



Effects of Technology on Human Rights in International Scenario

Dr. Archana Adhik Pawar (In charge Principal)

Ph.D.in Law, SET, B.Sc. LL.M.D.N.Y.S

SNJB Law College, Chanwad, Nashik, Maharashtra

Email:- archana.shinde1107@gmail.com, b.k.dr.archanapawar01@gmail.com

Abstract:

Technology has had a profound effect on many facets of human life in the twenty-first century, including the defence and advancement of human rights on a worldwide scale. In this abstract, the effects of technology on human rights throughout the world, both positively and negatively, are explored. Technology has numerous positive effects on human rights. To begin, technology has given individuals more freedom of expression. The internet has provided a platform for marginalised groups to organise and lobby for change. Education and knowledge have also benefited from technological advancements, which has helped to promote people's access to education and enhance their economic standing. Despite its positive effects, however, technology poses a risk to human rights. Widespread surveillance and data collection are an invasion of personal privacy. Privacy concerns and corporate and government abuse are the result of advances in digital monitoring technology like facial recognition and data mining. Since having access to information, education, and digital spaces is dependent on having a computer and an internet connection, the digital divide exacerbates existing inequalities. There are human rights and ethical concerns with AI-powered autonomous weapons. Biased algorithms, discriminatory AI systems, and their lack of accountability raise serious questions about non-discrimination, due process, and human dignity. Questions of life and death, as well as responsibility for violations of human rights, are raised by the advent of autonomous weaponry. Human rights frameworks at the international level need to be updated to account for technological developments. Technology that is respectful of human rights requires collaboration between governments, civil society organisations, and the technology industry. Strong legal frameworks, transparency, and accountability are essential in the digital age to protect privacy, prevent discrimination, and secure individual rights.

keywords: Technology, Human rights, international scenario, Dissemination of information, Freedom of expression, Social media, Digital communication

Introduction

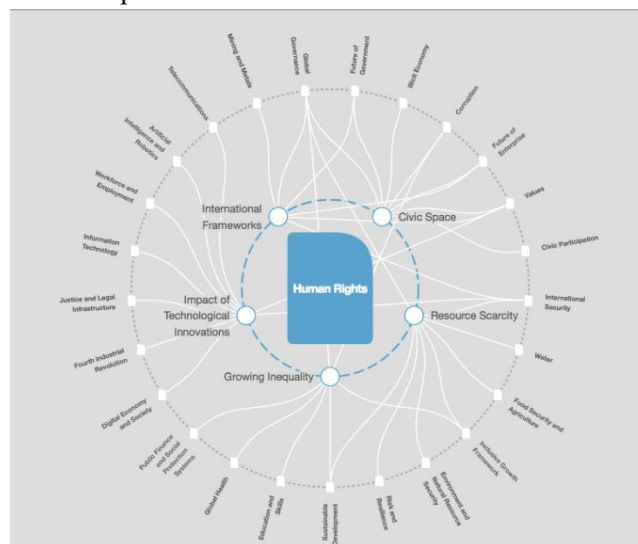
Protection and promotion of human rights on the international stage are only two areas that have been greatly impacted by the way the world looks in the twenty-first century thanks to technological progress. The interplay between technology and human rights is explored in this introductory piece, along with the complex dynamics and ramifications that arise in the global context. The spread of information is now more democratic and open to more voices than ever before because to technological advancements. It is now possible for activists and advocates on a worldwide scale with the help of social media and other digital communication technologies that have become effective avenues for the voices of the oppressed to be heard. As a result of people's increased comfort level in reaching out to and participating in online networks, social



