



## PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION PABSEC

Doc.: GA66/CC65/REC207/25

### RECOMMENDATION 207/2025\*

#### **“Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Socio-Economic Development in the BSEC Region: Social Aspects”**

1. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) underlines that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a transformative force reshaping the social, economic, and institutional fabric of societies worldwide. AI is no longer confined to advanced technology but is intricately woven into modern life, influencing how people work, learn, communicate, and interact with public services. Alongside the Fourth Industrial Revolution, AI has become both a driver and a reflection of socio-economic development, offering opportunities to improve equity, public sector efficiency, and social inclusion. Yet, these benefits remain unevenly distributed, and without ethical governance, equitable access, and inclusive policymaking, AI could reinforce inequalities and create new forms of exclusion, particularly for vulnerable groups and underserved communities.
2. The PABSEC emphasizes that AI must be regarded not only as a technological tool but as a matter of public interest requiring democratic oversight, human-centered design, and strong accountability frameworks. In the social context, AI must advance human development, reduce structural inequality, and protect human dignity. Equitable digital transformation requires intentional policy action to ensure that marginalized groups, including women, youth, people with disabilities, and rural communities, are not left behind. AI strategies must also address risks of exclusion, manipulation, and discrimination, while embedding safeguards for privacy, fairness, and transparency.
3. The PABSEC notes that three categories of AI are often distinguished: Artificial Narrow Intelligence (ANI), already prevalent in daily life; Artificial General Intelligence (AGI), under development with broad problem-solving capacities; and the speculative Artificial Superintelligence (ASI), which raises profound opportunities and risks. Recognizing these typologies is essential to anticipate both near-term applications and long-term societal implications.
4. The PABSEC expresses concern that, despite AI's vast potential, disparities in infrastructure, technical capacity, and institutional coordination across the BSEC Member States hinder equitable

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\* Assembly debate on 24 November 2025 (See Doc. GA66/CC65/REP/25, Report of the Committee on Social and Humanitarian Policy “Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Socio-Economic Development in the BSEC Region: Social Aspects”, discussed on October 2025 in Baku; Rapporteur: Ms. Sabina Salmanova, Member of the Committee, member of the PABSEC Azerbaijani Delegation)

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deployment. Many countries face challenges related to broadband access, resources for digital education, fragmented data governance, and gaps in regulation. Such imbalances deepen risks of technological exclusion, particularly for communities already facing socio-economic disadvantage. Bridging these divides is critical for unlocking AI's full socio-economic potential in the BSEC region.

5. The PABSEC stresses the importance of investing in both digital and human capital. Developing AI competencies, critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and soft skills must be integrated into education systems. Curricula must reflect the interdisciplinary nature of AI, combining technical training with social sciences and humanities. Lifelong learning, interdisciplinary training, and civic digital literacy are essential to empower individuals. This approach must especially consider the perspectives of youth, women, and marginalized populations. At the same time, the psychological and developmental impacts of AI-driven platforms on young people—such as exposure to misinformation, addictive content, and rising social pressures—require urgent policy attention.

6. The PABSEC highlights the role of AI in healthcare, education, welfare, and public service delivery. AI can enhance efficiency and expand access, but over-reliance on algorithmic decision-making without human oversight risks undermining fairness, transparency, and trust. Algorithms must not become gatekeepers to public welfare or justice; decisions affecting livelihoods should remain intelligible and challenging. AI systems used in sensitive sectors must undergo rigorous impact assessments and include mechanisms for appeal and redress. In urban governance, “smart city” initiatives must be designed inclusively to prevent deepening spatial inequalities and to ensure that all communities benefit from digital transformation.

7. The PABSEC acknowledges the critical role of parliaments in shaping AI governance. Parliaments must ensure legislative oversight, anticipate emerging dilemmas, and hold institutions accountable. Transparent laws, independent monitoring bodies, and strict scrutiny of AI use in sensitive sectors are essential. Parliamentarians have a responsibility to safeguard public trust and fundamental rights, embedding equity, justice, and sustainability into AI governance frameworks.

8. The PABSEC welcomes international and regional frameworks, including the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI, the Council of Europe Convention on AI, and the EU AI Act, which embed human rights and democratic values into AI policy. Harmonized standards, regional knowledge-sharing, and multilateral cooperation are essential to align national strategies with global best practices. Collaborative engagement with international organizations enhances regional capacity to develop inclusive AI governance models that support sustainable development.

**9. Therefore, the PABSEC recommends** that the parliaments and the governments of the BSEC Member States:

- i. develop* national AI strategies rooted in social equity, democratic accountability, and human rights;
- ii. promote* digital inclusion by expanding internet access, especially in rural and underserved areas;
- iii. invest* in the digital readiness of public institutions, including staff training, infrastructure, and ethical guidelines;
- iv. ensure* that AI systems used in public services are subject to risk classification, algorithmic audits, and human rights impact assessments;
- v. support* interdisciplinary AI education in schools and universities, integrating ethics, digital literacy, and civic responsibility;

- vi. provide* upskilling and reskilling opportunities, especially for workers at risk of displacement due to automation;
- vii. establish* AI observatories to collect disaggregated data, monitor social impacts, and inform inclusive policy responses;
- viii. guarantee* accessibility in AI applications, including universal design standards for people with disabilities;
- ix. encourage* inclusive innovation ecosystems through public-private partnerships and civic tech initiatives;
- x. create* legal safeguards to protect against algorithmic bias, data misuse, and unjust exclusion in welfare and employment systems;
- xi. foster* youth engagement in AI governance through participatory platforms, education, and representation;
- xii. strengthen* regional cooperation by facilitating joint research, knowledge-sharing, and the development of shared ethical standards;
- xiii. collaborate* with international organizations and financial institutions, such as the BSTDB, to support AI projects that advance social inclusion;
- xiv. establish* mechanisms for public consultation and redress in all AI-driven public service applications;
- xv. support* awareness campaigns to inform citizens of their digital rights and promote critical understanding of AI;
- xvi. develop* national AI literacy campaigns to build public understanding of AI technologies and their societal implications;
- xvii. establish* ethical review boards to evaluate and monitor high-risk AI applications across sectors;
- xviii. encourage* the development of open-source AI tools that prioritize public good and transparency;
- xix. incentivize* the integration of inclusive AI design principles in the private sector through tax benefits and regulatory support;
- xx. create* AI research grants and innovation hubs focused on solving social challenges specific to the BSEC region.

**10. The PABSEC invites** the BSEC Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs to consider this Recommendation.