

Athens, 24 May 2024

ICBSS Webinar

The use of Artificial Intelligence in Education: friend or foe?

On 22 May 2024, the International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) successfully organised the Webinar **"The use of Artificial Intelligence in Education: friend or foe?"**, held online.

Under the moderation of **Mr. Stavros KALOGNOMOS**, Executive Secretary of the CPMR Balkan and Black Sea Commission, panellists **Dr. Funda ALPTEKIN** and **Prof. Dr. Ömer DELIALIOĞLU** of Middle East Technical University (Türkiye) and **Mr. Prodromos MARKOPOULOS** Education Manager at Eduk8 (Greece) discussed the advantages and emerging challenges from the increasing use of AI in education.

The panellists acknowledged the importance of AI tools for improving the educational processes for both professionals and students, however, they raised concerns on the emerging risks from the uncritical overreliance to AI tools, especially for students. As highlighted by speakers, it is essential for students to stay cognitively engaged and be guided towards less automated research approaches. At the same time, the ethical aspects and the existing biases of information are placed high in the agenda of AI risks and should be regulated at policy level.

Contributing to the discussion, ICBSS Junior Project Manager, **Ms. Elpida Besi**, presented the initial results from the online survey on the use of AI, conducted by ICBSS. While 60% of respondents have used an AI tool to facilitate the work, they raised concerns on plagiarism, reduced human interaction and cognitive limitations, as well as, on potential staff displacement by the AI and inequalities in AI access. Most respondents (80%) noted the need for students to be comprehensively educated about the ethical use of AI to make AI an enemy rather that a foe for learning processes.

For more information: <u>https://icbss.org/event/webinar-the-use-of-ai-in-education/</u>

Complete the survey: <u>https://forms.gle/yPj6bSxbfykfhejN9</u>

Watch the webinar: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6-M1E9bxzk&t=20s&ab_channel=ICBSSorg

About the ICBSS: The International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) was founded in 1998 as a non-profit organisation. It has since fulfilled a dual function. On the one hand, it is an independent research and training institution focusing on the wider Black Sea region. On the other hand, it is a related body of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), and its think-tank. Thus, the ICBSS pursues applied, policy-oriented research, promotes knowledge on the Black Sea region both within and outside its boundaries, and offers policy advice with the aim of fostering multilateral cooperation among the BSEC member states as well as with their international partners.

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