



Council of the
European Union

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**CORLX 995
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COARM 217**

PROPOSAL

From:	High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, signed by Mr Stefano SANNINO, Secretary-General
date of receipt:	26 October 2022
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
Subject:	Proposal of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to the Council for a Council Decision in support of the implementation of a project "Promoting Responsible Innovation in Artificial Intelligence for Peace and Security"

Delegations will find attached document HR(2022) 238.

Encl.: HR(2022) 238

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EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



**Proposal of the High Representative of the Union
for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
to the Council**

of 26/10/2022

**for a Council Decision in support of the implementation of a project “Promoting
Responsible Innovation in Artificial Intelligence for Peace and Security”**

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COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2022/...

of dd/mm/2022

in support of the implementation of a project
“Promoting Responsible Innovation in Artificial Intelligence for Peace and Security”

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Articles 28(1) and 31(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) The 2016 Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy (the ‘EU Global Strategy’) emphasises that the Union will step up its contribution to collective security.
- (2) The 2018 EU Strategy against illicit firearms, Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and their Ammunition, “Securing Arms, Protecting Citizens” noted that the EU will make use of relevant instruments to support research and development in the field of reliable and cost effective technology to secure SALW and their ammunition and mitigate the risks of diversion. Furthermore, the Council, in its conclusions accompanying its adoption of the Strategy¹, noted the evolved security context, including the threat of terrorism within the EU and developments in SALW design and technology affecting the capacity of governments to address the threat.
- (3) The European AI Strategy notes that the guiding principle of all support for Artificial Intelligence (AI)-related research will be the development of "responsible AI". It further notes that, AI being easily tradeable across borders, only global solutions will be sustainable in this domain, and that the Union will promote the use of AI, and technologies in general, to help solve global challenges, support the implementation of the Paris Climate agreement and achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- (4) The United Nations Secretary-General noted at the 2019 AI for Good Global Summit that if we are to harness the benefits of AI and address the risks, we must all work together - governments, industry, academia and civil society - to develop the frameworks and systems that enable responsible innovation.
- (5) The Union wishes to contribute to the development of “responsible AI”, collective security, and the potential to benefit from the opportunities presented by AI for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and address the challenges.

¹ Council Document 13581/18 of 19 November 2018, “Council Conclusions on the Adoption of an EU Strategy Against Illicit Arms Trafficking Against Illicit Firearms, Small Arms and Light Weapons and their Ammunition”

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HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. With a view to the implementation of the EU Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy and taking into account the EU Strategy against illicit firearms, SALW and ammunition as well as the European AI Strategy, the project activities to be supported by the Union shall have the following specific objectives:

1.1 support greater engagement of the civilian AI community in mitigating the risks that the diversion and misuse of civilian AI research and innovation by irresponsible actors may pose to international peace and security by:

- generating greater understanding of how decisions in the development and diffusion of AI research and innovation can impact the risks of diversion and misuse, and in turn generate risk or opportunities for peace and security
- promoting responsible innovation processes, methods and tools which can help ensure the peaceful application of civilian innovations and the responsible dissemination of AI knowledge. To this end, the project will support capacity-building, research and engagement activities that will i) enhance the capacity within the global civilian AI community to include and address the peace and security risks presented by the diversion and misuse of civilian AI by irresponsible actors through responsible innovation processes; and ii) strengthen the connection between risk mitigation efforts in responsible AI in the civilian sphere with those already ongoing in the disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation community at an intergovernmental level.

1.2. Crucially, the project activities do not intend to establish any new standards, principles, or regulation, or otherwise step into areas within the competence of States. Instead, the intention is to develop civilian responsible innovation efforts to include peace and security risks presented by the diversion and misuse of civilian AI by irresponsible actors, and provide education on existing relevant intergovernmental efforts.

A detailed description of the project is set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

1. The High Representative shall be responsible for the implementation of this Decision.
2. The technical implementation of the project referred to in Article 1 shall be carried out by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), supported by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).
3. UNODA, supported by SIPRI, shall perform their tasks under the responsibility of the High Representative. For that purpose, the High representative shall enter into the necessary arrangements with the SIPRI and UNODA.

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Article 3

1. The financial reference amount for the implementation of the project financed by the Union referred to in Article 1 shall be [EUR XXX].
2. The expenditure financed by the reference amount set out in paragraph 1 shall be managed in accordance with the procedures and rule applicable to the Union budget.
3. The Commission shall supervise the proper management of the expenditure financed by the amount referred to in paragraph 1. For that purpose, it shall conclude a contribution agreement with UNODA. The contribution agreement shall stipulate that UNODA is to ensure the visibility of the Union's contribution, appropriate to its size.
4. The Commission shall endeavour to conclude the agreement referred to in paragraph 3 as soon as possible after the entry into force of this Decision. It shall inform the Council of any difficulties in that process and of the date of the conclusion of the agreement.

Article 4

1. The High Representative shall report to the Council on the implementation of this Decision on the basis of regular quarterly joint reports by UNODA. The reports shall form the basis of the evaluation carried out by the Council.
2. The Commission shall provide information on the financial aspects of the implementation of the project referred to in Article 1.

Article 5

1. This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.
2. This Decision shall expire 36 months after the conclusion of the agreement referred to in Article 3(3). However, it shall expire six months after the date of the entry into force if no agreement has been concluded within that period.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President