

# Regulations and artificial intelligences in Argentina<sup>1</sup>

Regulaciones e inteligencias artificiales en Argentina

Regulamentação e inteligências artificiais na Argentina

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## ABSTRACT

The regulation of artificial intelligences (AI) became a key issue for the agendas of both nation states and international organizations. In the countries of Latin

America and, in particular, Argentina, these issues have not gone unnoticed and it is possible to find numerous initiatives that are aimed at planning and regulating different aspects of AI. It is even possible to notice that these attempts at legal regulations have increased since the end of the pandemic in 2022. In this regard, what public policies on AI have been implemented in Argentina? How many bills are being discussed in the National Congress? Does Argentina have a national strategy on how to regulate AIs? The purpose of the article is to survey and analyze the different backgrounds of AI regulation in Argentina from 2018 to the end of 2023, including both the public policies of the executive branch and the bills presented in the National Congress (Chambers of Deputies and Senators). The article is part of a larger research that analyzes the co-construction relationships between AI and its regulations and seeks to strengthen both technological sovereignty and public policies in Argentina.

**KEYWORDS:** *artificial intelligences, regulations, public policies, congressional bills, Argentina.*

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## RESUMEN

La regulación de las inteligencias artificiales (IA) devino un tema clave para las agendas tanto de los estados nación como de los organismos internacionales. En los países de América Latina y, particularmente, en Argentina, estos temas no han pasado desapercibidos y es posible encontrar numerosas iniciativas que se orientan a planificar y regular diferentes aspectos de las IA. Incluso, es posible advertir que estos intentos de regulaciones legales han aumentado luego de atravesar la pandemia. Al respecto, ¿qué políticas públicas sobre IA se han implementado en Argentina? ¿Cuántos proyectos de ley se están tratando en el Congreso de la Nación? ¿Tiene Argentina una estrategia nacional sobre cómo regular las IA? El artículo tiene por objeto relevar y analizar los diferentes antecedentes de regulación de las IA en Argentina desde 2018 hasta finales de 2023, incluyendo tanto las políticas públicas del Poder Ejecutivo como los proyectos de ley presentados en el Congreso de la Nación. El artículo forma parte de una investigación de mayor alcance que analiza las relaciones de co-construcción entre las IA y sus regulaciones, y busca fortalecer la soberanía tecnológica y las políticas públicas en Argentina.

**PALABRAS CLAVE:** *inteligencias artificiales, regulaciones, políticas públicas, proyectos de ley, Argentina.*

## RESUMO

A regulamentação das inteligências artificiais (IA) tornou-se uma questão-chave para as agendas dos Estados-nação e das organizações internacionais. Nos países da América Latina e, em particular, na República Argentina, essas questões não passaram despercebidas e é possível encontrar inúmeras iniciativas que visam planejar e regulamentar diferentes aspectos da IA. Inclusive, é possível perceber que essas tentativas de regulamentação legal aumentaram desde o fim da pandemia em 2022. Nesse sentido, quais políticas públicas de IA foram implementadas na Argentina? Quantos projetos de lei estão em tramitação no Congresso Nacional? A Argentina tem uma estratégia nacional sobre como regular das IA? O objetivo do artigo é pesquisar e analisar os diferentes antecedentes da regulamentação das IA na Argentina de 2018 até o final de 2023, incluindo tanto as políticas públicas do poder executivo quanto os projetos de lei apresentados no Congresso Nacional (Câmaras de Deputados e Senadores). O artigo faz parte de uma investigação mais ampla que analisa as relações de co-construção entre IA e suas regulamentações e busca fortalecer a soberania tecnológica e as políticas públicas na Argentina.

**PALAVRAS-CHAVE:** *inteligências artificiais, regulamentação, políticas públicas, projetos de lei, Argentina.*

## 1. CHALLENGES IN THE REGULATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCES

Artificial intelligence (from now on, AI<sup>2</sup>) and machine learning<sup>3</sup> is no longer a promise. Its present is bringing profound changes in, among other areas, commerce, art and culture, politics, public administration, health, human rights, democracy. Nothing seems to escape this new digital translation of the world, where constant processes of efficiency, optimization of time, use of space and strict control of both human and non-human behavior are imposed. AI seems to be everywhere, it is omnipresent, ubiquitous, even more so after the isolation measures following COVID-19 (Arellano Toledo, 2021; Coeckelbergh, 2021). In particular, specific (“weak”, narrow) AIs<sup>4</sup> begin to be embedded within all types of socio-technological devices and systems.

Beyond its enormous benefits, AI could also be deepening old problems such as inequality and unemployment. According to Lee (2020), “the real underlying threat posed by artificial intelligence is: tremendous social disorder and political collapse resulting from widespread unemployment and massive inequality” (p. 44). Its industrial growth seems to anticipate an unrest in technological culture that arises from at least three elements: the lack of knowledge about the quantity, quality and functions of these devices worldwide, their lack of transparency (impossible to arrive at an explainability) and, finally, the growing complexity and a strong dependence on AI (Calvo, 2019; Vercelli, 2023a). Now, how much and how do they affect people and populations? The changes introduced by AI are so broad and profound that questions inevitably arise regarding their potential consequences and the need for regulation. Is it possible that a national law can provide solutions? In addition to laws, will technological design be required for regulatory purposes? (Vercelli, 2023a)<sup>5</sup>. What kind of developments are AI: intellectual or material?<sup>6</sup>. How will autonomous

<sup>2</sup> AI refers to a set of techniques that use computer processing to imitate behavior or carry out tasks that require human intelligence or non-human animal intelligence (learning, predicting, making decisions, perceiving the environment through vision, voice recognition, etc.).

<sup>3</sup> Machine learning is the branch of AI where algorithms are programmed and trained (with training data) to learn by themselves (with greater or lesser human supervision). Machine learning occurs through “cycles” and “training logics”.

<sup>4</sup> On the one hand, general (or “strong”) AI is presented as a kind of superintelligence, a singularity, which only exists as a theoretical concept (Kurzweil, 2005). On the other hand, there are specific (or “weak”) AIs that are characterized by executing one function at a time and are linked to all types of real-world activities: hence the need to analyze their proliferation and how they should be regulated.

