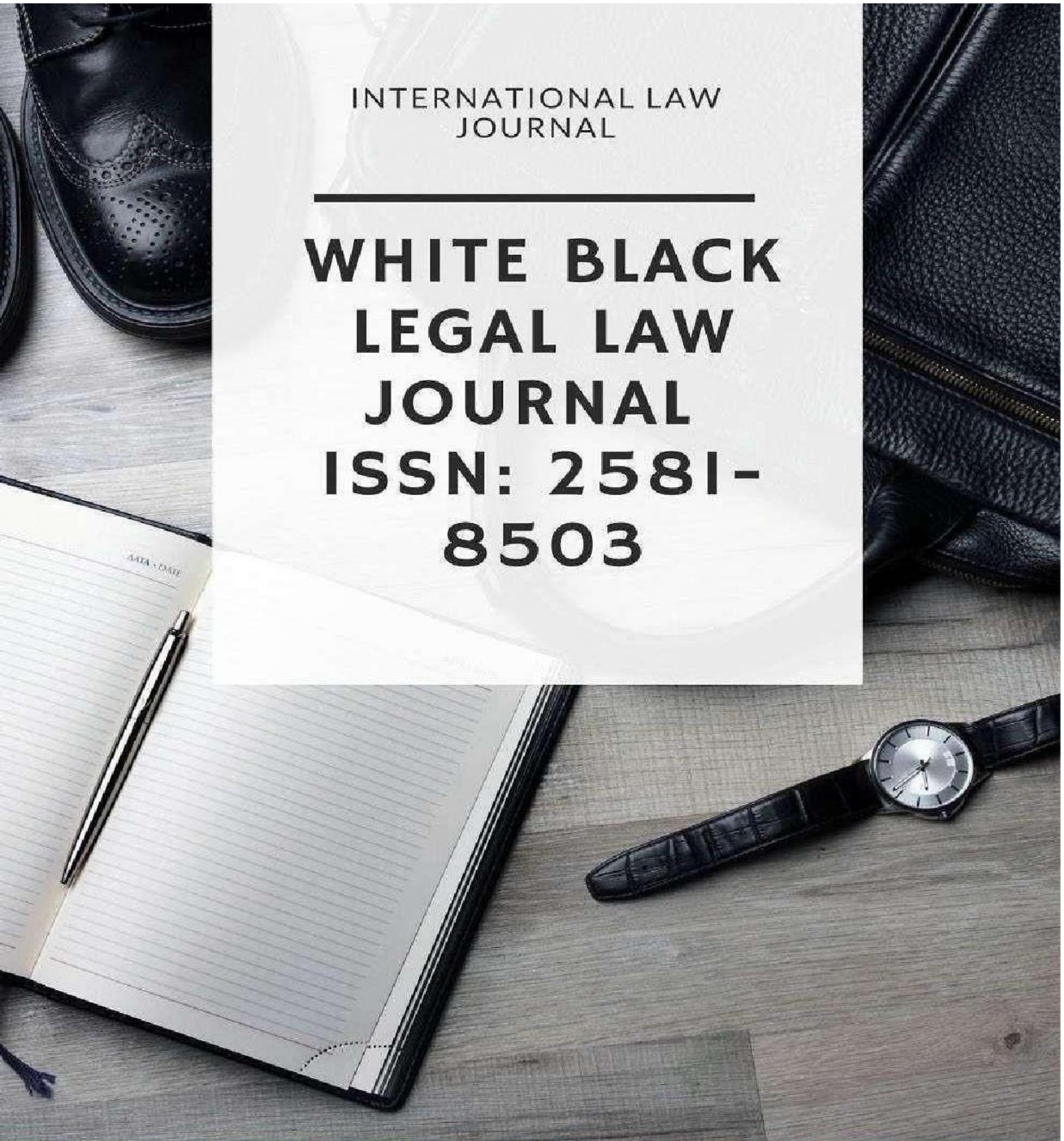




INTERNATIONAL LAW
JOURNAL

**WHITE BLACK
LEGAL LAW
JOURNAL**
**ISSN: 2581-
8503**

Peer - Reviewed & Refereed Journal

The Law Journal strives to provide a platform for discussion of International as well as National Developments in the Field of Law.

