

Canopy of Prayer

July #71-2019

contributor

Anjo Elsner

Account-Manager for mid-sized
businesses IT sector



Dear praying friends in Europe

New technologies are increasingly promising divine abilities: artificial intelligence one day will know our desires and needs better than we do ourselves and serve them perfectly. Medical progress will someday make eternal life possible, and our knowledge can increase immeasurably in the distant future by connecting our brains directly to the Internet.

Even though we as Christians are open to progress, we know that no technology will last forever. "But in the end there is faith, hope, love ..." (1. Cor 13,3). Our hope rests in Jesus, not in progress. He alone remains the source and abundance in our lives, no matter what happens. Yes, in the future artificial intelligence will play an ever-greater role in our lives. Therefore, below there are some thoughts to help us better understand and deal with it.

Anjo Elsner

Opportunities and Risks of Artificial Intelligence

The so-called "artificial intelligence" (AI) describes the attempt to reproduce the thinking and perception of humans by seeing, tasting, hearing and feeling. Like any new technology, artificial intelligence has the potential to massively improve or worsen much of this world. Looking back, from the loom to the industrial revolution to the computer age, there has been a constant acceleration of inventions and an increase in their impact on humans. The widespread use of the car as a mass-produced product took many decades, while that of smartphones or social networks only a few years.

Light and shadow of AI

Today, in the age of digitisation and AI, opportunity and risk diverge even further. On the one hand, the use of AI increases the dangers for humans and democracy. An almost complete monitoring and oppression of the individual is technically possible and already partly practiced in China. There are different predictions about the impact of AI on the labour market. One thing, however, is certain: whereas in the industrial revolution the physical strength of the worker was replaced by machines, in this age it will be his power of thinking. As a result, massive changes are inevitable.



Intelligent software, on the other hand, also makes it possible, for example, to assess crisis situations in a completely new way. The intelligent combination and evaluation of completely different data streams (weather, geo, sensor data) enables pinpoint forecasts such as an earthquake or a drought catastrophe, so that countermeasures can be initiated earlier and more effectively than ever before.

Many possibilities of AI can only be guessed at today. It is clear that it will continue to gain in importance. In the next few years alone, more than 100 billion euros will be invested worldwide in the research and development of artificial intelligence. Who will determine the direction of this technology? As Christians, we either leave this field to others – which will probably shape our everyday lives more than any other technology – or we decide, as the Body of Christ, through prayer and action, to help shape the development of AI in Europe.

Let us pray:

- For Christians who courageously and with wisdom will shape the development of AI in politics, business and society.
- That in Europe Christian values prevail in ethical issues in dealing with AI.

Update:

We asked God for the election of the president of the EU Commission; Ursula von der Leyen, one of the most charming and assertive female politicians, has been elected. Christine Lagarde, a world-class finance politician, is proposed as head of the European Central Bank.



**Ursula
von der Leyen**

**Christine
Lagarde**

Additional prayer points:-

1. For a wise successor to Tusk in the election of the new president of the Council.
2. May the new president succeed in attracting the eastern EU states in migration policy. God is able! Let us pray.

CONTACT Canopy of Prayer,
Ortwin Schweitzer, Ian Jeal,
Corrie Oosterhuis
info@canopyofprayer.eu
www.canopyofprayer.eu

DONATION Waechterruf e.V.,
IBAN DE73 6129 0120 0464 0500 06
BIC GENODES1NUE
Use "Project 2100", Name and
Address