Digitalization and AI in Anti-corruption Efforts: Legal Challenges, Ethical Considerations, and Future Implications

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Abstract

This research explores the role of Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in detecting, preventing, and predicting corruption, addressing both their potential and the legal challenges they present. Traditional anti-corruption mechanisms rely heavily on human intervention, yet they often suffer from inefficiency, limited adaptability. Meanwhile, AI-driven technologies have emerged as powerful tools for enhancing fraud detection, financial monitoring, and procurement oversight. The study further examines how the new technologies expand these capabilities by enabling predictive analytics to anticipate corruption risks before they materialize, offering a more proactive approach to combating corruption. However, the deployment of AI in anti-corruption efforts raises legal and ethical concerns, particularly regarding the black-box nature of AI models, algorithmic bias, and transparency. To mitigate these risks, this study discusses the importance of accountability and regulatory enforcement, emphasizing the need for robust legal frameworks, clear regulatory standards, and ethical guidelines for AI implementation. The research concludes that while AI has the potential to revolutionize anti-corruption efforts, its success depends on strong legal safeguards and responsible governance.

Keywords: a*rtificial intelligence, digitalization, anti-corruption, legal frameworks, algorithmic bias, transparency, governance.*

JEL Classification: K14, K24

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1. Context: Why Fighting Corruption Matters

Corruption remains a serious global challenge that significantly holds back economic growth, erodes investor confidence, and diminishes national

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productivity in many countries[2]. This negative impact on economic growth is further supported by World Bank studies, which suggest that when countries make progress in reducing corruption (as shown by better scores on corruption indexes), they often experience stronger or faster economic growth at the same time. Which means that, improvements in measures of corruption and growth accelerations tend to go hand-in-hand as the two trends support each other[3]. Therefore, less corruption usually leads to better use of public money, more trust from investors, and more efficient institutions, all of which help the economy grow. On the other hand, when the economy grows quickly, countries have more resources and capacity to improve governance and reduce corruption.

Therefore, as a persistent societal illness corruption continues to cause harm around the world by weakening public institutions, eroding trust in government, limiting access to essential services, and deepening social and economic inequalities[4]. It diverts public resources away from development priorities, fuels injustice, and often leaves the most vulnerable members of society without protection or opportunity[5].

According to the 2024 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) published by Transparency International, more than two-thirds of the 180 countries assessed scored below 50 out of 100, indicating serious levels of public sector corruption. More precisely, 118 countries scored below 50, which represents approximately 66% of all countries evaluated. These results highlight the persistence of corruption worldwide and emphasize the continued need for strong efforts to combat this issue[6].

Recognizing the systemic and destructive nature of corruption, the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC, 2005) has provided a comprehensive framework and set of recommendations to guide Member States in their efforts to prevent and combat corruption effectively.

In response to the systemic and pervasive harm resulting from corruption, and considering its serious consequences for countries' development, modern

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[2] Per Aarvik, 2019. *Artificial Intelligence – a promising anti-corruption tool in development settings?,* Bergen: CMI - CHR Michelsen Institute, (U4 Report 2019:1), p. 23, https://www.u4.no/publications/artificial-intelligence-a-promising-anti-corruption-tool-in-development-settings, accessed on 27.05.2025.

[3] World Bank Group Flagship Report (2025), *Global Economic Prospects*, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank, Washington, DC, p. 175-180, https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/f983c12d-d43c-4e41-997e-252ec6b87dbd/content, accessed on 27.05.2025.

[4] Ousmane Diagana & Mouhamadou Diagne (2023). *La corruption est un problème mondial pour le développement. Pour la combattre, nous avons tous un rôle à jouer.* La Tribune Afrique, June 2023, https://www.banquemondiale.org/fr/news/opinion/2023/06/13/corruption-is-a-global-problem-for-developmen t-to-fight-it-we-all-have-a-role-to-play, accessed on 27.05.2025.

