



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Ursula von der Leyen
The President

Brussels, 29 MARS 2021
Ares (2021) 1689876

Dear Honourable Member,

I would like to thank you and your co-signatories for your letter addressed to Executive Vice-President Vestager, to Vice-President Jourová, to Commissioners Breton, Dalli and Reynders, and to myself concerning the upcoming legislative proposal of the Commission on artificial intelligence (AI).

I very much appreciate the multiple contributions of the European Parliament to our work on AI. I am looking forward to further cooperating closely with the European Parliament on this important topic.

Let me reconfirm at the outset our commitment to presenting a legislative proposal on trustworthy AI in the coming months. This upcoming proposal will be based on the White Paper on AI of 19 February 2020 and the subsequent public consultation, to which we received more than 1200 submissions.

It is my strong conviction that, whatever the issue at stake may be, Europe must stand up to defend its core values. Your letter provides me with the opportunity to recall my personal commitment to ensure the effective enforcement of fundamental rights in the EU while promoting the potential of ground-breaking digital technologies at the same time.

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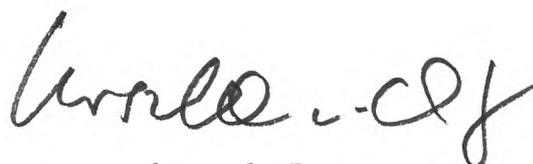
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I would like to assure you that the Commission takes your concerns regarding the protection of fundamental rights very seriously. With our forthcoming legal proposal, we aim at promoting an AI that is transparent and trustworthy.

We envisage mandatory rules applicable to all AI systems that pose a high risk to the rights or safety of people. In the case of applications that would be simply incompatible with fundamental rights, we may need to go further.

We want AI to flourish in Europe, in order to reap the many benefits that this technology offers. Our approach towards AI is positive, provided it is developed and deployed under conditions that respect our rights and values.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ursula von der Leyen', written in a cursive style.

Ursula von der Leyen