PEOPLE NEED DATA JUSTICE

Policy recommendations for advancing data justice

Unregulated, technology recreates existing biases. This means communities and individuals can be misrepresented, erased and harmed.

Data justice policy challenges systemic bias to make sure people are treated justly, economically and socially, when data about them or created by them is used in transformative tech like AI. That includes requiring fair and transparent action from AI companies and practitioners, when data is extracted, generated, collected and used by businesses, other individuals, communities or governments.

Data justice means AI should be built, governed and used in line with principles of equity, inclusion, fair redress and economic justice. It requires policymaking to move beyond compliance, technical definitions and individual privacy to consider and protect human experiences and collective identities.

GPAI's full policy recommendations for advancing data justice: **gpai.ai/projects/data-governance/data-justice**.

Next steps for data justice…

GPAI fosters international cooperation, bringing together experts from science, industry, civil society, governments, international organisations and academia.

GPAI recognises that data justice policy must be interrogated to make sure it is grounded in ethical principles and human rights and considers economic regulation and ways to promote informed consent; collective decision making and public accountability. Work with GPAI to bridge the gap between theory and practice in data justice policy.

For data justice events, resources, recommendations and research: **gpai.ai** or **data-justice@ceimia.org**.

Make your voice heard #PeopleNeedDataJustice

Read the Data Justice Policy Brief:
https://gpai.ai/projects/data-governance/data-justice-policy-brief-putting-data-justice-into-practice.pdf

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How can we advance data justice?

A voice from… BOLIVIA
"The biggest risk is, it seems to me, that we will completely lose self determination with respect to our scope of action and freedoms online."
Cristian Leon
InternetBolivia.org Foundation

A voice from… CHILE
"At least in terms of laws in Chile, we should reform the data protection law before we start talking about an AI law."
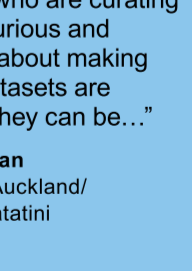**Maria Paz Hermosilla**
GobLab UAI

A voice from… PAKISTAN
"Without a larger understanding of data justice, that advocates for community-driven control and ownership of data, systems of surveillance and control will continue to harm communities that are most vulnerable."
Shmyla Khan
Digital Rights Foundation

A voice from… INDIA
"There should be more involvement of different social justice movements when we are discussing data."
Jenny Sulfath
Digital Empowerment Foundation

A voice from… USA
"Developing data governance approaches that show genuine respect for people across countries and cultures is a central challenge for our age."
Dewey Murdick
Georgetown University

A voice from… MEXICO
"[Sustainability] is not a national problem… it's a global problem. And if we do not support these countries with enough technology and data availability, it will be a problem for all of us…"
Octavio Perez Maqueo
Institute of Ecology, INECOL

A voice from… MEXICO
"The concepts of open data as a responsibility of governments and, in general, of institutions is something to be fostered. I think that is a very important component of a democratic stance."
Miguel Equihua
Institute of Ecology, INECOL

A voice from… NEW ZEALAND
"We need decision-makers and people who are curating data to be curious and responsible about making sure their datasets are as good as they can be…"
Mike O'Sullivan
University of Auckland/ Te Pūnaha Matatini

A voice from… UGANDA
"It's not a one shoe size fit for issues in our community. We have to still involve every stakeholder, the academia… the government… different communities because they are affected differently."
Esther Nyapendi
Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET)

A voice from… KENYA
"Increased adoption of AI tools mean increased levels of datafication in Africa. The increasing number of communities using these tools should guide the conversation around data justice going forward."
Angeline Wairegi
Centre for Intellectual Property & Information Technology Law (CIPIT)

● GPAI member countries
● Non-GPAI contributors

This document was developed by experts and specialists involved in the GPAI project on Advancing Data Justice.

Sample of contributions from the follow-up consultation to the GPAI Advancing Data Justice project. These global voices offer independent views from their regions on the drivers and constraints for advancing data justice policy.

Find out about GPAI membership: **gpai.ai/community**.

How can international collaboration help progress data justice globally?

Global voices for data justice

Data Justice Canvas

[Alpha]

1. Equitable access and benefits

What examples of material inequality and structural exclusion exist?

How can effective data justice also guarantee equitable access to benefits from data generation and use?

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2. Ensure democratic participation

Which communities or individuals are negatively impacted by data injustice in your region?

How can you build participation into all elements of system design?

3. Move beyond one-size-fits-all

What local nuances and differences have you explored in your data justice policy work?

What contextual stories do you have which might help others build their inclusive data justice policy?

4. Centre human and community rights

What regulatory frameworks already safeguard people's rights?

Consider greater access (commons, mechanism to overcome commercial exclusion) and equitable participation and representation (redress, positive discrimination).

5. Mandate fair practice

In what ways can you update your trade, competition and antitrust laws to respond to the implications of data justice?

What actions might you need to take to effectively prevent data hoarding and address anti-competitive practices?

6. Consider equitable alternatives

What alternative or responsible models have you explored to help ensure data is managed in the collective interest?

7. Local sovereignty; global needs

How can you identify the rights, literacy, skills and data infrastructure of local communities and individuals?

How can you consider local sovereignty while also bearing in mind globalised and cross-border dataflows that enhance local or public value?

How can you influence global organisations to encourage cooperation and solidarity?

8. Enshrine workers' rights

How can existing labour and human rights be safeguarded for platform and AI workers?

What should we prioritise when advancing workers' rights?

9. Transparency by default

What are the most just ways to make sure information on how data is collected, used and generated is available publicly?

Are local citizens and impacted communities able to find out how their data is used and stored and who is benefitting from it?

10. Protect and enable restorative justice and redress

How can redress be centred in local, national and global legal frameworks?

What are the most impactful ways of demarcating data users' responsibilities?

About this canvas...

We've designed this prototype data justice tool to encourage collaboration and enable meaningful conversations about incorporating the ideas of data justice into policy.

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This document was developed by experts and specialists involved in the GPAI project on Advancing Data Justice.

Canvas conceived by PHILPOTT Design

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