WWW.WHITEBLACKLEGAL.CO.IN

DISCLAIMER

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored, transmitted, translated, or distributed in any form or by any means—whether electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise—without the prior written permission of the Editor-in-Chief of *White Black Legal – The Law Journal*.

All copyrights in the articles published in this journal vest with *White Black Legal – The Law Journal*, unless otherwise expressly stated. Authors are solely responsible for the originality, authenticity, accuracy, and legality of the content submitted and published.

The views, opinions, interpretations, and conclusions expressed in the articles are exclusively those of the respective authors. They do not represent or reflect the views of the Editorial Board, Editors, Reviewers, Advisors, Publisher, or Management of *White Black Legal*.

While reasonable efforts are made to ensure academic quality and accuracy through editorial and peer-review processes, *White Black Legal* makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, regarding the completeness, accuracy, reliability, or suitability of the content published. The journal shall not be liable for any errors, omissions, inaccuracies, or consequences arising from the use, interpretation, or reliance upon the information contained in this publication.

The content published in this journal is intended solely for academic and informational purposes and shall not be construed as legal advice, professional advice, or legal opinion. *White Black Legal* expressly disclaims all liability for any loss, damage, claim, or legal consequence arising directly or indirectly from the use of any material published herein.

ABOUT WHITE BLACK LEGAL

White Black Legal – The Law Journal is an open-access, peer-reviewed, and refereed legal journal established to provide a scholarly platform for the examination and discussion of contemporary legal issues. The journal is dedicated to encouraging rigorous legal research, critical analysis, and informed academic discourse across diverse fields of law.

The journal invites contributions from law students, researchers, academicians, legal practitioners, and policy scholars. By facilitating engagement between emerging scholars and experienced legal professionals, *White Black Legal* seeks to bridge theoretical legal research with practical, institutional, and societal perspectives.

In a rapidly evolving social, economic, and technological environment, the journal endeavours to examine the changing role of law and its impact on governance, justice systems, and society. *White Black Legal* remains committed to academic integrity, ethical research practices, and the dissemination of accessible legal scholarship to a global readership.

AIM & SCOPE

The aim of *White Black Legal – The Law Journal* is to promote excellence in legal research and to provide a credible academic forum for the analysis, discussion, and advancement of contemporary legal issues. The journal encourages original, analytical, and well-researched contributions that add substantive value to legal scholarship.

The journal publishes scholarly works examining doctrinal, theoretical, empirical, and interdisciplinary perspectives of law. Submissions are welcomed from academicians, legal professionals, researchers, scholars, and students who demonstrate intellectual rigour, analytical clarity, and relevance to current legal and policy developments.

The scope of the journal includes, but is not limited to:

- Constitutional and Administrative Law
- Criminal Law and Criminal Justice
- Corporate, Commercial, and Business Laws
- Intellectual Property and Technology Law
- International Law and Human Rights
- Environmental and Sustainable Development Law
- Cyber Law, Artificial Intelligence, and Emerging Technologies
- Family Law, Labour Law, and Social Justice Studies

The journal accepts original research articles, case comments, legislative and policy analyses, book reviews, and interdisciplinary studies addressing legal issues at national and international levels. All submissions are subject to a rigorous double-blind peer-review process to ensure academic quality, originality, and relevance.

Through its publications, *White Black Legal – The Law Journal* seeks to foster critical legal thinking and contribute to the development of law as an instrument of justice, governance, and social progress, while expressly disclaiming responsibility for the application or misuse of published content.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, GLOBALIZATION AND THE EMERGING INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ORDER: CHALLENGES OF REGULATION, EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

AUTHORED BY - PRASHASTI MITRA
LLM (AMITY UNIVERSITY, LUCKNOW)

Abstract

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as one of the most significant technological developments of the twenty-first century and is increasingly influencing the process of globalization. AI is transforming the manner in which goods and services are produced, traded and consumed while simultaneously changing employment, international communication, data processing and decision-making. It has the potential to reduce trade costs, improve productivity, facilitate access to global markets and create new opportunities for developing economies. However, the rapid expansion of AI also creates significant legal and ethical concerns concerning privacy, data protection, intellectual property, employment, cybersecurity, discrimination, accountability and inequality.¹

The relationship between AI and globalization is therefore complex. AI can reduce geographical and economic barriers, but unequal access to infrastructure, computing resources, data and skilled professionals may produce a new form of technological inequality commonly described as the “AI divide”. The World Trade Organization’s World Trade Report 2025 recognizes that AI can reduce trade costs and expand participation in global markets while warning that unequal access to digital infrastructure, skills and capabilities may result in uneven distribution of benefits.[1] The International Labour Organization’s 2025 research similarly indicates substantial occupational exposure to generative AI while emphasizing that transformation of jobs is generally more likely than complete replacement.[2]

This paper examines the relationship between AI and globalization from a legal and socio-

¹ World Trade Organization, World Trade Report 2025: Making Trade and AI Work Together to the Benefit of All (WTO, 2025).

economic perspective. It analyses the effects of AI on international trade, employment, privacy, intellectual property, cybersecurity and human rights and considers the challenges created by fragmented national regulatory systems. It argues that AI-driven globalization requires coordinated international governance based on human rights, accountability, transparency, fairness and inclusive technological development.

Keywords

Artificial Intelligence; Globalization; International Trade; AI Governance; Data Protection; Employment; Cybersecurity; Human Rights; Digital Divide.

1. Introduction

Globalization refers broadly to the increasing interconnectedness of states, economies, societies and individuals through the movement of goods, services, capital, technology, information and people across national borders. Technological development has historically acted as an important catalyst for globalization. The internet, digital communication and electronic commerce significantly reduced the importance of geographical boundaries. Artificial Intelligence represents the next major stage of this technological transformation.

AI systems can perform functions associated with human intelligence, including pattern recognition, prediction, language processing, decision support and content generation. The emergence of generative AI has expanded these capabilities by enabling systems to generate text, images, software code, audio and other forms of content.

The significance of AI for globalization lies in its ability to operate across borders. A business can use AI to analyse foreign markets, communicate with international customers, translate documents, predict demand, manage supply chains and provide digital services without establishing a substantial physical presence in every country.

The WTO has described AI as a technology capable of transforming how goods and services are produced, exchanged and consumed. It identifies opportunities to reduce trade costs, improve productivity and expand participation in global markets, while also highlighting the danger that unequal access to digital capabilities may deepen existing economic and

technological divisions.[3]²

The legal implications are equally significant. AI systems may process personal information originating in several jurisdictions, generate material whose intellectual-property status is uncertain, influence employment decisions and facilitate cyber operations across national borders. Domestic laws therefore increasingly encounter problems that cannot be effectively addressed within territorial boundaries alone.

The central issue of this research is consequently whether existing legal frameworks are adequate for a world in which AI is accelerating globalization, or whether stronger international cooperation is required.

2. Research Questions

1. How is Artificial Intelligence transforming the process of globalization?
2. What opportunities does AI create for international trade and developing economies?
3. What legal challenges arise from the cross-border use of AI?
4. How does AI affect employment, privacy, intellectual property and cybersecurity?
5. Does the existing fragmented approach to AI regulation adequately address global AI-related risks?
6. What role can India play in developing an inclusive international framework for AI governance?

3. Objectives of the Study

1. To examine the relationship between Artificial Intelligence and globalization.
2. To analyse the impact of AI on international trade and economic development.
3. To examine the effect of AI on employment and labour rights.
4. To identify legal issues concerning data protection, privacy and intellectual property.
5. To analyse cybersecurity and human-rights concerns arising from AI.
6. To examine the problem of unequal access to AI technology.
7. To study the need for international cooperation in AI governance.
8. To analyse India's emerging position within the global AI regulatory environment.

² World Trade Organization, Trading with Intelligence: How AI Shapes and Is Shaped by International Trade (WTO, 2024).