<sup>5</sup> AI can be analyzed through its layered composition. This type of analysis makes it possible to identify how each of the elements into which an AI is broken down is affected by different regulations and socio-technical operations (Vercelli, 2009; Thomas, Becerra & Bidinost, 2019; Chinen, 2019): among other layers, infrastructure, connectivity, logic/software, AI applications, data/information, results/content, users/environment and the environmental sustainability layer (Vercelli, 2023a).

<sup>6</sup> As was the case with software –computer programs–, in the early stages of digital electronic computing (Vercelli & Carnota, 2022; Bianculli, 2022), AI can be indistinguishable from the technological devices and systems in which they are embedded. AI belongs to the domain of intellectual developments close to software creation and algorithms (Bryson, 2018). However, as Kate Crawford (2022) insists, all AI also possess a physical, corporeal reality, made of natural resources (minerals), fuel, electricity, labor, infrastructure, supports, logistics, cyber-physical systems (Internet of Things) and classifications.

systems be regulated<sup>7</sup> (Scharre, 2018; Turner, 2019; Navarro-Michel, 2020), the intellectual rights<sup>8</sup>, informational self-determination<sup>9</sup>, or the incorporation of AI in public administrations?<sup>10</sup>

The global growth of AI has also brought with it all kinds of discussions, positions and statements that, for at least a decade, have oscillated between praising the benefits or warning about the dangers that AI represents for humanity. Coming from the academic world, among others, we can mention the Montréal Declaration (2018 and 2022), which establishes criteria for responsible AI, The Toronto Declaration (2018), linked to equity and non-discrimination, or more recently, the Montevideo Declaration (2023). Several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have also spoken out, including the “Campaign to Stop Killer Robots” (SKR) against the use of autonomous weapons and the dehumanized use of AI. Documents and reports from international organizations have also been prolific, including: the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD, 2019), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO, 2020, 2021) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, 2019). In turn, numerous national strategies and public policies aimed at designing, planning and implementing AI stand out: among the most relevant at a global level are the strategic positions of China, the United States and the European Union.<sup>11</sup>

Now, what happened in Latin America and, in particular, in Argentina with these public policies and regulations on AI? Although Argentina has not yet passed specific laws on AI or made progress on comprehensive policies in the sector, it is at least possible to identify numerous initiatives that could help characterize how and in what way its regulation is being projected. This article reviews and analyzes the background on AI in Argentina during the period that goes from 2018 to the end of 2023<sup>12</sup>. Firstly, and in chronological order, the

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- 7 Among others, cars, transportation, weapons, drones, humanoids. In autonomous systems, it is no longer the programmer -or data specialist- who selects and decides which data will run, but rather it is the AI itself that selects the data to obtain the results.
  - 8 The relationships between intellectual rights and AI are complex. They range from how to protect intellectual value to more technical issues such as authorship and ownership (Yamamoto, 2018). Some positions on AI could deepen the historical differences between *copyright* (of English and *common law* tradition) and *author's rights* and *copy rights* (of French-German and civil law tradition) (Vercelli, 2023b).
  - 9 The Facebook - Cambridge Analytica case shows how audience manipulation begins to use the extraction of large personal data and the massive and systematic violation of privacy for electoral purposes (Vercelli, 2021). Informational self-determination is beginning to be a key issue for democracy.
  - 10 The incorporation of these technologies can give a breath of life to the role of the state. These tools can result in the state resuming its internal debts with its population and making progress in resolving key issues such as hunger, homelessness and social inclusion. AI should not become an instrument of oppression for the worker or obscure the transparency and rationality of administrative acts (Filgueiras Junior, 2020).
  - 11 Countries such as China, Japan, Canada, France, the USA, Finland, South Korea and Brazil stand out (Siqueira, 2021). The European Union also has an EU White Paper on AI (EU, 2020) and a General Regulation on Artificial Intelligence (Arellano Toledo, 2022).
  - 12 For the survey, online search services available on official Argentine State portals were used. Among the most used: <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/>, <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/>, <https://diputados.gob.ar/>, <https://www.senado.gob.ar/>. In addition, other official websites of the Argentine State and its official social media accounts were used. Press sites and news portals were also reviewed.

initiatives that were designed and implemented by the Executive Branch are presented: among others, reports, programs, international agreements, directives, resolutions, guides, recommendations and services<sup>13</sup>. Secondly, and also chronologically, the legislative background on AI emanating from the National Congress (the Honorable Chamber of Deputies of the Nation and the Senate of the Nation) is presented: specifically, the Bills and Draft Resolutions of both chambers have been reviewed and analyzed.

## 2. FIRST REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH ON AI: ARGENTIA

One of the first initiatives on AI in Argentina was developed towards the end of the government headed by Mauricio Macri (2015-2019), specifically between 2018 and 2019, and was entitled “National Plan for Artificial Intelligence” (ArgenIA, 2019). Although it is called a “Plan”, in reality, it is more of a report on AI, or an overview, than a public policy on AI in the country. The report was drafted during 2018 and 2019, with meetings over seven months, within the Secretariat of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (at that time it had ceased to be a Ministry)<sup>14</sup>. This is an initial, descriptive report, written in potential (“could”, “should”), and with a linear idea of innovation. The report focused, among other points, on the need to train Human Resources (which it calls talents), the importance of the use of data (public rather than private), computing infrastructure and ethics and regulations (ArgenIA, 2019). On this last point, the report considers that the numerous public regulations on AI and the lack of knowledge about them could act as a barrier to innovation. This negative sense of public regulations runs throughout the document: the final report confused (i.e. did not differentiate) regulations on AI with the ethical problems that they may raise. Although ArgenIA expressed its desire to contribute to (sustainable) national development and to align itself with both the Argentine Digital Agenda 2030 and the Argentine Innovative National Strategy 2030, the “Plan” was never publicly discussed or implemented. In fact, according to the report prepared by the Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers in 2020 (JGM, 2020), the National Artificial Intelligence Plan was approved on December 9, 2019 (last day of the Macri administration) without administrative structure or budget allocations for its development. At the end of 2019, with

<sup>13</sup> The survey carried out so far, although it distinguishes and classifies the different initiatives, does not yet allow them to be classified analytically. In development, we will be able to observe both projects aimed at regulating AI and initiatives that advance the specific and determined use of AI in education, security, commerce or health, to name a few. One of the biggest difficulties when analyzing what AI policies exist in Argentina was noticing that the initiatives surveyed seem to be pieces of different puzzles.

