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A NEW LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT THREAT: AI CALLS INTO QUESTION THE FUTURE OF INFORMATION-PROCESSING AND DECISION-MAKING JOBS

Угроза безработицы нового масштаба: ИИ ставит под сомнение будущее профессий, основанных на обработке информации и принятии решений

The purpose of the study is to identify and analyze the core of the «AI unemployment threat» problem and to systematize the polar expert positions regarding its consequences for the labor market and society. The Core of the «AI Unemployment Threat» problem: The AI unemployment threat stems from its ability to automate not just physical, but intellectual labor, directly competing with humans in analysis, creativity, and decision-making. This endangers professions previously considered safe from automation and could lead to mass job losses across multiple industries simultaneously. Expert opinions on this matter are deeply divided.

1. The «Technological Unemployment» Camp (Pessimistic View). These researchers believe that AI is fundamentally different from previous technologies and will lead to significant and long-term job reduction. Argument: AI does not merely complement humans but in many cases «replaces» them. AI's ability to process vast amounts of information, identify patterns within it, and make decisions based on them (or generate code, texts, legal documents) makes human labor in these areas less economically efficient. Leading researcher: Daron Acemoglu (MIT). In his work, he criticizes «hasty automation», arguing that the current development path of AI is primarily aimed at replacing humans rather than creating new tasks where humans could remain useful.

2. The «Complementary Technologies» Camp (Optimistic/Adaptation View). These experts believe that AI will primarily become a powerful tool that «complements» human capabilities, increasing productivity and creating new, previously non-existent professions. Argument: The history of technology shows that automation destroys some jobs but creates others. AI will take over routine cognitive tasks, freeing humans for more creative, strategic, and social work. A doctor will spend more time communicating with the patient rather than analyzing scans; a programmer will design system architectures instead of writing standard code. Leading researcher: Erik Brynjolfsson (Stanford) and Andrew

McAfee. In their books, such as «The Second Machine Age», they acknowledge the disruptive potential of AI but emphasize that the key to prosperity lies in adaptation and finding new forms of human-machine collaboration. They speak of the need to invest in «human capital».

3. The «Economic and Societal Transformation» Camp (Structural View). This group focuses on the idea that the problem lies not so much in the technology itself, but in the socio-economic institutions that are unprepared for such rapid changes. Argument: Even if AI creates overall prosperity, the transition period will be painful. A sharp divide will emerge between the owners of capital/AI developers and the rest of the population. This necessitates a re-evaluation of concepts such as labor, income, and social safety nets. Leading researcher: Ian Goldin. He explores future risks, including technological ones. He emphasizes that technological progress is outpacing our capacity for social and political adaptation, which creates threats to stability and necessitates new systems of governance.

Thus, the key problem is that technological progress is outpacing society's ability to adapt, while experts' predictions are radically divided – ranging from scenarios of mass unemployment to confidence in successful societal adaptation.

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THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON THE FORMATION OF MODERN YOUTH IDENTITY

Влияние социальных сетей на формирование идентичности современной молодежи

In today's era of accelerated digital innovation and pervasive media integration, social networking platforms have evolved into an inseparable component of contemporary youth culture. They exert a profound influence on how young people construct and understand their personal and social identities. Platforms such as Instagram, TikTok, and