4. Hypothesis

The hypothesis of this research is that Artificial Intelligence can accelerate inclusive globalization and international economic development only when its development and deployment are supported by effective legal safeguards, international cooperation and equitable access to technology. In the absence of such safeguards, AI may intensify existing economic, technological and social inequalities.

5. Research Methodology

The research follows a doctrinal and analytical methodology. It primarily relies upon secondary sources, including international reports, legal instruments, policy documents, academic literature and publications of international organizations. Particular reliance has been placed upon materials published by the World Trade Organization, International Labour Organization and UNESCO, together with relevant Indian legislation and international legal principles. The study is qualitative and analytical in nature and seeks to examine the legal and socio-economic consequences of AI-driven globalization.

6. Artificial Intelligence as a Driver of Globalization

AI is increasingly becoming an important component of the global digital economy. Unlike technologies that merely facilitated communication, AI can actively perform cognitive and analytical tasks.

One of its significant contributions to globalization is the reduction of transaction costs. AI-assisted translation can reduce language barriers, while automated analysis can help businesses understand foreign markets. AI can also assist in logistics, supply-chain management, customs procedures and regulatory compliance.

The WTO's 2025 research notes that AI tools are already being used to improve supply-chain visibility, automate customs clearance, reduce language barriers, strengthen market intelligence and help firms navigate complex regulations.[4] Such applications can particularly benefit small and medium-sized enterprises that previously lacked the resources necessary to operate extensively in international markets.³

³ World Trade Organization, World Trade Report 2025, above n. 1.

AI may therefore democratize certain aspects of globalization. A small enterprise can use commercially available AI systems to perform functions that previously required large teams of translators, analysts or customer-service personnel. Nevertheless, access to these benefits remains unequal because advanced AI requires computing infrastructure, skilled personnel, reliable connectivity and access to data.

7. AI and International Trade

International trade is one of the areas in which AI is likely to have a substantial impact. AI can improve demand forecasting, identify new markets, optimize transportation routes, detect fraud and assist in contract and regulatory analysis.

The WTO's World Trade Report 2025 emphasizes that AI can support trade-led growth but warns that the benefits will depend on domestic policies, digital infrastructure, skills and international cooperation.[5]⁴

AI also has implications for trade in services. Software development, customer support, financial analysis, education and professional services can increasingly be delivered digitally. This allows businesses to participate in international markets without the physical movement of workers.

However, regulatory fragmentation may become a significant barrier. Countries may adopt different requirements concerning data protection, AI safety, algorithmic transparency and liability. Businesses operating internationally may therefore have to comply with multiple and potentially conflicting regulatory systems. A coordinated international approach is consequently desirable, particularly in areas where AI-enabled services cross borders.

8. AI and Employment

The effect of AI on employment is one of the most important social consequences of technological globalization.

AI may replace certain repetitive tasks while simultaneously creating new forms of employment. The International Labour Organization's 2025 global index found substantial

⁴ Ibid.

exposure of occupations to generative AI and emphasizes that transformation rather than complete replacement is the more likely outcome for most jobs.[6]⁵

The legal debate should therefore move beyond the simple question of whether AI will destroy jobs. The more important question is how workers will be protected during the transition.

AI may increase demand for professionals in AI development, cybersecurity, data governance, digital forensics, AI auditing and technology law. At the same time, workers performing highly repetitive administrative or clerical functions may require retraining.

The impact may also vary between countries. Economies dependent upon labour-intensive services may experience different consequences from highly automated economies. Governments should therefore focus on reskilling, education, social protection and labour rights.[7]⁶

9. The AI Divide and Developing Countries

The digital divide traditionally refers to unequal access to digital technologies and internet connectivity. AI creates a broader problem. The AI divide includes unequal access to computing power, high-quality data, technical expertise, investment and advanced AI models. The WTO has identified unequal access to digital infrastructure, skills and capabilities as a factor that may prevent AI's benefits from being distributed equally.[8]⁷

This is particularly relevant to developing countries. If advanced economies and large technology companies control the majority of computational resources and AI infrastructure, developing countries may become primarily consumers of technologies developed elsewhere. Such dependency may affect economic sovereignty and technological development.

Developing countries should therefore be given meaningful opportunities to participate in AI research, infrastructure development and international standard-setting. International cooperation should not merely provide access to finished technologies; it should support the development of local technical capacity.

⁵ International Labour Organization, *Generative AI and Jobs: A 2025 Update* (2025).

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ World Trade Organization, *World Trade Report 2025*, above n. 1.

10. AI, Privacy and Data Protection

Data is fundamental to AI. AI systems may process enormous quantities of personal and non-personal information. This creates substantial privacy concerns.

The cross-border nature of AI makes these concerns more complicated. Personal data may be collected in one country, transferred to another and processed in a third. AI can also make inferences about individuals that were not explicitly provided by them. Profiling, facial recognition and behavioural prediction may therefore create risks beyond conventional data processing.

UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence identifies privacy and data protection as core principles and emphasizes that privacy should be protected throughout the AI lifecycle.[9]⁸

From a legal perspective, effective AI governance should include rules concerning lawful data collection, purpose limitation, security, accountability and individual rights. India's Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 represents an important component of India's emerging data-governance framework. However, AI creates additional issues concerning automated decision-making, algorithmic accountability and data used for AI training.

11. AI and Intellectual Property Rights

Artificial Intelligence has created difficult questions concerning intellectual property. Generative AI systems may be trained using datasets containing books, photographs, artwork, music, software and other copyrighted material. This raises questions concerning the lawful use of copyrighted works for AI training.

A second issue concerns ownership of AI-generated output. Traditional copyright principles are generally based upon human authorship and creativity. AI-generated content therefore challenges existing assumptions concerning authorship and ownership.

The international nature of AI makes the issue particularly difficult because copyright protection remains largely territorial while AI models and datasets operate across jurisdictions.

⁸ UNESCO, Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (adopted 23 November 2021).

There is consequently a need for greater international discussion regarding AI training data, licensing, authorship, attribution and liability. Any legal framework must balance technological innovation with the legitimate rights of creators.

12. AI and Cybersecurity

AI has a dual role in cybersecurity. On one hand, AI can improve cyber defence by identifying unusual network activity, detecting malware and analysing large quantities of security data. On the other hand, malicious actors may use AI to automate attacks, create sophisticated phishing content and improve social-engineering techniques.

The cross-border character of cybercrime creates additional jurisdictional difficulties. An attack may originate in one country, use infrastructure in another and target victims in several jurisdictions.

AI-assisted cybercrime therefore reinforces the need for international cooperation in cybercrime investigation, information sharing and digital evidence. Cybersecurity should consequently be treated as an essential component of international AI governance rather than as a separate technological concern.

13. AI, Human Rights and Ethical Governance

AI can affect fundamental rights when used in areas such as employment, education, healthcare, policing, finance and public administration. Algorithmic systems may reproduce biases present in their training data. If such systems are used for significant decisions, discriminatory outcomes may have serious consequences.

Another difficulty is explainability. An individual affected by an automated decision may not understand how the decision was reached or may not have an effective mechanism to challenge it.

UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, adopted on 23 November 2021, places human dignity and human rights at the centre of AI governance and emphasizes transparency, fairness, privacy, accountability and human oversight.[10]⁹

⁹ Ibid.

The human-rights approach is significant because technological efficiency cannot be the sole measure of a legitimate AI system. Where AI affects fundamental rights, meaningful human supervision and mechanisms for review should remain available.

14. Fragmentation of Global AI Regulation

One of the central legal challenges is regulatory fragmentation. Different jurisdictions have adopted different approaches to AI governance. Some emphasize innovation and economic development, while others place stronger emphasis on risk management, privacy and fundamental rights.

Regulatory diversity is not inherently problematic because states have different constitutional, economic and social conditions. However, excessive divergence may increase compliance costs and create uncertainty for international businesses.

The solution need not necessarily be one universal AI statute. Instead, states could develop common minimum principles relating to transparency, accountability, human oversight, privacy, cybersecurity and non-discrimination. International organizations can provide platforms for cooperation, information exchange and development of common standards.

15. India's Role in AI-Driven Globalization

India has an important position in the global AI environment because of its technology sector, large professional workforce and expanding digital infrastructure.