<sup>14</sup> Specifically, as stated in Annex 1 (ArgenIA, 2019), The plan was developed by the Government Secretariat of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, through the coordination of the Secretariat of Planning and Policies in Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (SPPCTI). During 2018 and 2019, meetings, consultations and multi-sectoral work tables were held with different institutions and experts on the subject (32 face-to-face work tables, with experts from the public, private, scientific-technological, academic sectors, international organizations and NGOs) (ArgenIA, 2019, pp. 234 and 235).

the arrival of Alberto Fernández to the presidency (2019-2023), the report was quickly forgotten.

### 3. THE INCORPORATION OF UNESCO RECOMMENDATIONS

Although discussions about ethics have accompanied AI from its beginnings, a few years ago international discussions also began about what to do about its problems and, above all, what the intervention of states should be in its solutions. One of the first spaces where the topic began to be discussed was UNESCO. In November 2019, Member States adopted Resolution No. 40C/37, which recognized the importance that AI was beginning to have for developing countries. Specifically, the Director-General was asked to produce an international standard-setting instrument on AI Ethics in the form of a recommendation for its 41st session (2021). In March 2020, a Special Group of Experts was established to advance the recommendations. In August and September 2020, the preliminary draft was published and the final version of the Recommendations on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence was due in 2021 (UNESCO, 2021). Argentina is a signatory of the UNESCO recommendations, which, in its final document, contains several notable points on AI, ethics and human rights. However, like other documents from international agencies –from the OECD and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)– the focus on the ethical problems of AI and the background that was taken into account were influenced by developed countries (especially European ones) and showed zero participation from Latin American countries<sup>15</sup>. There is, regarding this instrument, a second level of problems related to the final objective of the recommendations: the aim is for Member States to be able to create laws and dictate regulations or other practical measures aimed at ensuring that the use of AI is done in accordance with national or international constitutional and legal parameters and in accordance with human rights. That is to say, far from addressing the numerous and complex issues of ethics and AI, the recommendations have a normative aim (of systematic and universal normative reflection) for the Member States. In this regard, towards the end of 2022, two other initiatives took place that linked UNESCO with the Argentine government. In November 2022, a new meeting was held with UNESCO Montevideo officials on AI issues: specifically, possible joint actions between the Secretariat of Public Innovation of the Argentine State and UNESCO Montevideo were analyzed to collaborate on the adoption of the Recommendations on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (2021) (impact analysis, monitoring and evaluations on AI applications). In December 2022, Argentina also participated in the Global Forum on Ethics of

<sup>15</sup> In fact, reviewing the background and considerations drafted by the UNESCO Committee of experts, it is possible to observe that documents from the southern region –The South Common Market (MERCOSUR) and the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)– were not taken into account, although it is possible to find background information from North America, Asia, Europe and Africa, but none from South America.

Artificial Intelligence, through the Undersecretariat of Information Technologies and the Secretariat of Public Innovation (remote participation). The event took place in the Czech Republic and focused on identifying best regulatory practices and institutional frameworks to promote and guarantee the ethical development of AI.

#### 4. AI AS A STRATEGIC ISSUE: FROM CAMIA TO THE R&D AGENCY

During the government of Alberto Fernández, and by Resolution No. 90 of November 2021, the then Secretary of Strategic Affairs, Gustavo Beliz, created the Artificial Intelligence Program, within the orbit of the National Directorate of Knowledge Management, Undersecretariat of Knowledge for Development, within the Secretariat of Strategic Affairs of the Presidency of the Nation. The program, as expressed in Resolution 90, was created with the aim of providing support to the Economic and Social Council for the development of activities related to the promotion of artificial intelligence (Secretariat of Strategic Affairs, 2021). Based on these functions of the Council, the Argentine Multidisciplinary Center for Artificial Intelligence was formally presented on April 5, 2022 (CAMIA). On June 7, 2022, and pending a loan from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), a second event called “International Forum on Artificial Intelligence: Towards an Argentine Multidisciplinary Center for Artificial Intelligence” was held, with the intention of discussing more about the institutional architecture that CAMIA would have. In particular, a design that can serve to I) Promote active participation of public and private actors in the AI ecosystem; II) Generate mechanisms for the identification and prioritization of training needs (talent development), applied research, and services to companies; III) Promote technology transfer to the productive sector; and IV) Guarantee the medium- and long-term financial sustainability of the center (CEyS, 2022a; CEyS, 2022b). However, as of the end of 2023, the CAMIA initiative has not yet published any documents on AI in Argentina. Apparently, the Inter-American Development Bank loan, which would have financed the operation of CAMIA, was redirected to the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation. During 2023, teams from the National Agency for the Promotion of Research, Technological Development and Innovation (Agencia I+D+i) and the IDB worked on a \$35 million loan to invest in the area of AI in order to support exports from the knowledge economy (Agencia I+D+i, 2023b). Specifically, the agreement included three lines of work: a) the creation of an artificial intelligence center (which could well be CAMIA or its replacement) aimed, among other objectives, at generating multidisciplinary capabilities and projects in AI and developing a regulatory policy agenda in AI; b) financing with non-reimbursable contributions to the productive sector for the development of solutions based on AI and with export potential;



and c) strengthening the scientific-technological system through support for research networks and chairs in AI (Agencia I+D+i, 2023a). These lines of work on AI coincide with several objectives of the National Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation 2030 of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation (MINCyT, 2022).

## 5. ADHERENCE TO THE GLOBAL COMPACT ON AI

At the events held at the Government House in 2022, where the initial features of CAMIA were outlined, Argentina also signed its adherence to the Global Compact on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)<sup>16</sup>. The GPAI was established as an initiative involving multiple stakeholders (scientists, industrialists, civil society, governments, international organizations, academia) with the aim of cooperating and building bridges between the theory and practice of AI. In addition to funding research and activities applied to AI, GPAI seeks to ensure respect for human rights, inclusion, diversity, innovation and economic growth. The GPAI was built on the OECD's recommendations on AI, and is considered an initiative conceived within the G7 and is mainly driven by Japan, France and Canada (especially in its French-speaking part). Since its launch in 2020, the GPAI has brought together some 29 partner countries, characterised by a strong European presence, little participation from the United States and the absence of other world powers in AI such as China or Russia. Participating in Latin America are Argentina, Brazil and Mexico. In 2023, the GPAI has had little activity: among other things, it has not added partners and, even, the United Kingdom did not use it for the Safe AI event held at Bletchley Park at the end of 2023 (AI Safety Summit, 2023). The GPAI has also not been involved in or spoken out about the latest AI regulations being developed in the United States (White House, 2023) or China (Global Times, 2023).