movements have flourished, galvanising support for causes including racial equality, economic fairness, and democratic representation. Through technological advancements, the right of all people to an education has been strengthened. Barriers have been reduced because to the proliferation of online learning platforms, digital libraries, and open educational materials, making it possible for people in underprivileged or far-flung regions to better themselves via education. Technology's ability to democratise information might help close the achievement gap and promote economic mobility. While technology has enabled many positive developments, it has also presented serious threats to human rights on a global scale. One major issue with our increasingly digital society is the loss of personal privacy. Serious concerns have been made about the preservation of privacy and the possible exploitation of personal information in light of the widespread monitoring and data gathering tactics deployed by governments and companies. The widespread use of face recognition and data mining, two forms of digital monitoring, have thrust the issue of privacy invasion to the centre of discussions about human rights. However, the digital gap remains a significant barrier to the full enjoyment of human rights across the world. A digital gap exists when people from different backgrounds do not have equal access to resources online, including information, education, and the ability to participate in online communities. This discrepancy exacerbates preexisting inequities and threatens the promise of universal justice. Artificial intelligence (AI) and autonomous weaponry are only two examples of the new technologies that provide serious ethical and human rights challenges in the global community. There are worries that the deployment of AI systems may lead to discriminatory behaviours, biased algorithms, and an absence of responsibility for the outcomes of these choices. Concerns about maintaining human dignity in a world where decisions are increasingly made by machines are only one of many ethical dilemmas raised by AI. Similarly, the creation and use of autonomous weapons in armed conflicts raise serious concerns about the limits of warfare, the responsibility of those who use them, and the value we place on human life. International human rights frameworks must develop to account for the difficulties posed by technological progress if we are to address the many ways in which it impacts human rights. To guarantee that technology is used in a way that respects and upholds human rights, efforts must be made by governments, civil society groups, and technology businesses to work together. To preserve privacy, stop discrimination, and secure people's rights in the digital age, legal frameworks must be strengthened, openness must be increased, and strong accountability systems must be established.

The fast development of technology in the twenty-first century has altered the face of the earth and revolutionised many facets of human existence, including the protection of human rights on a worldwide scale. This introductory piece goes further into the complex interplay between technology and human rights, examining the wide-ranging consequences that emerge on a global scale. The proliferation of knowledge and the ease with which it may be shared through modern technology have given rise to a newfound confidence in people's ability to express themselves freely. Through the use of online publication sites, digital communication technologies, and social media sites, formerly marginalised or suppressed voices have been amplified. With the help of these online communities, people have been able to organise, spread information, and create good change on a worldwide scale. The advancement of technology has had a profound effect on the worldwide movement to ensure everyone has access to a quality education. The proliferation of digital learning platforms, OER, and digital libraries has democratised access to education by making it possible for anyone from all over the world to get a top-notch education, regardless of their

location. Communities may be helped, educational disparities could be closed, and economic and social growth could be encouraged as a result. Despite these tremendous developments, technology nevertheless poses significant worldwide threats to human rights. The loss of privacy protections in the digital era is a major cause for alarm. Concerns regarding the exploitation or abuse of personal data by governments or companies have been prompted by widespread monitoring, data gathering techniques, and the expansion of digital surveillance tools. A major new barrier to the worldwide achievement of human rights is the digital gap. There is a growing difference between those who have access to information, education, and digital resources because of inequitable access to technology and internet connection, which exacerbates preexisting socioeconomic gaps. This digital gap reinforces existing inequalities, further isolates certain communities, and threatens the foundations of democracy and human rights for everyone. Problems of ethics and human rights are complicated by new technologies like artificial intelligence (AI) and autonomous weaponry. The absence of responsibility for algorithmic judgments raises issues of nondiscrimination, due process, and human dignity, as do biased algorithms and discriminating AI systems. Questions like the value of human life, who should be held responsible for abuses of human rights, and the moral limits of combat are all thrown into sharp relief by the advent and employment of autonomous weapons in wars. A coordinated effort to adapt and improve current human rights frameworks is necessary to address the influence of technology on human rights in the international environment. To guarantee that technology is created and used in a way that preserves human rights standards, collaboration between governments, civil society groups, and technology businesses is essential. To preserve privacy, stop discrimination, and ensure people's rights in the digital age, strong legal frameworks, more transparency, and accountability measures are required.



Digital Empowerment and Freedom of Expression

Technological advances have changed the world in many ways, including human rights. This introduction examines the complex dynamics and worldwide effects of technology and human rights. Technology has helped disseminate information, enabling more individuals to use their right to free expression. Social



media and messaging applications allow activists and campaigners to reach a global audience. Due to the ease with which people may reach out to and communicate with members of different groups, social movements for social justice, equality, and democratic involvement have grown. Technology gives more individuals the chance to get a good education. Online learning platforms, digital libraries, and open educational resources have made education and training accessible to impoverished or remote individuals. Technology may help bridge the achievement gap and provide everyone chances by making knowledge more accessible. Technology's benefits threaten global human rights. Privacy loss in our digital culture is a major concern. Government and corporate spying has raised privacy and data abuse concerns. Digital surveillance methods like facial recognition and data mining have brought privacy invasion to the forefront of human rights concerns, and the digital divide prevents individuals from exercising their rights worldwide. The digital gap may make it harder for low-income and undereducated people to acquire information and participate in digital settings. This imbalance deepens inequalities and threatens universal justice. AI and autonomous weapons raise worldwide moral and legal issues. As AI systems grow more widespread, concerns about discrimination, unaccountability, and biased algorithms arise. Artificial intelligence presents ethical challenges about how to treat people fairly and maintain human dignity in a society where computers make most crucial choices. The ethical consequences of creating and utilising autonomous weapons in armed conflicts, including accountability for human rights violations and conflict limitations, are equally disturbing. International human rights frameworks must adapt to technology advances and their effects on basic freedoms. Governments, civil society organisations, and technology companies must collaborate to ensure ethical and human rights-compliant technology usage. In the digital era, only robust legal frameworks, transparency, and accountability procedures can protect people's privacy, rights, and dignity.

Technology has advanced rapidly in the 21st century, affecting society, culture, and international human rights. This introduction explores the complicated relationship between technology and human rights and its worldwide effects. Knowledge and technology have increased people's confidence in their capacity to express themselves freely. Digital media and online publishing have given previously marginalised voices a wider audience. Thus, the Internet has become a platform for organising, spreading knowledge, and global action and campaigning. Technology has brought education closer to everyone. Digital learning platforms, OER, and digital libraries make previously inaccessible educational opportunities available to all individuals, regardless of geography. This may enhance lives, narrow the achievement gap, and boost social and economic progress. Technology has produced new worldwide risks to human rights. Digital privacy safeguards are deteriorating. Widespread monitoring, data collection, and digital surveillance techniques have raised concerns about human privacy and government and corporate data misuse. Digital divides slow global human rights advancement. Due to inequitable technology and internet access, there is a rising divide between those who have access to information, education, and digital resources. This knowledge gap promotes inequities, isolates communities, and undermines democracy by denying fundamental human rights. AI and autonomous weapons create ethical and human rights concerns. When algorithms are biased or discriminatory and algorithmic decision-makers aren't held accountable, nondiscrimination, due process, and human dignity are compromised. Autonomous weapons increase concerns about human life, human rights violations, and war's morality. Technology's impact on international human rights requires a



concerted effort to adapt and strengthen present frameworks. Governments, civil society organisations, and technology companies must collaborate to ensure technology respects and promotes human rights. Strong legal frameworks, openness, and accountability are needed to preserve privacy, rights, and discrimination in the digital era.

Technology and Access to Education

The widespread use of technological innovations in the classroom has had a profound effect on educational prospects for people all around the world. This introductory section gives a high-level overview of the connection between technology and educational opportunity, emphasising the transformational power of technology in lowering entry barriers and increasing access to education for people all over the globe. The educational environment has been revolutionised by technological advancements in the form of cutting-edge tools and online resources that expand on and improve upon the classic classroom. Learning possibilities that were previously beyond of reach are now accessible to people from all walks of life and all corners of the globe because to the proliferation of online learning platforms, digital educational materials, and virtual classrooms. By eliminating barriers based on location, digital platforms have increased access to education, enabling people in previously unreached places, underserved communities, or regions without educational infrastructure to get entry to high-caliber learning materials. The time, speed, and learning style preferences of students may be accommodated in online courses and virtual learning environments, which encourages lifelong learning. As a result of technological advancements, students may now get an education that is uniquely tailored to their needs, interests, and strengths. Educational applications, intelligent tutoring systems, and adaptive learning platforms all use technology to deliver individualised teaching and assistance, closing knowledge gaps and broadening access to education. Because of the prevalence of technology in the classroom, students now have access to a wider range of information from a variety of sources, blurring the lines between formerly rigid academic disciplines. Through the use of digital libraries, online databases, and collaborative platforms, students have access to voluminous stores of information, may network with subject matter experts, and can participate in the worldwide sharing of knowledge. Despite technology's great promise to level the playing field for students, obstacles and gaps in opportunity remain. Inequalities in educational possibilities are exacerbated by the digital divide, which is defined by disparities in access to technology and internet connection. To guarantee that all people have access to technology and digital learning tools, we must work to close this gap. To fully reap the advantages of technology in education, however, problems like the digital divide inside educational institutions and the quality of digital instructional material need to be resolved. Policymakers, educators, technology providers, and communities must work together to ensure that all students have access to, and benefit from, opportunities to build their digital literacy abilities.

