MAIGS
MEGHALAYA AI FOR GOOD SOCIETY

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AI ETHICS CHARTER

Guiding Principles for Responsible AI Development

VERSION
1.0

DATE
November 2025

STATUS
Active Charter

ALIGNMENT
EU AI Act, UNESCO AI Ethics, Montreal Declaration, IndiaAI Mission

> "Artificial Intelligence must serve humanity, not replace it."

Artificial Intelligence is transforming every aspect of human society - from healthcare and education to governance and commerce. This transformation brings unprecedented opportunities to solve complex challenges, but also introduces significant risks if not developed and deployed responsibly.

The MAIGS AI Ethics Charter establishes guiding principles to ensure that AI systems are developed and used in ways that respect human dignity, protect fundamental rights, and promote societal well-being. These principles apply universally - to researchers, developers, policymakers, businesses, and anyone working with AI technologies.

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WHY ETHICS MATTER

AI systems are not neutral tools. They embody the values, biases, and priorities of those who create them. Without ethical guidance, AI can perpetuate and amplify existing social biases, violate privacy, and exclude marginalized communities. This Charter provides a roadmap for avoiding these pitfalls while maximizing AI's potential to create positive social impact.

SCOPE OF APPLICATION

SYSTEMS	SECTORS	STAKEHOLDERS
Machine learning, Deep learning, NLP, Computer vision, Robotics, Autonomous systems.	Healthcare, Education, Finance, Governance, Agriculture, Environment.	Researchers, Developers, Businesses, Governments, NGOs, End users.

Core Principles

TRANSPARENCY & EXPLAINABILITY 01

AI systems must be transparent in their operations and explainable in their decision-making processes. Users and affected parties should understand how AI systems work and why they make specific decisions.

WHAT THIS MEANS

- Document capabilities and limitations.
- Disclose when users interact with AI.
- Provide clear explanations for decisions.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Builds trust between users and AI systems.
- Enables accountability for AI outcomes.
- Allows users to challenge unfair decisions.

> **KEY REQUIREMENT**
> Provide documentation explaining the AI system's purpose, functionality, and limitations; Enable independent audits.

FAIRNESS & NON-DISCRIMINATION 02

AI systems must treat all individuals and groups fairly, avoiding discrimination based on protected characteristics such as race, gender, age, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status.

WHAT THIS MEANS

- Use diverse, representative training data.
- Test AI systems for bias across demographics.
- Implement bias mitigation techniques.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Prevents reinforcement of historical inequalities.
- Ensures equal access to opportunities.
- Protects fundamental human rights.

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Core Principles (Cont.)

PRIVACY & DATA PROTECTION 03

AI systems must respect individual privacy and protect personal data throughout the entire data lifecycle.

REQUIREMENTS

- Collect only necessary data with consent.
- Implement strong security measures.
- Allow individuals access to their data.

ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNANCE 04

Clear lines of responsibility must exist. Organizations must be accountable for their systems' impacts.

REQUIREMENTS

- Designate responsible parties.
- Establish governance frameworks.
- Create mechanisms for redress.

HUMAN OVERSIGHT & CONTROL 05

AI systems must remain under meaningful human control. Humans should retain the ability to intervene.

REQUIREMENTS

- Design human-in-the-loop controls.
- Require human review for high-stakes decisions.
- Provide kill switches/emergency stops.

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06. SAFETY & SECURITY

AI systems must be safe, reliable, and secure. They should be rigorously tested to prevent harm.

- Rigorous testing before deployment.
- Robust cybersecurity.
- Fail-safe mechanisms.

07. INCLUSIVITY

AI systems must be accessible to all people. Teams should reflect diverse perspectives.

- Design for accessibility (WCAG).
- Diverse development teams.
- Consider marginalized groups.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

STAGE	ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS
Research & Design	Define purpose, assess risks, engage stakeholders.
Data Collection	Obtain consent, ensure privacy, use diverse datasets.
Development	Build transparent AI systems, implement bias mitigation.
Deployment	Communicate transparently, establish accountability.
Monitoring	Track performance, audit for bias, respond to incidents.

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MAIGS

"Ethics is not a constraint on innovation - it is the foundation for sustainable progress."

MEGHALAYA AI FOR GOOD SOCIETY (MAIGS)
www.maigs.org | maigs.official@gmail.com