## 6. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TINA, THE NATIONAL STATE CHATBOT

Also during the administration of President Alberto Fernández, the Secretariat of Public Innovation, Office of the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers (JGM), proposed the creation of a National State Chatbot<sup>17</sup>, based on an AI program, which can automate tasks by simulating conversations with users in natural language and through websites, mobile applications or by mobile phone. The tool, due to its conversational characteristics, is aimed at facilitating communication with citizens 24 hours a day and generating a personalized experience

<sup>16</sup> See: <https://gpai.ai/>

<sup>17</sup> Chatbot: These are computer programs that run on websites and mobile phone applications to maintain conversations imitating human beings. They use natural languages, both in text and audio, and serve as first responses imitating a human operator. They are generally used for automated responses, customer queries or support for procedures with the public administration. Among the most advanced with AI is the Chat-GPT (*generative pre-trained transformers*) from the OpenAI corporation.



through the “Mi Argentina” application. In accordance with Article 1 of Resolution 14 of 2022, Secretariat of Public Innovation, the Chatbot was named TINA, “Chatbot of the National State”, and functions as a virtual assistance tool for citizens. In turn, TINA is linked to the Digital Citizen Profile “Mi Argentina” (from the [argentina.gob.ar](http://argentina.gob.ar) portal). For its operation, a WhatsApp number was established (with an official and verified telephone number 1139101010). The resolution requests that the Chatbot be available on web portals and invites provinces and municipalities to join the service. Through Provision 1 (TINA, 2022), the Undersecretariat of Services and Digital Country outlined the terms and conditions of TINA. Access and use of TINA is voluntary and is done through a registered Facebook Messenger account, a verified WhatsApp phone number or access via [argentina.gob.ar](http://argentina.gob.ar) (TINA, 2022). Through Provision 1 (JGM, 2023) of February 2023, the Database called “NATIONAL STATE CHATBOT - TINA” was created which, in accordance with article 21 of the Personal Data Protection Law No. 25,326, allows interaction between TINA and the users of the service channel. The entity responsible for the Database is the Undersecretariat of Services and Digital Country (JGM, 2022). All information provided by TINA comes from [argentina.gob.ar](http://argentina.gob.ar) and other updated and validated sources available to each State agency.

## 7. THE NATIONAL DEFENSE POLICY DIRECTIVE AND THE CYBERDEFENSE POLICY

The National Executive Branch, through Decree 457, of July 2021, updated the National Defense Policy Directive (DPDN, 2021). In the Annex, the new Directive included the guidelines of National Defense and the essential and non-delegable obligation of the Argentine State to guarantee sovereignty and independence, territorial integrity, the capacity for self-determination and the protection of the life and freedom of its inhabitants, against external military threats of state origin (DPDN, 2021). According to Chapter I, Diagnosis and assessment of the global and regional defence scenario, the new Directive identifies the increase and improvement of military uses of all types of technologies: among others, robotics, cyber, AI, remote sensing, unmanned aerial vehicles, machine learning, autonomy, access to space, biotechnology (DPDN, 2021). Of particular concern, both politically and technologically, are changes to the topography of the Internet, tensions over the development of 5G mobile networks and quantum computing. For this Directive, cyberspace is not a “space in itself” but a dimension that crosses all traditional spaces (land, sea, air and space) and that, in terms of cyberwar, can affect physical infrastructures: among others, critical infrastructures, military communications, air and land traffic, energy or drinking water. As expressed in Chapter II (DPDN, 2021), Conception and strategic positioning, the National Defense System is structurally and organizationally oriented towards the deterrence of potential external aggressions

by armed forces of other States (not including internal security issues) (Cornaglia & Vercelli, 2017). Thus, one of the salient points of the new Directive is that control, surveillance, reconnaissance and the production of strategic military intelligence apply to cyberspace –in addition to maritime, land and aerospace spaces– (DPDN, 2021, p. 19). Cyber defense is aimed at the sovereign protection of the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure throughout the national territory and at minimizing the risk of exposure and countering events that affect the free availability of cyberspace in military operations.

Within Chapter III, Guidelines for the implementation of the national defense policy and military policy, it is established that the Ministry of Defense is the one that guarantees and consolidates the political government of National Defense. Specifically, it is indicated that the military instrument must adapt its means, intelligence, human resources, deployment, logistics, training, doctrine and organization, for the effective control of the sovereign territorial spaces of the Argentine Republic (terrestrial, maritime, aerospace environments and its transversal cyberspace dimension). In turn, surveillance, command, control, communications, computing, intelligence and electronic warfare are aimed at ensuring that the cyber defense system has adequate “strategic early warning.” Finally, the Directive indicates that investment should be made in cyber defense and that a policy should be developed for the new “National Defense Planning Cycle” (CPDN). In this regard, on January 30, 2023, the Ministry of Defense approved its “Cyber Defense Policy” (Ministry of Defense, 2023) and, by Resolution 105, defined both the conceptual design of the Cyber Defense System and its military strategic planning (Ministry of Defense, 2023). Article 2 creates, within the scope of the Undersecretariat of Cyberdefense, the ‘Center for Supervision and Control of Cyberdefense Management’, with the aim of carrying out effective supervision of the corresponding bodies of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces and the General Staffs of the Armed Forces. Through Article 3, also within the Undersecretariat of Cyber Defense, the Defense Critical Information Infrastructure Committee is created, with the objective of identifying the Critical Digital Assets of the National Defense System. Specifically, in Annex I of Resolution 105, the Cyber Defense Policy is presented (Ministry of Defense, 2023). Among other relevant characteristics, the policy is based on a systemic and multidimensional approach (the Cyber Defense System is more than the sum of its parts), its main objective is continuous and permanent monitoring (observation, surveillance and control, early detection and response to cyber incidents) and attention is paid to critical communication infrastructures and the electromagnetic spectrum (Ministry of Defense, 2023). Cyber defense policies are based on strengthening the national industry and technological sovereignty, especially through AI, big data management and other key digital technologies for cyber defense (Niss, 2023).

## 8. THE ROADMAP: “INNOVATING WITH DATA SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR”

In November 2022, the Sadosky Foundation (Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Argentina) published a “roadmap” aimed at promoting the use of AI in the national State. The document was titled “Innovating with Data Science in the public sector” (Martínez, et. al., 2022)<sup>18</sup> and aims to serve as a guide for those seeking to take their first steps in the use of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (CDIA) in the State: mainly for people in charge of formulating, monitoring or managing public policies or services. The roadmap identifies the key questions that arise in the process of public innovation with data and structures them into three stages: First stage: design thinking for the co-creation of services and public policies<sup>19</sup>; Second stage: what do we mean by data, Data Science or Artificial Intelligence?; Third stage: the use of data, data science and artificial intelligence as a public innovation process. The document also raises different levels and complexities for innovation in the public sector: from simpler sections of systematization and innovation of public data, through the use of data science, to the incorporation of innovation based on data science and AI (with the capabilities to estimate, simulate and predict).

In the second part, the roadmap provides a series of recommendations (called “irreplaceables”) for creating a project involving CDIA. To avoid “technological solutionism,” one of the first recommendations offered is to reflect on whether data science and AI are the best tools to solve the identified problems. The recommendations are then oriented around two key points: what to take into account if the tools are provided by a company and how to assemble multidisciplinary teams in government agencies (ecosystems of actors beyond technical teams). The recommendations also focus on data quality, infrastructure, environmental impact and technological sustainability of the projects. The recommendations also include a necessary review of the applicable regulations (protection of personal data, security and administrative law), transparency, registration of algorithms and, finally, recommendations and precautions regarding distortions and biases in the data. The guide concludes with a list that reviews the topics considered “essential” when undertaking different innovation projects in the public sector.

## 9. THE NEW LANGUAGE ECONOMY PROGRAM

On April 17, 2023, through Resolution No. 447, the Secretariat of Knowledge Economy, Ministry of Economy of Argentina, created the New Language

<sup>18</sup> For this article, the first full version of the guide published on 11-14-2022 was reviewed. For future versions, see: <https://innovacionpublicacondatos.fundacionsadosky.org.ar/>

<sup>19</sup> According to the Sadosky Foundation guide, the steps of design thinking are: “1. Observation and understanding of the situation as a diagnosis; 2. Ideation of possible solutions; 3. Prototyping and experimentation of the solution (or development and implementation in its pilot phase); 4. Validation, adjustment and iteration, as a mechanism to capitalize on learning in the process of fine-tuning and/or improving the solution. In this instance, documentation of the process and its progressive versioning are essential; 5. Dissemination and scaling; complemented by training and transfer to the people who will use the tool; 6. Systemic change” (Martínez, et. al., 2022, p. 9).

Economy Program (PNEL). This is part of the activities and objectives that the Secretariat of Knowledge Economy carries out within the framework of the application of the Knowledge Economy Promotion Regime approved by Law No. 27,506 –hereinafter, LEC– (Ministry of Economy, 2023). Article 1 establishes that the central objective of the PNEL is to generate spaces for work and federal articulation that allow the implementation of actions related to the economy of the language, the development of AI in the Spanish language or devices that allow us to dialogue in our languages (Ministry of Economy, 2023). The PNEL was designed with the idea of involving and articulating multiple actors: companies, universities, civil society organizations, unions and other national, subnational and Ibero-American government agencies. The PNEL provides for active participation, through agreements and conventions, both from the Argentine provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, as well as from municipalities throughout the national territory. The aim is to strengthen the link between the scientific and technological community, the productive sectors and the regional innovation ecosystems. It also plans to work on the regulation of AI that uses the processing of Spanish as a natural language, seeking to strengthen the rights and guarantees of citizens and promoting inclusive AI, with gender equity, sustainable, and that protects the right to privacy and non-discrimination (PNEL, 2023). The PNEL is structured around multidisciplinary working groups: among others, a public management group (and public/open data), a scientific-academic group (public and private universities), a private sector group, a third sector group (non-profit) and an inter-governmental group (with the countries of the region) (PNEL, 2023).

## 10. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNDERSECRETARY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

On June 1, 2023, through Provision No. 2/2023, the Undersecretariat of Information Technologies, Secretariat of Public Innovation, of the Office of the Chief of Ministers, approved the “Recommendations for Reliable Artificial Intelligence” (RIAF) and its “graphic diagram of the stages of Artificial Intelligence Projects”. The recommendations were aimed at mentioning ethical principles from international documents and proposing recommendations to guarantee the responsible and beneficial development of AI-based projects within the Argentine State. Specifically, according to the explicit objectives in its manual, some tools are provided for those seeking to develop AI and public innovation projects (technical teams, officials and decision-makers) (RIAF, 2023, p. 4). The recommendations are presented as a kind of theoretical-practical guide, a compendium of ethical principles that agents must respect when

processing data<sup>20</sup> and throughout the entire AI life cycle<sup>21</sup> (Ob. Cit., p. 4). As expressed in its recitals, Provision 2, seeks to establish clear rules to guarantee that the benefits of any technological development in AI can be taken advantage of by all sectors of society and that, within a broader strategy, technological sovereignty, the common good and responses to the country's social-environmental and productive problems are prioritized (RIAF, 2023). The guide took into account, among other things, UNESCO's considerations on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence<sup>22</sup>, the Asilomar Conference<sup>23</sup>, OECD documents<sup>24</sup> and the G20 meetings. Among the main recommendations are: creating diverse and multidisciplinary teams in the State, training agents in AI, not forcing the use of AI (there may be better options to the problems raised), understanding the benefits of *automation*<sup>25</sup> (and even of augmented intelligences<sup>26</sup>), rely on human oversight and accountability and, finally, conduct failed prospective (or premortem) analyses. It is important to note that the recommendations are only aimed at automation processes in the State, leaving aside more real, complex and urgent problems regarding autonomization (the document does not explain this decision). Finally, the recommendations were presented at three events held in June 2023: first, it was presented within the Second Ordinary Assembly of 2023 of the Federal Council of the Public Function (COFEFUP) and the Third Federal Congress of Public Employment (COFEFUP, 2023); secondly, it was discussed at an event with the European Union; and, thirdly, it was presented at the United States Chamber of Commerce in Argentina (AMCHAM).

<sup>20</sup> Data classification (confidential, personal, internal, public) data sources (available on the Internet, from the organization, from third parties) and data quality.

