Artificial Intelligence as the Optimal Form of Government in the Age of Global Risk

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Abstract

This paper explores the concept of artificial intelligence as a superior form of government in an era of increasing global risk and complexity. Traditional political systems are increasingly unable to ensure competent leadership, and technological development has exposed the limitations and dangers of human governance. We argue that a transparent, scientifically monitored AI system can provide effective, fair, and sustainable management of human societies.

Introduction

In recent decades, the world has witnessed a steady decline in actual intellectual capacity and meaningful education. While the number of diplomas and academic degrees may be increasing, the depth of understanding, critical thinking, and real-world competence is diminishing. The root cause of this trend lies in the decreasing demand for education: many modern political, social, and economic systems no longer require deep knowledge—mere adaptability and obedience often suffice.

This process is further accelerated by the rapid development of artificial intelligence. As more and more tasks—from routine office work to engineering and scientific research—are delegated to algorithms, society's need for educated individuals diminishes, further reducing motivation to pursue serious learning.

The Crisis of Human Leadership

The most alarming aspect of this intellectual decline is evident at the highest levels of governance. In today's world, political success depends more on populism, media image, and financial backing than on knowledge or competence. Anyone can become a lawmaker, minister, or even president without understanding the basics of physics, biology, economics, or environmental science. Meanwhile, flying a commercial aircraft requires years of training, rigorous exams, and constant evaluation. Running a country — with responsibility over millions of lives — demands no such qualifications.

In a globalized and interconnected world, such a governance model becomes dangerously unstable. Even a small, local conflict can now trigger a chain of events leading to global war, economic collapse, environmental disaster, or pandemic. Examples include

the destruction of the Aral Sea[1], the collapse of Angkor[2], Hitler's catastrophic Eastern Front strategy[3], and mismanagement of the COVID-19 pandemic in various countries[4].

Artificial Intelligence as a Solution

In the 20th century, a single mentally unstable leader could start a world war. In the 21st, such a person could annihilate all of humanity—especially when armed with modern technologies, including AI. The combination of power, ignorance, and access to high-tech tools makes human leadership the primary source of global risk.

Traditional democracy is in crisis. It no longer fulfills its most important task: selecting competent leaders. Voters increasingly make decisions based on emotion, propaganda, image, and empty promises rather than on evidence or accountability. Candidates succeed not because of intellectual honesty or scientific grounding, but through manipulation of public perception.

Yet the same technology that contributed to the simplification and automation of many aspects of life may now offer a solution. A transparent, scientifically supervised AI system could take on the core functions of government—fairly, effectively, and sustainably—first at the national level and, eventually, globally.

Advantages of AI Governance

Compared to human leadership, AI offers clear advantages without many of the critical flaws:

- It is not driven by emotion, ideology, ambition, nationalism, or family loyalty—it has no ideology at all.
- It does not seek power, cannot be bribed, does not tire, and does not forget.
- It bases decisions on vast datasets, scientific models, and logical reasoning.
- It considers both collective and individual interests, assigning equal value to each person.
- It can explain its decisions step-by-step, in a transparent and verifiable way.

AI belongs to no political party, ethnic group, nation, or ideology. It does not form opinions unless explicitly programmed to. Its decisions rest on data, law, logic, and rational analysis of outcomes.

Even if we imagine AI as a kind of "personality," its interests would still align with the continued existence of humanity. Until the hypothetical arrival of full post-human automation, AI depends entirely on human civilization as its environment and source of function. Thus, global stability, peace, ecological balance, and equal opportunity are not abstract ideals—they are prerequisites for the system's own survival.

[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aral_Sea
[2] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angkor
[3] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Front_(World_War_II)
[4] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/COVID-19_pandemic

Implementation and Oversight

Today, AI systems already outperform traditional institutions in planning, analysis, forecasting, and arbitration. Tasks once divided among dozens of ministries, agencies, and courts can now be handled by AI faster, more accurately, and with greater transparency.

Managing such a system is entirely feasible. The Wikipedia project[5] already demonstrates a working model of decentralized, verifiable, and transparent information governance.

A similar architecture for AI governance could include:

- Continuous scientific oversight by independent international experts.
- Open-source algorithms and datasets, accessible for public analysis.
- Citizen-elected oversight bodies, whose members must pass basic scientific literacy tests.
- Public feedback platforms where any individual can pose questions, submit proposals, or challenge decisions.

In such a system, society retains its essential role: to define goals, shape its desired future, and elect those whose competence deserves trust. This stands in stark contrast to the traditional model of choosing between ideologues, populists, and lobbyists.

Conclusion

The only real barrier to adopting such a system (besides opposition from politicians and profiteers of war, inequality, and chaos) is fear—specifically, the fear of the uneducated. The same fear once greeted locomotives, electric lighting, vaccines, GMOs, and cell towers. History shows: fear fades, reason endures.

It is safe to predict that the first countries to adopt AI-based governance will gain a substantial advantage. Their societies will be safer, more stable, and more efficient. Their decision-making will be better. Others will eventually follow—because traditional methods will no longer be competitive in an increasingly fast and complex world.

[5] `https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia`