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**Iceland Delegation to the General Assembly First Committee**  
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## **Delegation From Iceland**

### **Topic: Artificial Intelligence and the International System**

Iceland is among the leading countries in the world in digital services. Iceland considers Artificial Intelligence (AI) a transformative technology with possible economic advantages and difficulties. Iceland formally acknowledges the importance of AI in fostering innovation and economic advancement and is committed to investing in research and development. Our Objective: To develop and promote using artificial intelligence to serve humans.<sup>1</sup> The Government of Iceland recognizes concerns regarding job displacement, data privacy, and ethics and actively participates in AI regulation and standards discussions. Iceland views AI as enhancing public services like healthcare and education while prioritizing ethical and responsible utilization. Iceland prioritizes international cooperation, human rights, and ethical considerations in AI development.

#### **I. The Potential of AI**

The Delegation of Iceland sees potential in Domestic and international cooperation—through the nordic council of Ministers (NCM). The Government of Iceland has designated 5M-20M (Million) to expand to meet societal and economic changes brought by about new technology.<sup>2</sup> Digital Iceland, founded in 2018, is a national project dedicated to improving digital services in Iceland, with a focus on accessibility, simplicity, and speed.<sup>3</sup> The organization offers digital core services to public institutions, provides advisory services for digital transformation, and enhances public service offerings domestically. It engages in international initiatives such as the Nordic-Baltic cooperation and projects within the Nordic Council of Ministers – DIGITAL committee, emphasizing cross-border digital services and eID interoperability. The Government of Iceland promotes a Digital Green Transition,<sup>4</sup> which seeks to efficiently lower carbon emissions by utilizing digital services and data.

#### **II. The Commitment of Iceland to Responsible AI**

Iceland acknowledges the significance of advocating for ethical AI development that adheres to human rights, values privacy, and encourages transparency and accountability. Iceland is dedicated to developing and utilizing AI technologies, such as Cloud computing,<sup>5</sup> allowing users to self-serve online at any time. Cloud IT services are flexible, accessible, measurable, shared, and self-directed. Service users are independent but share a service provider's technical infrastructure. The Government of Iceland believes that cloud computing will create increased security of information systems and data and improve efficient and agile services.

#### **III. Priorities for Modern Action**

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<sup>1</sup> (OECD AI Policy Observatory. ACTION PLAN for ICELAND in the FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, 2022)

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> ("The Government of Iceland. Policies" n.d.)

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> ("Cloud Policy of the Icelandic Public Sector | Digital Iceland" n.d.)



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Digital Policy on AI. The government published a strategy for digital public services in July 2021.<sup>6</sup> The government prioritizes promoting digital services to position Iceland as a leading nation in digital public services worldwide. The leading strategy for strong foreign cooperation<sup>7</sup> It is based on the Government's Action Plan for the Promotion of Digital Services, adopted in May 2019, and its stated objectives that digital communications should be the primary public communication channel. Iceland has also joined the Nordic Joint Declaration (Digital North). One of our goals for 2027 is to maintain being ranked first in the world for basic or above-average digital competence.<sup>8</sup> We propose the subsequent action priorities to achieve this goal:

1. Promoting Ethical AI and Safer Infrastructure: Information technology system operation is disciplined and based on international standards. Technology infrastructure promotes safety, efficiency, and innovation. Practical data transfer and access control technology is the most secure. The sensitivity and security of public sector data determine its handling. Standard solutions, where there is extensive knowledge and experience, underpin public sector systems.
2. Increased Competitiveness: Companies and the public can easily access public entity information about the individual. Technology like digital service channels and AI is known to society. Digital infrastructure can boost democracy, interactivity, and public consultation. Public sector data is accessible and practical for privacy and consent. We can develop digital services and innovative solutions with diverse companies and experts using open-source software. Legislation allows digital services and communication.

#### IV. Conclusion

Iceland is a leader in digital services, acknowledging the revolutionary possibilities of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and making substantial investments in its advancement and conscientious application. Iceland is dedicated to advancing cross-border cooperation, fostering innovation, and enhancing digital services via partnerships with international organizations such as the Nordic Council of Ministers and initiatives such as Digital Iceland. Human rights and ethical considerations are prioritized in developing artificial intelligence, and the nation's strategy for digital public services demonstrates its determination to maintain its leadership position in this field. Iceland remains a leader in developing prudent and inventive AI implementations on a global scale, emphasizing on advancing ethical AI, ensuring the security of infrastructure, and bolstering competitiveness.

Thank you and Þetta Reddast.

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<sup>6</sup> ("The Government of Iceland. Policies" n.d.)

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.



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## **Delegation From Iceland**

### **Topic: Cybercrimes and Human Security**

Iceland considers cyber crimes a significant threat to human security and has taken steps to tackle this problem. Iceland has a national cybersecurity strategy that entails cooperation among government agencies, the private sector, and other stakeholders. Our societies increasingly rely on a free, open, and safe digital environment; it is an integral part of our lives, connecting people, communities, and economies. However, it also makes us more vulnerable to criminal acts, disinformation, and surveillance. Cybercrime is on the rise and does not respect borders, targeting individuals, businesses, and governments; we need to strengthen international cooperation to address this global challenge.<sup>9</sup> This strategy seeks to enhance cyber resilience, secure critical infrastructure, and protect personal data by implementing laws and regulations. The Government of Iceland believes it is also essential to end impunity for cybercrime and enhance internet safety for at-risk users, including children and young people, among those most engaged and connected online in today.<sup>10</sup> Iceland is involved in global initiatives to address cybercrime and advocates for public awareness and education regarding cybersecurity matters. other nations' capacity-building initiatives to strengthen their cyber defences.

#### **I. The Growing Threat of Cyber Crimes**

Cybercrimes, including cyberattacks, cyber espionage, and cyber terrorism, pose a significant threat to the security and well-being of individuals, communities, and nations. These crimes can have far-reaching consequences, including financial losses, damage to critical infrastructure, and violations of privacy and human rights. The Government of Iceland believes crime prevention is crucial to a thorough security strategy. The European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN) unites all 27 EU Member States to gather exemplary strategies for crime prevention and provide focused policy papers and toolkits for professionals in particular crime domains. These encompass organized property crime, human trafficking, and cybercrime. The EUCPN contributes to EMPACT, a platform that unites EU Member States, EU Institutions, Agencies, international organizations, and third countries to create operational responses to organized crime.<sup>11</sup>

#### **II. Iceland's Commitment to Cyber Security**

Iceland recognizes the importance of promoting cyber security to protect individuals and societies from the threats posed by cybercrimes. As a country that values freedom and security, Iceland is committed to promoting responsible cyber behaviour, enhancing cyber defences, and strengthening international cooperation to address cyber threats. In 2021, the OSCE participating States have expressed their common resolve to prevent and counter transnational threats. Through a comprehensive approach, to prevent and counter violent extremism and

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<sup>9</sup> (Ad Hoc Committee Against Cybercrime, 2022)

<sup>10</sup> (Joint-Statement on the WDATIP, 2022)

<sup>11</sup> (EUROPEAN UNION OSCE Annual Security Review Conference. Working Session I: EU Statement on Transnational Threats -Current and Future Trends in the OSCE Area and Beyond 2021)



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radicalization, enhance cyber/ICT security and combat organized crime.<sup>12</sup> The Government of Iceland has developed the Icelandic National Cybersecurity Strategy 2022-2037<sup>13</sup> with the goals of exceptional competence and utilization of cybersecurity technology and a secure internet environment. The dynamic nature of the cybersecurity environment and the rapid evolution of cybersecurity issues necessitate a legal and regulatory structure that safeguards the interests of private entities, individuals, and society. Cybersecurity reinforcement is subsequently enforced by law enforcement, with the participation of society as a whole.<sup>14</sup>

### III. Conclusion

Iceland acknowledges the paramount significance of confronting cybercrime as a significant peril to human security. The government has implemented a comprehensive approach to safeguard personal information, build cyber resilience, and ensure the integrity of critical infrastructure via its National Cybersecurity Strategy. As a result of cybercrime's global nature, international cooperation and concerted effort are necessary. Iceland actively engages in international endeavours aimed at addressing cybercrime, promoting cybersecurity education and public awareness, and assisting other countries in developing their cybersecurity capabilities. The Government of Iceland believes collaboration allows the establishment of a more secure and protected digital environment for all.

Thank you and Þetta Reddast.

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<sup>12</sup> (EUROPEAN UNION OSCE Annual Security Review Conference. Working Session I: EU Statement on Transnational Threats -Current and Future Trends in the OSCE Area and Beyond 2021)

<sup>13</sup> (Government of Iceland, 2022)

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.



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