<sup>21</sup> In the document, AI life cycles are presented as "Design and data modeling", "Verification/Validation", "Implementation" (with special emphasis on the recording of activities, their auditability and traceability) and "Operation and maintenance".

<sup>22</sup> UNESCO specifically mentions "proportionality and safety", "security and protection", "equity and non-discrimination", "sustainability", "right to privacy and data protection", "human supervision and decision-making", "transparency and explainability", "responsibility and accountability of stakeholders", "awareness and education", "governance and adaptive collaboration of multiple parties". (RIAF, 2023, p. 11).

<sup>23</sup> Of the 23 principles of the Asilomar Conference, Future of Life Institute, 2017, the document takes into account those related to ethics and values: 6) Security, 7) Transparency of failures, 9) Responsibility, 10) Alignment of values, 11) Human values, 12) Personal privacy, 13) Freedom and privacy, 14) Shared benefit, 15) Shared prosperity, 16) Human control (RIAF, 2023).

<sup>24</sup> From the OECD documents (2019) the following were highlighted: Inclusive growth, sustainable development and well-being; Human-centred values and equity; Transparency and explainability; Robustness, safety and security; Responsibility (RIAF, 2023).

<sup>25</sup> As defined in the glossary, automation: "AI systems designed to automate standardized, monotonous, massive and repetitive tasks. Automation represents a way of adopting AI that must be accompanied by a process of retraining people displaced by such automation for their relocation within the organization." (RIAF, 2023, p. 25).

<sup>26</sup> The glossary defines human-centered AI (augmented intelligence) as "AI systems designed to amplify and augment human capabilities and human control over machines, not replace them. These are systems that prioritize the interests and rights of people over automation. It also represents a way of adopting AI where one or more technologies do not replace the people involved, but rather they work in a collaborative way commonly known as human-machine mode." (RIAF, 2023, p. 26).

## 11. TRANSPARENCY AND PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION PROGRAM

By Resolution 161/2023 of September 4, the Public Information Access Agency (AAIP), an autonomous entity with functional autonomy within the scope of the Office of the Chief of Ministers, created the “Program for transparency and protection of personal data in the use of artificial intelligence” (AAIP, 2023a). The program will operate within the scope of the National Directorate for the Evaluation of Transparency Policies and the National Directorate for the Protection of Personal Data. The Program Annex, taking into account international and national precedents, explicitly states as its general objective the promotion of “processes of analysis, regulation and strengthening of state capacities necessary to accompany the development and use of artificial intelligence, both in the public and private sectors, guaranteeing the effective exercise of citizens’ rights in terms of transparency and protection of personal data” (AAIP, 2023a). In turn, one of the specific objectives of the Program seeks to promote participatory processes for the generation of regulatory proposals for AI in the country, in coordination with other competent government agencies in the matter. To this end, the programme creates both an observatory aimed at producing statistics and periodic reports on AI at national, regional and international levels, as well as a Multidisciplinary Advisory Council, aimed at experts generating consensus and agreeing on sectoral policies. The third component of the program is based, among other elements, on the development of good practice guides for public and private entities on transparency and protection of personal data and AI (AAIP, 2023a). The Program was designed only for observation and diagnosis: at the moment, it does not provide solutions to the illegal use of personal data and does not articulate the police power that the Agency has, based on article 29 of Law 25326, for the safeguarding of the human rights of the Argentine population.

## 12. THE INTERMINISTERIAL TABLE ON AI

On September 7, 2023, from the JGM in charge of Agustín Oscar Rossi, and by Administrative Decision 750/2023, the Interministerial Table on Artificial Intelligence was created (MIIA). Based on an ethical framework – of sustainable development and digital transformation in the Argentine State – the MIIA seeks to address the advances in AI in the various socio-economic sectors and help in the design of a comprehensive strategy on AI to be applied by the National Executive Branch (JGM, 2023). The MIIA is chaired by the JGM and jointly coordinated with the Secretariat of Strategic Affairs of the Presidency of the Nation. As established in the third article, the MIIA is made up of the Office of the Chief of Ministers, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Defense, Economy, Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship, Health, Security, Labor, Employment and Social Security and the Secretariat of

Strategic Affairs (JGM, 2023). The coordination may invite other jurisdictions, public and/or private entities to participate. The first meeting of the MIIA was held on November 9, 2023 at the Casa Rosada to discuss and design a comprehensive strategy that makes the implementation of AI compatible with the full validity of labor rights and to be able to evaluate the regulatory frameworks that are necessary to minimize the unwanted impacts of these socio-technological changes. In addition to members of the Secretariat of Strategic Affairs, officials from the Ministry of Labor, Defense, Economy, Foreign Ministry, Science and Technology, Health, Security and the Office of the Chief of Staff (Secretariat of Strategic Affairs, 2023) participated in the first MIIA meeting.

### 13. BACKGROUND OF AI REGULATIONS IN CONGRESS

This last section presents and analyses the background that, between 2018 and the end of 2023, emanates from the work of the Argentine National Congress on the regulation of AI. Among other initiatives, it was possible to identify different Bills, Draft Resolutions, Declarations of Interest, Recognitions and Awards. Below we describe only the Bills and Draft Resolutions (not the declarations, recognitions or awards)<sup>27</sup> that could be considered of greater relevance for the analysis of AI regulations. The background information is arranged chronologically and, in each one of them, it is identified whether they were presented in the Honorable Senate of the Nation or through the Honorable Chamber of Deputies of the Nation:

- **[Senate, June 2018: Federal Robotics Council]** One of the first legislative precedents on AI regulation came from the Senate of the Nation and was a Bill that, presented in 2018 by Adolfo Rodríguez Saá and María Eugenia Catalfamo, sought to create early on a Federal Robotics Council within the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation of the Nation (Senate File 2103, 2018). The project included several points relevant to both robotics and AI. The initiative did not prosper and, to date, it has not been reintroduced either by the Senate or the Chamber of Deputies. The file expired on 02-28-2020 and was sent to the archive on 08-10-2022 (Senate File 2103, 2018);
- **[Deputies, March 2019 and August 2023: Federal Council of Artificial Intelligence]** This time in the Chamber of Deputies, and very similar to the project described above, a Bill for the Creation of the Federal Council

