

Declaration
of participants of the International Baku Ombudsmen Summit
held under the theme “Human Rights in the Age of Artificial Intelligence:
Opportunities, Risks, and Responsibilities”

Bakı city, 18 June 2026

We, the participants of the Baku International Ombudsmen Summit held under the theme “Human Rights in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Opportunities, Risks, and Responsibilities”, held in Baku on 18-19 June, 2026,

Guided by the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on “Seizing the opportunities of safe, secure, and trustworthy artificial intelligence systems for sustainable development,” and other international and regional documents;

Appreciating the significant contribution of the “Concept of Digital Development in the Republic of Azerbaijan,” “Artificial Intelligence Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2025-2028,” “Strategy for the Development of the Digital Economy in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2026-2029,” “The Action Plan for Accelerating the Digital Economy in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2026-2028,” and other strategic documents in promoting the application of AI technologies within the framework of safe, ethical, transparent, and human rights-based principles, supporting innovative and inclusive development; improving the quality of public services; and accelerating the digital transformation;

Reaffirming once again that all human rights are universal, inalienable, interrelated and interdependent, and that the rights that people have in real life, must also be fully protected online;

Taking note that artificial intelligence technologies enable significant opportunities for increasing human well-being, expanding access to quality education and healthcare services, improving social protection mechanisms, promoting innovations, and implementing the Sustainable Development Goals,

Taking note with concern that the opacity in artificial intelligence systems may adversely affect human dignity, the equality principle, the inviolability of private life, data protection, freedom of expression, labor rights, democratic participation, and other fundamental rights and freedoms;

Emphasizing that algorithmic discrimination, disinformation, digital manipulation, and cyber threats seriously challenge the protection of human rights in modern times;

Considering the crucial role of national human rights institutions, including ombudspersons, in monitoring the impacts of artificial intelligence technologies on human rights, in restoring violated rights, in implementing public awareness activities, and in improving legislation;

Stressing that the effective deployment of artificial intelligence requires the joint efforts not only of States, but also of international institutions, national human rights institutions, and ombudspersons, civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector;

Underscoring the role of the International Baku Ombudsmen Summit as an important platform for discussing global challenges, exchange of best practices, and identifying new prospects for future cooperation among ombudspersons, national human rights institutions, international institutions, public authorities, academia, businesses, and civil society organizations;

We resolve therefore:

- *To consider* the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms and human dignity as a top priority during development, application, and use of artificial intelligence technologies and emphasize the importance of ensuring that these technologies are governed in full compliance with international law and ethical principles;
- *To call upon* Member States to promote the development of human-rights based, safe, trustworthy, transparent, accountable, and inclusive AI governance mechanisms; the multilateral participation in this process; protection of data privacy; ensuring the prevention of algorithmic bias, and effective legal oversight mechanisms;
- *To stress* the significance of the application of human rights impact assessment mechanisms throughout the development and deployment of AI systems;

- *To emphasize* the importance of ensuring effective human control in decision-making processes that affect the rights and freedoms of human beings;
- *To reaffirm* that strengthening personal data protection, digital privacy, and cybersecurity is one of the key priorities in the era of artificial intelligence and support the realization of effective relevant legal, technical, and institutional measures at national and international levels;
- *To underscore* the significance of the development of independent monitoring, audit, and accountability mechanisms with the purpose of addressing algorithmic discrimination and bias;
- *To call for* increasing attention specifically to the protection of children, women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, migrants and other vulnerable groups in the digital environment;
- *To reiterate* the importance of enhancing digital and media awareness and the responsible use of AI technologies;
- *To consider* it important to strengthen strategies for fighting disinformation, hate speech, digital manipulation, and other harmful online activities;
- *To underline* the importance of expanding cooperation, and exchanging knowledge and experiences in the field of human rights and artificial intelligence between the ombuds institutions and national human rights institutions;
- *To call upon* the private sector to respect human rights and freedoms and ethical principles and to ensure transparency during the development and application of AI systems;
- *To recognize* the importance of the contribution of AI technologies in increasing social well-being, promoting inclusive development, enhancing accessibility, and implementing SDGs;
- *To appreciate* broadening international cooperation, multilateral dialogue, and exchange of knowledge and progressive experiences concerning the human rights challenges of AI;
- *To strongly support* strengthening the role and mandate of ombudspersons and national human rights institutions in independent monitoring of AI impacts on human rights, human rights risk assessment, statutory analysis, as well as the promotion of individual access to effective legal remedies;

We once more declare that the protection and promotion of human rights in the age of digital transformation and artificial intelligence are the shared responsibility of all States, international institutions, ombudspersons and national human rights institutions, civil society organizations, academia, the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders.

We are confident that discussions and recommendations made on the margins of this Summit will facilitate further strengthening of international cooperation, exchange of good practices in the field of human rights and artificial intelligence, promoting human rights-based digital governance, and developing effective legal and institutional mechanisms fully consistent with global trends.

We express our gratitude to the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan for organizing the International Baku Ombudsmen Summit on the theme “Human Rights in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Opportunities, Risks, and Responsibilities.”