

OVERVIEW

# Journalism's New Frontier

An analysis of 188 global AI policy proposals and their impacts on journalism.



Read the full report at <https://bit.ly/4s7nVPq>.



The Center for News, Technology and Innovation reviewed 188 national and regional AI strategies, laws and policies around the world to determine how they impact journalism. We focused our analysis around how regulatory activity addresses seven policy components that are particularly likely to impact journalism.

Of the 188 strategies, policies and laws we reviewed, 20 specifically mentioned journalism; 20 addressed freedom of speech or expression; 64 addressed manipulated or synthetic content; 92 addressed algorithmic discrimination and bias; 49 addressed intellectual property and copyright; 124 addressed transparency and bias; 107 addressed data protection and privacy; and 76 addressed public information and awareness.

**Freedom of speech and expression:** Some governments are considering the relationship between AI and fundamental rights like freedom of expression, but they do so in different and sometimes contradictory ways; some propose bans or restrictions on AI systems that do not respect freedom of expression, while others argue that limiting access to new technologies may restrict free expression.

**Manipulated or synthetic content:** Governments are contending with how best to ensure AI-manipulated mis- and disinformation do not further degrade the information space, while also protecting freedom of expression.

**Algorithmic discrimination and bias:** Governments are grappling with bias and discrimination in the output of AI systems using a range of strategies, such as mandating the development of locally specific systems, requiring the inclusion of diverse datasets or focusing on auditing and human review processes.

**Intellectual property and copyright:** Governments are trying to balance the intellectual property rights of creators — including journalists — whose work is used to train AI systems, the

intellectual property rights of AI developers and the copyright status of AI-generated content, all while attempting to update or apply copyright systems, exceptions and fair usage provisions that are often ill-equipped for the digital age.

**Transparency and accountability:** Governments have generally prioritized two types of transparency requirements across policy proposals: requiring that people know when they are interacting with AI, and requiring that decisions made by AI tools are explainable and replicable.

**Data protection and privacy:** Many governments are determining how best to apply existing comprehensive privacy legislation to AI systems and tools, which are trained on vast quantities of data. In countries where they do not already have such legislation, most are drafting or considering new data protection laws.

## Notable legislation

**Bahrain:** Bahrain's draft [AI Regulation Law](#) would impose fines and imprisonment for using AI to “infringe on personal freedom, violate the sanctity of private life, or contravene societal customs and traditions.”

**Ecuador:** Article 31 of the proposed [Organic Law for the Regulation and Promotion of AI in Ecuador](#) (2024) requires AI content recommendation systems to “expose users to a diversity of sources, topics and perspectives” and “facilitate equitable access to public-interest content from local, community and independent media.”

**Montana, U.S.:** Montana's [Right to Compute Act](#) establishes access to technology, particularly AI, as a fundamental right for residents of the state.