<sup>27</sup> For the purposes of this article, these types of projects from the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate of the Nation have been set aside. One of the most relevant has been, among others, in February 2020, the Declaration of Interest from the Senate of the Nation, which, presented in 2020 by Dalmacio Mera and Jorge Taiana (Senate File 2569, 2020) and sanctioned on September 3, 2020, declared the holding of the Global Stop Killer Robots (SKR) Meeting, a campaign to Stop the Development of Fully Autonomous Lethal Weapons, to be of parliamentary interest.



of Artificial Intelligence was also promoted. The project, presented on March 12 by Deputies Victoria Rosso, Ivana Bianchi and Andrés Alberto Vallone (Deputies File 0509, 2019), sought to promote the study, awareness, research and dissemination of topics related to AI. The Council was proposed to serve as an interjurisdictional advisory body on AI issues and to be able to advise on risks, ethical issues and non-neutrality in this type of technology. The project did not prosper beyond the Science, Technology and Productive Innovation Commission and lost parliamentary status. In August 2023, with the same title, similar objectives, improved wording and updated rationales, Deputy Pamela Calletti again presented a Bill for its creation. According to the new Article 7, paragraph f, the Council would be in charge of preparing an annual report on the state of AI in the country (Deputies File 3161, 2023).

- **[Senate, October 2020 and May 2023: Computer Security Observatory and the impact of Artificial Intelligence]** Another of the antecedents coming from the Senate of the Nation is related to a Resolution Project that, initially presented by Dalmacio Mera in 2020 (Senate File 2672, 2020) and re-presented by Senator Edgardo Darío Kueider in 2023 (Senate File 1080, 2023), proposed to create the “Permanent Observatory of Computer Security and the Impact of Artificial Intelligence”, under the functional dependence of the Presidency of the Honorable Senate of the Nation. Both Draft Resolutions (almost identical) propose that the observatory focus on the analytical, critical and creative, multidisciplinary and comprehensive study of security, computer sovereignty and the impact on social life of AI (Senate File 2672, 2020; Senate File 1080, 2023). It was also proposed that the observatory could provide technical support in the preparation of legislative proposals that articulate national development, artificial intelligence and full respect for human rights. In 2023, the project will have to go through the Systems, Media and Freedom of Expression, and Budget and Finance Committees.
- **[Deputies, April 2023: modify Law 25467 based on the growth of artificial intelligence]** Another of the antecedents worth highlighting is related to a bill that, presented by Jimena Latorre and Facundo Manes in April 2023 (File of Deputies 1472, 2023), proposes to modify Law 25467 on Science, Technology and Innovation based on the growth of AI. The main objective of the Project is to incorporate three articles into Law 25467 (3 BIS, 8 BIS and 8 TER) and thus guarantee scientific and technological development based on the new challenges and opportunities posed by the ethical uses of technologies. The first article refers to the principles of diversity and inclusion and those of peace and justice. The second establishes

the mandatory registration of AI systems as determined by the Scientific and Technological Cabinet (GACTEC), Office of the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers. The third proposes that any natural or legal person who considers themselves threatened or harmed by an AI system may file a complaint or request a review of said system before the Secretariat for Technology, Science and Productive Innovation (SETCIP) (Deputies File 1472, 2023).

- **[Deputies, June 2023: Use of Artificial Intelligence in Education]** Presented in June 2023 by Deputies Victoria Morales Gorleri, María de las Mercedes Joury and Deputy Maximiliano Ferraro (Deputies File 2504, 2023), another Bill proposes a regulation for the “Use of Artificial Intelligence in Education”. According to its Article 1, the Bill seeks to achieve the use of AI in all educational institutions and organizations related to teaching (from initial to higher education level and public education, state, private and social management). The project briefly defines AI-assisted education and AI systems for education, as well as topics related to personal data protection, authorizations, curriculum updating, evaluation, supervision and budget. The project will be discussed by the Education, Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, and Budget and Finance committees.
- **[Deputies, June 2023: Regime of Research, Use and Development of Artificial Intelligence]** Another of the antecedents revealed by the Chamber of Deputies has to do with a Bill on the Research, Use and Development Regime of Artificial Intelligence which, proposed by Victoria Morales Gorleri in June 2023 (Deputies File 2505, 2023), is aimed at defining a legal framework for the research, development, use and regulation of AI in the national territory. The project proposes that this regulation be applied to all natural or legal persons who develop, research, innovate or use AI in the Argentine territory, regardless of where the server or servers that support it are located. Furthermore, according to Article 11, it is proposed that AI developers may/must register their systems in accordance with the procedures provided by the GACTEC (Scientific and Technological Cabinet) and within the framework of Law 25,467. The initiative could also grant supervisory authorities access to registry information and access to systems, source code, data and documentation relevant to control. The project also explicitly prohibits the use of AI to manipulate or influence important decision-making (such as electoral processes or the formation of public opinions). The project will have to go through the committees of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation, Foreign Relations and Worship, Economy and Budget and Finance.

- **[Senate, August 14, 2023: Development, implementation and use of systems based on artificial intelligence, within the Argentine territory]** In August 2023, Senator Juan Carlos Romero presented a Bill aimed at establishing controls and guiding principles for the development, implementation and use of AI-based systems within the Argentine territory (Senate File, 1747, 2023). After some definitions, and imitating the model of European regulation, the Bill establishes levels of risk that AI may have: limited, minimal, high and unacceptable. As guiding principles of AI, Article 4 takes up and transcribes several of the principles established in the international documents of the OECD and UNESCO. The project requests that all entities that develop or use AI, whether public or private, be required to register in a National Registry of Artificial Intelligence Systems where impact assessments will be carried out. The project establishes that in the national territory certain systems and services will be, with some exceptions, directly prohibited: among others, AI systems with subliminal techniques or with remote biometric identification in public spaces (Senate File, 1747, 2023).
- **[Deputies, October 26, 2023: Bill on Regulation and use of artificial intelligence]** In October 2023, Representative Anahí Costa presented another Bill on the regulation and uses of artificial intelligence (Representative File 4329, 2023). In its first articles, the project establishes that its purpose is to guarantee and promote the use of AI as a tool for digital, economic and social development in the territory of the nation, through a regulatory framework that safeguards people and protects their human rights. After some definitions, guiding principles, and registration and some prohibitions, the project establishes an enforcement and oversight body within the National Executive Branch (without specifying where) and, as a novelty, would be in charge of promoting open, accessible education as well as conducting training on ethics in the use of AI and media and information literacy (File of Deputies 4329, 2023).
- **[Deputies, November 2, 2023: Bills for the reforms of Art. 4 of Law 27736 and Art. 128 of the Penal Code; and November 3, 2023: Bill to reform Art. 128 of the Penal Code]** In early November 2023, three bills were introduced aimed at prohibiting and punishing the use of AI in violence against women and minors. Specifically, on November 2, Deputy Gerardo Milman presented two bills to punish the use of AI in these forms of violence. First, he proposed reforming Article 4 of Law 27736 and incorporating the use of AI to disseminate images with sexual content as violence against women (Deputies File 4410, 2023). Secondly, he proposed the modification of Article 128 of the Penal Code, with imprisonment of three (3) to six (6) years,