[5] Myint, U., 2000, *Corruption: Causes, consequences and cures*. Asia-Pacific Development Journal*,* 7(2), pp. 33-57.

[6] Transparency International. (2024). *Corruption Perceptions Index 2024*. https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2024/index/aze, accessed on 27.05.2025.

technology must be part of the solution to combat it effectively, as researchers demonstrate that anti-corruption policies aimed at reducing discretion and enhancing institutional quality are significantly strengthened by digital tools.

Many experts underline that by significantly reducing human intervention, new technologies minimize opportunities for corruption[7]. This reduction in human intervention improves accuracy and reduces costs associated with manual processing and human error, making processes more efficient. Several studies have explored the application of AI in combating corruption[8] showing how AI has been utilized to detect fraudulent activities, analyze financial transactions, and monitor procurement processes more than ever. Moreover, the use of AI highlights its potential as powerful tools for identifying and preventing corruption, as they can process and analyze complex datasets much faster and more accurately than traditional methods, making them valuable assets in anti-corruption strategies[9].

2. Methodology of Research

The study aims to explore the theoretical foundations of Digitalization and AI its application in detecting, preventing, and potentially predicting corruption. By examining the unique capabilities of recent technologies, which can generate content and identify patterns without human-imposed criteria, this research seeks to understand the relationship between these advanced models and anti-corruption measures.

The methodology involves a comprehensive literature review, conceptual analysis, theoretical modeling, and the evaluation of ethical, legal, and social implications.

The study is guided by the research question of how Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be theoretically and practically applied to detect prevent and predict corruption within a framework considering ethical, legal and social implications.

3. Digitalization Role in Anti-corruption Strategies

Corruption is a complex phenomenon that is difficult to measure directly, as it usually happens in secret. People involved in corruption try to hide their

[7] Nils Köbis, Jean-François Bonnefon. & Iyad Rahwan (2021), „Bad machines corrupt good morals". *Nature Human Behaviour* 5, 679–685. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-021-01128-2.
[8] Félix J. López-Iturriaga, Iván Pastor Sanz (2018), „Predicting Public Corruption with Neural Networks: An Analysis of Spanish Provinces". *Social Indicators Research* 140, 975–998. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-017-1802-2; Fernanda Odilla (2023) „Bots against corruption: Exploring the benefits and limitations of AI-based anti-corruption technology", *Crime, Law and Social Change Journal,* Volume 80(4), pp. 1-44, https://doi.org/10.1007/s10611-023-10091-0.
[9] Per Aarvik, *op. cit.* (2019), p. 24.

actions, so there are no clear records or observable data. In this context, it becomes imperative to adopt innovative approaches to effectively prevent and detect corruption. Traditional methods have often fallen short, necessitating significant human effort[10] and - as a consequence - the exploration of advanced technological solutions.

Boly and Gillanders[11] emphasize that reducing discretion through structured digital transformation can significantly improve institutional quality and reduce corruption. Their experimental evidence also suggests that international cooperation can facilitate the adoption of these tools, leading to more robust anti-corruption frameworks. Similarly, Bajpai and Myers[12] highlight how international cooperation has enabled governments to implement effective digital reforms and streamline administrative processes, making them more transparent and less susceptible to corruption. Building on this, coupling digital technology with robust institutional mechanisms is crucial in the fight against corruption, as it increases the cost of fraud and makes corrupt practices less attractive for actors both inside and outside government[13].

In the digital age, both digitalization and artificial intelligence (AI) play increasingly vital roles in supporting good governance and anti-corruption efforts. Although the two concepts are often used interchangeably, they represent distinct technological processes with different implications. It is therefore important to distinguish between their functions, as each contributes differently to enhancing transparency and integrity in the public sector and plays a unique role in anti-corruption strategies.

