



• **CALL FOR PAPERS** •

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OUR HUMAN FUTURE WITH AGENTIC AI
DEBATING POLICY, ETHICS, AND THE PUBLIC GOOD

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Leading tech firms and developers are exploring a new mode of generative Artificial Intelligence that goes beyond now-familiar static chatbots that simply answer people's questions or generate digital content. So-called **Agentic AI** systems are virtual assistants capable of planning and executing complex, multi-step tasks on behalf of a user, with minimal human supervision. AI agents can process simple user prompts (e.g., "Plan and book my family holidays") to "strategize," "reason," and make "decisions," managing whole activities from start to finish, by accessing personal or company information, contact lists, and financial accounts, utilizing digital tools like internet search and email, and making real economic transactions. Agentic AI systems suggest a human future with more autonomous, dynamic, and humanlike AI systems that perform a wide range of activities for us, without needing our continual oversight and control.

Agentic AI taps into a long-standing techno-optimism that intelligent machines and automation will liberate humans from difficult or tedious aspects of work and daily life, making labor more productive and life more convenient, while freeing up time for creative and meaningful activities.

Agentic AI systems also raise serious philosophical, anthropological, ethical, and political questions about the future of human agency and moral responsibility, the preservation of human judgment and critical intelligence, the nature and place of work in human life, the impact of AI on face-to-face personal relationships, the integration of AI into military systems and warfare, how more autonomous AI systems may impact public administration and democracy, and the proper balance of human activity and automation in society, generally.

This special interdisciplinary edition of the RPF, organized in collaboration with CIEP-UCP and LED-UCP, invites submissions of essays addressing the philosophical, anthropological, ethical, and societal implications of agentic AI, as well as essays outlining and assessing frameworks for governing agentic AI in different fields. Submissions may address questions including, *but not limited to*, the following:

PHILOSOPHICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL QUESTIONS

- How are human agents and AI agents different? That is, how are the intelligent capacities of agentic AI systems similar to, and different from, the intelligent capacities of human beings?
- Do popular ways of describing and conceptualizing agentic AI systems anthropomorphize them, projecting on to them human qualities that they lack (e.g., "reasoning," "decision-making," "agency")? If so, is this a problem?

Submission deadline: 31st October 2026

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- New technologies can influence the skills, thoughts, desires, and emotions of their users. How might more autonomous and agentic AI systems change the human beings who use them—for good or ill?
- If people rely on AI agents to perform an increasing number of daily tasks, how can we ensure that we do not “outsource” or “offload” our own cognition and decision-making to AI, especially in morally significant situations?
- In the longer term, does the rise of more autonomous and agentic AI systems risk making humans excessively dependent upon automation technologies—do these technologies even rendering human agency, as such, superfluous?

ETHICAL QUESTIONS

- AI agents may improve life by automating repetitive and tedious tasks. But are there certain tasks that only humans can responsibly perform?
- Does agentic AI present a fundamental risk to human control, skill, judgment, and moral responsibility in different fields? Or can the challenges raised by agentic AI be solved by technical, practical, or regulatory means?
- People are already developing emotional and (quasi-)social relationships with generative AI chatbots, how will integrating agentic capabilities into chatbots influence this controversial technological trend?
- Which moral restrictions and legal safeguards should apply in the use of agentic AI systems in personal life, the workplace, public administration, and national security?
- What broader normative—ethical and political—values should guide the development and use of agentic AI systems in public and private life?

SOCIETAL-POLITICAL AND GOVERNANCE QUESTIONS

- As people start to integrate AI agents and assistants into their daily lives, how might our politics, legal institutions, social relations, and sense of civic belonging change?
- What new challenges should we prepare for—like agentic manipulation by bad actors, wide-scale economic disruption, or unintentional damage to the social fabric?
- How can philosophical ethics, public policy, or law and regulation contribute to protecting fundamental rights and democratic values in a world where AI systems operate more autonomously?
- There have been dozens of proposed normative frameworks and lists of ethical principles for governing AI offered in recent years by major tech firms like Google, Microsoft, and IBM, along with institutions like the OECD, UNESCO, the EU, and the Vatican. Are these proposals on the right track, or do they miss the real benefits and/or challenges presented by AI, particularly agentic AI? On what basis can we choose among different and competing proposals for ethically governing agentic AI?

Submissions are welcome from the fields of philosophy, political theory, political science, ethics, public policy, technology studies, and related fields. Submissions will be assessed by their relevance to agentic AI, methodological rigor, clarity of argumentation and writing, and originality and significance of contribution to the field.



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