for those who produce, finance, offer, trade, publish, facilitate, disclose or distribute, by any means, including the use of AI, false, recreated, and misleading sexual images, also known as deepfakes (Deputies File 4411, 2023). In turn, on November 3, Deputy Silvia Lospennato presented a Bill that, similar to the one described above in wording and grounds, also proposes to reform Article 128 of the penal code to punish the use of AI for the purposes of violence against minors (Deputies File 4436, 2023).

#### 14. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS: THE LACK OF A NATIONAL STRATEGY

AI is rapidly transforming the world: it intervenes in behavior and spaces and subjects them to power logics that use technological design to appropriate and privatize common goods. Like other technologies, AI is not neutral; it is part of an extractive capitalism that, beyond its enormous benefits, can also deepen asymmetries and injustices: social, economic, legal-political and environmental inequalities. Over the past decade, as international documents and numerous national/regional strategies show, AI regulations have become a key issue for global geopolitics. Thus, many countries have made progress on national strategies and even some powers and regions, such as the United States, China or the European Union, have also made progress in regulating AI to promote their socio-economic development, defend technological sovereignty and protect their citizens/populations.

In Latin America, and particularly in Argentina, these political initiatives did not go unnoticed. In Argentina, it is clear that it is possible to identify several recommendations, public policies and Bills that seek to regulate AI. The survey conducted shows that these initiatives are not new and have been on political agendas since at least 2018. Another interesting point of the survey is that it allows us to identify that public policies and AI regulations begin to accelerate from 2022 (that is, after the COVID-19 pandemic): regulatory attempts reach their highest volume from the first half of 2023 (in a year of presidential elections in Argentina). Although this is an ongoing investigation, the article provides a clearer picture of what is being discussed, planned and implemented regarding AI in Argentina (taking into account both the initiatives linked to the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch).

The report developed towards the end of Mauricio Macri's administration (2015-2019), ArgenIA, does not deserve further analysis: it is a document prepared to comply with something that "was fashionable". ArgenIA was published on the last day of Macri's presidency, with no budget allocation and discouraging public regulations on AI. On the other hand, much richer in political expressions, the administration of Alberto Fernández (2019-2023) can indeed show numerous initiatives on AI. Initially, his administration opted for the creation of CAMIA with the intention that it could accompany Argentina's geopolitical

positioning in terms of AI: that is, on the one hand, adherence to the recommendations of UNESCO and other international agencies (close to Europe and distant from AI powers such as the United States, China and Russia) and, on the other, the inclusion of the country within the Global Compact on AI (GPAI) which, since the end of 2022, has been inactive and even outside the policies of the United States or the United Kingdom. And, although the initial planning of the Secretariat of Strategic Affairs and the CAMIA initiative did not achieve the expected results, from 2023 onwards, IDB financing for AI was directed towards MINCyT – R&D&I Agency.

However, Alberto Fernández's administration may show several more initiatives that involve AI. Among others, the implementation of the TINA Chatbot has been described, the publication of recommendations on AI (from the Secretariat of Public Innovation, JGM), a program on the economy of language and AI (Undersecretariat of Knowledge Economy, Ministry of Economy), a roadmap on data science and AI in the State (Sadosky Foundation – MINCyT), the "Recommendations for a Reliable Artificial Intelligence" (Undersecretariat of Information Technologies, SIP – JGM) and the Program for transparency and protection of personal data in the use of AI of the AAIP.

Of all the initiatives surveyed by the Executive Branch, at least two consider and have a good treatment of strategic issues. The first of these is the National Defense Policy Directive (NDPD), which identifies an increase in military uses of AI (in addition to robots, autonomous systems, machine learning, 5G technologies and quantum computing). At the beginning of 2023, the Ministry of Defense approved its Cyber Defense Policy and already has a Cyber Defense Management Supervision and Control Center and a Defense Critical Information Infrastructure Committee. Cyber defense policies may be, so far, the only precedent where national industries and technological sovereignty are actually promoted. The other notable precedent is the creation of the MIIA, within the Office of the Chief of Ministers. The MIIA could be a good step towards the creation of a national strategy on AI by the end of 2023 and the beginning of the next administration starting on December 10, 2023.

In relation to the Draft Resolutions and Draft Laws referred to the National Congress, it is possible to note a movement similar to that described for the initiatives of the Executive Branch. Projects started in 2018, reached a higher volume after the pandemic in 2022 and showed a significant increase during 2023. The survey also shows that there are several draft laws and resolutions on AI that must be addressed in the immediate future, but under a new configuration of the chambers (starting on December 10, 2023). Of the thirteen projects analyzed, only four focus on regulating specific issues (criminal law matters or those related to science and technology) and the remaining nine have a broader view to regulate the AI phenomenon within the national territory. However, these are limited and somewhat ambiguous initiatives in relation to such a complex subject. For the moment, they only seem to be simple drafts, which do not communicate with

each other (they seem like pieces of different puzzles) and whose parliamentary outcome is uncertain.

In short, the survey carried out in the article allows us to identify that, to date, both public policies and, in particular, AI regulations in Argentina, can be characterized as “inertial” (they imitate and accompany the solutions proposed by other countries / regions), “fragmented” (they deal with loose, dispersed or specific issues) and with “scarce results” (as is the case with the CAMIA initiative). With a few exceptions, such as defence and cyber-defence policies or the construction of the MIIA, the general scheme surveyed shows the absence of a national strategy on AI. An absence that, if it continues in the coming years, could lead to the loss of resources and irrelevant, dilatory or tangential discussions. Argentina needs to stop discussing the AI agendas of other countries/regions and focus on designing and implementing its own national AI strategy based on technological sovereignty and the defense of national interests.

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