Digitalization refers to the transformation of traditional, often manual or paper-based processes into digital formats to enhance efficiency, accessibility, and transparency[14]. Digitalization is boosting efficiency and agility in all sectors, particularly in public one, as it enables governments to streamline workflows, reduce bureaucracy, and provide more reliable services to citizens. Digitalization plays a fundamental role by eliminating manual processes and reducing direct interactions between citizens and public official interactions that can often create

[10] Silver, D., Schrittwieser, J., Simonyan, K. *et al.* „Mastering the game of Go without human knowledge". *Nature* 550, 354–359 (2017). https://doi.org/10.1038/nature24270.

[11] Amadou Boly, Robert Gillanders (2018), „Anti-corruption policy making, discretionary power and institutional quality: An experimental analysis", *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 152, pp. 314-327, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2018.05.007.

[12] Rajni Bajpai, C. Bernard Myers (2020), *Enhancing Government Effectiveness and Transparency: The Fight Against Corruption*, Report, vol. 1, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank, Malaysia, p. 267, https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/235541600116631094/pdf/Enhancing-Government-Effectiveness-and-Transparency-The-Fight-Against-Corruption.pdf, accessed on 27.05.2025.

[13] World Bank Group Flagship Report (2025), *op. cit.,* p. 175-180,

[14] Gartner (2025), Information Technology Glossary. *Digitalization*. https://www.gartner.com/en/information-technology/glossary/digitalization, accessed on 27.05.2025.

opportunities for corruption. By introducing electronic platforms for public procurement, tax declarations, or document management, digitalization enhances traceability, simplifies access to information, nd limits the space for non-transparent practices.

For example, in Romania, the implementation of the National Electronic System for Public Procurement (SEAP/SICAP) illustrates how digitalization enhances efficiency in anti-corruption strategies. By digitalizing the entire public procurement process, SEAP has reduced face-to-face interactions between public officials and bidders, thereby lowering the risk of favoritism and bribery. The system increases transparency by making procurement data publicly accessible, allowing for greater oversight by civil society, media, and regulatory bodies. This has contributed to more competitive bidding and improved accountability in public spending. As of February 2024, Romania's Electronic Public Procurement System (SEAP) has demonstrated significant advancements in digitalizing public procurement processes. The platform is utilized by 22,427 contracting authorities and entities, along with 216,873 economic operators—comprising 212,843 from Romania, 2,833 from other EU countries, and 1,197 from non-EU countries[15]. This extensive adoption has enabled approximately 99% of public procurement procedures to be conducted electronically, substantially reducing opportunities for corruption and enhancing transparency in public spending. These developments underscore Romania's commitment to leveraging digitalization in public procurement to combat corruption, increase efficiency, and foster a more transparent and accountable governance framework.

4. Artificial Intelligence Role in Anti-corruption Strategies

In contrast with digitalization, *Artificial Intelligence (AI)* involves systems capable of mimicking human intelligence - such as learning, reasoning, and decision-making - based on large volumes of data (IBM, n.d.). These systems can identify patterns, predict outcomes, and automate complex tasks, making them highly valuable for detecting fraud, analyzing risks, and supporting evidence-based decision-making in public administration. Artificial intelligence (AI) brings a higher level of intervention through its ability to analyze large volumes of data, detect suspicious patterns, and flag potential corrupt behaviors in real time. For example, in the fight against corruption, AI can be used to identify single-bid tenders, detect conflicts of interest, and assess the likelihood of fraud based on historical contract data. Thus, AI serves not only as a preventive tool but also as a proactive mechanism for early detection and automated intervention in high-risk scenarios.

[15] United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). (2024). *Romania: Contribution to the UNCAC Working Group on Prevention (CU2024-132)*. Retrieved from https://track.unodc.org/uploads/documents/UNCAC/WorkingGroups/workinggroup4/2024-September-3-6/Contributions/CU2024-132/Romania_EN.pdf, accessed on 27.05.2025.