AI creates opportunities for India in healthcare, agriculture, education, financial services, cybersecurity, legal technology and digital services. At the same time, India must address concerns relating to privacy, employment, algorithmic discrimination, cybersecurity and accountability.

The Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 provides an important foundation for personal-data governance. However, future AI regulation may require additional mechanisms dealing with issues such as high-risk AI systems, algorithmic accountability, automated decision-making and AI-related liability.

India can also contribute to international AI governance by advocating for the interests of developing economies. A global AI framework should ensure that countries in the Global South participate in decision-making rather than simply adopting standards developed elsewhere.

16. Suggestions and Recommendations

1. Development of International Minimum Standards: States should cooperate to establish minimum principles concerning AI transparency, accountability, human oversight, privacy and non-discrimination.
2. Strengthening Digital Infrastructure: Developing countries require greater investment in digital infrastructure, computing capacity, research institutions and technical education.
3. Reskilling and Education: Governments should introduce AI-literacy and reskilling programmes to assist workers whose occupations are transformed by automation.
4. Human Oversight: AI systems that significantly affect individuals' rights should remain subject to meaningful human review.
5. International Cybersecurity Cooperation: States should strengthen cooperation in detecting and investigating AI-assisted cybercrime and sharing information concerning emerging threats.
6. Balanced Intellectual Property Protection: International institutions should develop clearer principles concerning copyrighted material used for AI training and the legal status of AI-generated works.
7. Protection from the AI Divide: International programmes should promote technology transfer, skills development, infrastructure and research capacity in developing economies.
8. Avoidance of Excessive Regulatory Fragmentation: States should seek interoperability between AI regulatory systems so that responsible international trade and technological cooperation remain possible.

17. Conclusion

Artificial Intelligence is not merely another technological innovation. It is becoming an important structural force in globalization. It is changing the way businesses operate, how international trade is conducted, how workers perform their tasks and how governments and individuals interact with information.

The benefits are substantial. AI can reduce trade costs, improve productivity, expand access to international markets and support technological development. The WTO's 2025 analysis demonstrates the potential of AI to contribute to inclusive trade-led growth.[11]¹⁰

However, these benefits cannot be assumed to be automatically distributed. Unequal access to infrastructure and skills may deepen the AI divide. The transformation of employment requires effective labour policies. Cross-border data processing creates privacy concerns, while generative AI challenges established concepts of intellectual property. AI-assisted cybercrime creates new international security risks, and algorithmic decision-making can affect fundamental rights.

The appropriate response is neither unrestricted technological development nor excessive regulation. What is required is responsible and inclusive governance.

UNESCO's human-rights-centred approach provides an important foundation by emphasizing dignity, fairness, transparency, accountability and human oversight.[12] International trade institutions can complement this approach by promoting cooperation and preventing unnecessary fragmentation of digital trade rules.¹¹

India has an important role in this process. As a major developing economy with considerable technological capacity, India can contribute to the development of international AI standards while ensuring that domestic regulation protects individuals and encourages innovation.

Ultimately, the future of AI-driven globalization will depend not only upon the capabilities of machines but upon the legal choices made by states, international organizations, businesses and society. AI can become an instrument of inclusive globalization only when technological progress is accompanied by equality, accountability and respect for human rights.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- International Labour Organization, Generative AI and Jobs: A Refined Global Index of Occupational Exposure, ILO Working Paper No. 140 (2025).

¹⁰ World Trade Organization, World Trade Report 2025, above n. 1.

¹¹ UNESCO, Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, above n. 9.

- International Labour Organization, Generative AI and Jobs: A 2025 Update (2025).
- UNESCO, Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (2021).
- World Trade Organization, Trading with Intelligence: How AI Shapes and Is Shaped by International Trade (WTO, 2024).
- World Trade Organization, World Trade Report 2025: Making Trade and AI Work Together to the Benefit of All (WTO, 2025).
- Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023.
- OECD, Recommendation of the Council on Artificial Intelligence.
- United Nations, Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015).
- European Union, Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 Laying Down Harmonised Rules on Artificial Intelligence (Artificial Intelligence Act).

