


# Chapter 10

## Ethical Implications of Artificial Intelligence in Countering Violent Extremism

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### ABSTRACT

*This chapter explores the ethical dimensions of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in countering violent extremism (CVE), highlighting its transformative impact on intelligence, security, and public policy. As AI becomes integral to surveillance, predictive analysis, and decision-making processes, states face the dual challenge of enhancing national security while upholding democratic values and human rights. The author critically examines the tension between state control and individual freedoms in the age of algorithmic governance, where the boundaries of privacy, freedom of expression, and ethical responsibility are increasingly blurred. Through a discussion of regulatory frameworks, including the EU AI Act, the chapter argues for a balanced approach that legitimizes AI in CVE while ensuring robust safeguards and ethical accountability. It ultimately calls for the development of international norms and adaptive legal structures to prevent misuse and foster trust in AI-driven security mechanisms.*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The concept of violent extremism in the modern world has transformed into a complex phenomenon that is far from being solved with each passing day. It is an inclusion of socio-political issues in inequality and historical enmity and altogether is a challenge posed at the world resulting in extremist acts and consequences. During the past few years, the phenomenon of violent extremism has become even more frequent and intense. From countries like Nigeria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, and all the way to Pakistan, terror attacks have been recorded, resulting in around 26000 fatalities (Institute for Economics & Peace, 2022).

To solve this pertinent issue, AI has recently been identified as a possible innovative solution as far as the management of this much-needed reform is concerned. AI capacity to handle large volumes of data, its pattern recognition and other predictive scenarios that can reveal imminent dangers in relation to extremism has made it an important role player. However, this application of AI is not without big ethical dilemmas on the use of AI in fighting violent extremism. Some of the issues that are brought by the use of AI technologies includes invasion of privacy, surveillance, and potential abuse by state and non-state actors. Finally, security involves conflict of interest since it always involves the protection of an individual's rights. (Borum, 2011)

It is for this reason that the ethical procedures of AI use in countering extremism are highly contested, because it is believed that the usage of AI might increase problems rather than reducing them. Altogether, using AI in the fight against violent extremism can and should be beneficial, but it has to be done while paying attention to the certain ethical considerations. The upcoming sections of this book chapter will explore the challenge of violent extremism globally, the ethical shortcomings in addressing this challenge worldwide, the philosophies behind the need of ethics for AI, global case studies to learn from, ethical dilemmas of AI in general, and the need for Global collaboration for a successful ethical AI framework. The chapter further provides considerable recommendations, a future outlook and a way forward.

### **The Global Challenge of Violent Extremism**

The phenomenon of violent extremism has transformed into a complex and widespread phenomenon that is being observed in societies of different countries. It is not what is the product of short-lived ideological passion, but is tied up with socio-political issues, inequality, and historical enmity. During the past few years, the phenomenon of violent extremism has become even more frequent and intense. Topping the list of countries with the highest terror-related deaths is Nigeria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, and Pakistan respectively, as confirmed by the GTI 2022 report

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