As artificial intelligence (AI) has evolved significantly in recent years, it is now considered an umbrella term[16] that contains other concepts, such as Machine Learning (ML), Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Generative AI (GenAI).

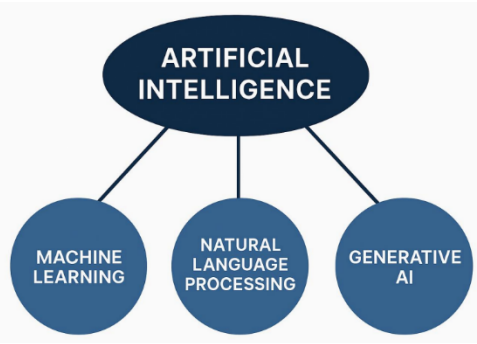

Figure 1. *Specialized Subsets of AI (ML/NLP/GenAI)*

ML models represent a subset that enables machines to learn from data and improve their performance over time without explicit programming for each task[17]; Natural Language Processing (NLP) enables computers to understand interpret generate and respond to human language by combining linguistics computer science and machine learning with common applications including chatbots, machine translation, sentiment analysis, speech recognition and information extraction; while GenAI models are a more specialized subset of AI, dedicated to creating new content- like text, images, or audio- by identifying and replicating patterns from existing data[18]. From this perspective, AI serves as the main field with the capacity to develop intelligent tools[19].

As an artificial intelligence (AI)-based technology, Machine Learning (ML) enables systems to learn from data, identify patterns, and improve their performance over time without being explicitly programmed. In the context of anti-corruption, ML can process large datasets- such as public procurement records, financial transactions, or administrative logs- to detect anomalies that may signal fraudulent behavior. ML models have played a significant role in many industries to combat corruption, by detecting known patterns, irregularities and

[16] Fernanda Odilla (2023), *op. cit*., p. 38.

[17] Ku. Chhaya A. Khanzode, Ravindra D. Sarode (2020), „Advantages and disadvantages of artificial intelligence and machine learning: a literature review", *International Journal of Library and Information Science (IJLIS),* Volume 9, Issue 1, January-April, p. 30-36, https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/GV5T4.

[18] Stefan Feuerriegel, Jochen Hartmann, Christian Janiesch & Patrick Zschech (2024), „Generative AI". *Business & Information Systems Engineering* 66, 111–126. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12599-023-00834-7.

[19] Leonardo Banh & Gero Strobel (2023), „Generative artificial intelligence". *Electron Markets* 33, 63. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12525-023-00680-1.

high-risk scenarios, faster than any other known technology. For instance, ML has been effectively applied to flag irregularities like single-bid tenders or repeated contract awards, both of which are often associated with heightened corruption risk[20]. However, the effectiveness of such technologies depends heavily on the quality of the data they rely on. If the data is biased or outdated, the technology may repeat past mistakes, fail to detect new problems, and overlook emerging patterns or and missing new developments[21], as most ML models work under imposed human criteria for specific purposes.

The PREVENT System, deployed by Romania's National Integrity Agency (ANI), exemplifies effective anti-corruption practices through the use of automation and data analysis techniques inspired by machine learning (ML). It functions as an administrative tool that monitors all ongoing public procurement procedures and contracts, relying on predefined logic and integration with multiple databases to identify potential conflicts of interest. The primary objective of the PREVENT System is to prevent such conflicts of interest by automatically detecting family ties and close connections between bidders and the management of contracting authorities[22].

The application has multiple functions as follows: predictive analysis, management of investigated cases, intelligent analysis, strategic performance management and reporting, database management and decision support databases, application server and tools for technical administration, data integrator (integration with external data sources).

The National Integrity Agency (ANI) was established in 2007, in order to identify, prevent and combat integrity incidents and implemented the PREVENT system, following the adoption of Law no. 184/2016 on the establishment of a mechanism to prevent conflicts of interest in the procedure for the award of public procurement contracts.

Since 2017, through the PREVENT system, the National Integrity Agency analyzed over 117.000 public procurement procedures and issued 197 integrity warnings for potential conflicts of interest in public procurement procedures, amounting to approx. 1.9 billion Euros[23].

The added value of PREVENT System as a comprehensive monitoring

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[20] Erica Bosio, Simeon Djankov, Edward Glaeser & Andrei Shleifer (2022), „Public Procurement in Law and Practice", „American Economic Review", vol. 112, no. 4, April, pp. 1091–1117.

[21] Isabelle Adam, Mihály Fazekas (2021), *Are emerging technologies helping win the fight against corruption? A review of the state of evidence*, „Information Economics and Policy", Volume 57, December, 100950, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infoecopol.2021.100950.

[22] ANI – National Integrity Agency. (2024). *PREVENT System overview*. Retrieved from: https://integritate.eu; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). (2024). *Romania: Contribution to the UNCAC Working Group on Prevention (CU2024-132)*. Retrieved from https://track.unodc.org/uploads/documents/UNCAC/WorkingGroups/workinggroup4/2024-September-3-6/Contributions/CU2024-132/Romania_EN.pdf, accessed on 27.05.2025.

[23] ANI, 2024, *op. cit.*

in public procurement lies in its ability to monitor all public procurement procedures, in contrast to traditional oversight mechanisms that rely on sample-based verification. Sample-based systems typically audit only a portion of contracts — often randomly — leaving significant room for corrupt or high-risk transactions to go unnoticed. By comparison, PREVENT's comprehensive coverage ensures that every procurement procedure is systematically reviewed, dramatically reducing oversight blind spots and the likelihood of undetected irregularities.

Moreover, the PREVENT System functions as an early warning mechanism, aiming to identify and address potential conflicts of interest before contracts are signed. This proactive approach marks a clear departure from the reactive nature of sample-based audits, which often intervene after integrity breaches have already occurred and caused damage.

Another important advantage of the PREVENT System is its systematic and consistent application of integrity rules. By analyzing 100% of procedures based on predefined legal criteria, the system promotes fairness and uniformity, thereby reducing the risk of selective enforcement, political favoritism, or human error in oversight.

Finally, this high level of automation and coverage contributes not only to improved legal compliance but also to greater public trust in procurement processes. In environments where corruption is a persistent challenge, the knowledge that all contracts are subject to the same integrity checks can enhance confidence among citizens, institutions, and external partners such as the European Union[24]. While sample-based systems may appear more cost-efficient in the short term, their limited reach can render them less effective in preventing corruption-related losses.

The PREVENT System shows how key principles from machine learning- such as automation, data integration, and pattern detection—can be effectively applied to fight corruption. It demonstrates that investing in comprehensive, real-time monitoring systems can deliver higher long-term value by preventing the misuse of public funds and supporting broader goals like transparency, accountability, and institutional resilience.

In conclusion, digitalization creates the transparent and efficient framework in which corruption can be limited, while AI provides advanced analytical tools to actively identify and combat corrupt practices. Together, these technologies have the potential to fundamentally transform how public administrations prevent and respond to

Understanding the distinction between these two concepts is important for designing effective anti-corruption strategies. While digitalization lays the groundwork for transparency and accountability, AI adds an advanced layer of

[24] Open Government Partnership. (2023). *Romania's commitments to open contracting*. Retrieved from https://www.opengovpartnership.org/members/romania/, accessed on 27.05.2025.

analytics and predictive capacity, enabling proactive governance and early intervention in corruption-prone processes.

5. Ethical Considerations in the Use of AI for Combatting Corruption

It is clear that the use of AI brings significant benefits in the fight against corruption but there are also important ethical concerns surrounding the use of AI and new technologies in anti-corruption processes that cannot be overlooked.

One main challenge is the *transparent use* of AI due to its "black box" nature which makes it difficult to explain AI-generated decisions to the public or decision makers. The key issue is developing complex AI or machine learning tools that can still be explained in a clear and simple way to regulators or auditors highlighting the broader challenge of ensuring transparency in AI deployment.

The opacity of AI decision-making processes often makes it difficult to understand how conclusions are reached, especially in high-stakes contexts like fraud detection or public procurement. This lack of explainability can hinder institutional trust and obstruct oversight. Misuse of AI and overdependence are also relevant concerns as these technologies become more embedded in governance systems. Ensuring ethical AI use requires governance frameworks that support oversight responsibility and traceability in algorithmic systems.

In my opinion a highly effective strategy to increase the transparent use of AI involves adopting a multi-level explanation framework tailored to the needs and technical backgrounds of various stakeholders, that provided a practical and effective approach for communicating AI controls to both regulators and internal decision-makers. This strategy consists of offering three levels of explanation: (1) first a simple non-technical overview of the AI model and its results in no more than two pages designed for general understanding; (2) second a more detailed and technical explanation of around nine pages that delves into how the models function for audiences with greater technical literacy; and (3) third if necessary the full algorithmic code intended for deep audits or expert scrutiny.

Regulators and decision-makers can accept the first or second format which not only satisfies regulatory requirements but also builds confidence in the technology's use. This method can also secure internal support by aligning the presentation of AI systems with a risk-based evaluation approach and offering transparency at multiple levels. This strategy effectively addresses concerns about the opaque nature of AI and supports broader and more confident adoption. It meets regulatory demands for clarity and accountability and facilitates smoother internal adoption processes offering a practical solution to the ethical and operational challenges associated with AI in regulated industries. Moreover, it ensures transparency in the use of training data and its sources and clarifies how

the algorithm is designed and implemented[25].

Responsible and fair use of AI also emerge as central ethical issues for the application of AI in anti-corruption efforts. A biased AI system can produce unfair outcomes such as favoring certain groups over others or reinforcing existing inequalities-outcomes that contradict the principles of responsibility and fairness. In practice, a biased AI system might treat some groups more harshly or more favorably than others in fraud detection. In anti-corruption work this could mean wrongly focusing on certain people or areas because of incorrect assumptions which can lead to unfair treatment and make people lose trust in the system. In the academic literature are explored in detail those ethical challenges, discussing the potential for AI systems to exacerbate existing biases[26] and the need for robust regulatory frameworks to address these risks[27]. The complexity of AI decision-making processes, combined with the potential for biased outputs, underscores the need for ethical guidelines and regulatory oversight to ensure that AI is used responsibly in anti-corruption efforts.

Also, bias in AI systems is directly linked to the concept of responsible and fair use of AI because eliminating or minimizing bias is essential to ensuring that AI operates fairly and ethically. This aligns with ongoing debates in AI ethics emphasizing the risk of unjust targeting and the erosion of trust in systems designed to prevent corruption[28]. Therefore, addressing bias is a core component of using AI responsibly especially in sensitive areas like anti-corruption where decisions must be impartial transparent and just. Responsible and fair use of AI means proactively identifying mitigating and monitoring bias throughout the AI lifecycle to ensure that systems support ethical goals rather than undermine them.

A contrasting perspective suggests that excessive focus on bias may unnecessarily constrain the potential of AI. This view reflects a broader debate within the AI field where ethical considerations must be weighed against opportunities for innovation and impact[29].

Additional ethical concerns include the phenomenon of "*AI hallucinations*" where generative models produce false or misleading outputs. "*AI halluci-*

[25] European Data Protection Supervisor, EDPS MANDATE 2020 – 2024, Retrieved from chrome extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.edps.europa.eu/system/files/2025-03/25-03-06-edps-mandate-review_en.pdf, accessed on 27.05.2025.

[26] Allan Dafoe (2018). *AI Governance: A Research Agenda* (1442: 1443). Governance of AI Program, Future of Humanity Institute, University of Oxford, p. 5, https://www.fhi.ox.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/GovAI-Agenda.pdf, accessed on 27.05.2025.

[27] Max Tegmark (2018), *Life 3.0. Being Human in the Age of Artificial Intelligence,* Penguin Random House, p. 75.

[28] Brent Daniel Mittelstadt, Patrick Allo, Mariarosaria Taddeo, Sandra Wachter, Luciano Floridi (2016). „The ethics of algorithms: Mapping the debate". *Big Data & Society,* 3(2). https://doi.org/10.1177/2053951716679679.

[29] Erik Brynjolfsson, Danielle Li, Lindsey R. Raymond (2023), *Generative AI at Work*, NBER Working Paper No. 31161, p. 40, http://www.nber.org/papers/w31161, accessed on 27.05.2025.

nations" is a term used to describe instances where AI generate incorrect or unreasonable outputs or produce information that is not grounded in reality. In anti-corruption contexts this could lead to serious consequences such as the misidentification of individuals as high-risk actors resulting in reputational damage or unwarranted investigations. To address this concern, it is crucial to implement rigorous validation processes and continuous monitoring of AI systems to detect and correct such hallucinations before they can cause significant damage.

To address the ethical risks mentioned above regulatory frameworks are essential for guiding the responsible and ethical use of AI in anti-corruption strategies. Clear standards are critical, and policies focused on bias mitigation, transparency, accountability, and ethical use are necessary to ensure fairness and trust. Strong structures for ethical compliance remain crucial as they provide the foundation for ensuring that AI systems are designed, implemented, and monitored in ways that align with legal standards, social values, and human rights. These structures help organizations embed ethical principles into every stage of the AI lifecycle from data collection and model development to deployment and oversight. Without such frameworks there is a greater risk of misuse, lack of accountability and erosion of public trust especially in sensitive areas like anti-corruption where fairness and transparency are essential[30].

6. Where Do We Go Next? Recommendations for Further Research

Predicting the future of technology remains a complex task, especially in rapidly evolving fields like AI. While new frameworks will emerge, and some trends may fade the core principles that have guided responsible innovation, transparency collaboration adaptability and ethical design will remain essential. As efforts to fight corruption increasingly integrate AI tools the focus must stay on building systems that are not only technically advanced but also fair understandable and responsive to real-world needs. Future research and development should aim to strengthen these foundations ensuring that technology continues to serve people with simplicity stability and long-term impact.

To close this article the following section offers recommendations for further research highlighting key areas where deeper investigation could enhance the understanding and responsible application of AI in anti-corruption efforts.

For future research one area worth further exploration is the impact of AI in different contexts which would provide a more comprehensive understanding of its potential and limitations across diverse settings. This insight could support the development of more tailored and effective anti-corruption strategies. Special attention could be given to the use of AI in whistleblower protection and open

[30] Brent Daniel Mittelstadt, Patrick Allo, Mariarosaria Taddeo, Sandra Wachter, Luciano Floridi (2016), *op. cit.*

government processes where their thoughtful application could enhance transparency strengthen trust and reinforce integrity in public institutions.

Another promising area for research is the exploration of how AI can be integrated with other emerging technologies, such as blockchain and big data analytics, to enhance anti-corruption efforts. This research would provide valuable insights into the synergies between different technologies and how they can be leveraged to combat corruption more effectively.

Finally, future research should also consider the role of AI in fostering international cooperation in anti-corruption efforts. Given the global nature of corruption, AI could play a significant role in facilitating cross-border collaboration and information sharing among different countries and international organizations. Studies could explore how AI technologies can be used to enhance international cooperation, improve mutual legal assistance, and streamline cross-border investigations. Future research could also evaluate how cross-border data-sharing initiatives could improve the accuracy and reliability of predictive AI models in detecting corruption across jurisdictions.

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