systems, but also in ==disaster relief without weapons==. In particular, if people go missing after an earthquake, landslide or in hard-to-reach terrain, AI systems in drones can be used to search the area. This allows you to find and rescue missing persons without exposing yourself to additional risk. Monitoring the risk of forest fires in hot summers or pest infestations in agriculture are also two peaceful uses of drones with AI systems. For the moment, this still requires volunteers in aircraft.

Any technology can be used for good or evil. We decide what we allow!

In agriculture, drones can support people and make work easier instead of harming them, as they do in weapon systems.

SOURCES

Photo Explosion

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