Privacy Rights in the Digital Age

The unparalleled rate of technological development in the digital era has made it more difficult to protect individuals' right to privacy. With an eye on the shifting landscape of privacy rights and the urgent problems that emerge in the digital world, this introductory piece presents an outline of the complex link between privacy and technology. The acquisition, storage, analysis, and dissemination of individual data has been drastically altered by the meteoric rise of digital technology, data gathering techniques, and online



platforms. While there are many advantages to modern technology, one major drawback is the danger it presents to people's privacy. The ease with which digital technologies allow broad monitoring and surveillance is one of the major causes for worry in the modern digital era. Facial recognition, data mining, and internet monitoring are just some of the methods that governments, businesses, and other organisations use to acquire and analyse massive quantities of personal data. Privacy invasion, misuse, and a lack of responsibility in data processing are all issues that might arise from these methods. Due to the proliferation of linked digital platforms and the ease with which private information may be shared online, privacy protections are eroding. A user's preferences, browsing history, and even biometric data may be collected by social networking platforms, online retailers, and other online services. When combined with bad privacy policies and security vulnerabilities, this trove of personal information puts people at risk for privacy violations and identity theft. The rise of AI and machine learning technology adds new layers of complexity to the protection of personal information. Concerns regarding the possibility for biased algorithms, discriminatory behaviours, and the inappropriate use of sensitive information are warranted since the development and implementation of AI systems often require processing massive amounts of personal data. Protecting people's privacy and preventing algorithmic damage necessitates a deep dive into the ethical implications of AI in this area. In order to protect people's privacy in the digital age, we need to take a multifaceted strategy that takes into account law, technology, and social factors. To protect individuals' right to privacy and guarantee the lawful processing of private information, solid legal frameworks and laws are required. A key role in protecting people's privacy and promoting trust in digital environments is played by transparent data practises, informed consent processes, and data protection measures. Encryption, privacy-enhancing technology, and secure data storage are just a few examples of technological solutions that may be used to lessen the likelihood of privacy breaches and better safeguard sensitive information. Constant effort and discussion are needed to find a happy medium between individual privacy and other society objectives like national security and public health. Safeguarding privacy rights in the digital age requires educating people about privacy dangers, encouraging digital literacy, and providing them with privacy tools and control over their data. Moreover, in the face of fast technological breakthroughs, it is essential to maintain privacy rights by cultivating a culture of privacy-conscious behaviours and encouraging openness and responsibility among businesses and technology providers..

Accountability for Technology-Enabled Human Rights Violations

Both new possibilities and new threats in the area of human rights have emerged with the introduction of technology. There is a need for responsibility for human rights breaches made possible by technological means, despite the fact that technology has the capacity to empower people and promote the preservation of human rights. This introduction gives readers a bird's-eye perspective of the tangled web of responsibility that exists between technology and human rights, emphasising the need of addressing and preventing abuses that might arise as a result of technological progress. Artificial intelligence, surveillance systems, and digital platforms are all examples of how technology has permeated many facets of contemporary life. However, worries regarding human rights abuses, including as privacy breaches, discrimination, censorship, and monitoring, have arisen due to the use of technology by governments, businesses, and other groups. Since technology is always developing, it might be difficult to hold organisations responsible for human rights abuses made possible by technological means. When new technologies emerge before their corresponding



legal and regulatory frameworks are fully formed, accountability issues arise. To guarantee that preexisting human rights norms are successfully enforced in the context of technology breakthroughs, proactive and flexible measures are required in this ever-changing world. Discriminatory practises and biased algorithms in AI decision-making systems are a major cause for worry. Principles of equality and non-discrimination are violated by algorithms employed in domains including criminal justice, employment, and lending, which have been shown to perpetuate prejudice and discrimination against particular persons and groups. Strong processes for auditing, transparency, and identifying and mitigating biases in algorithmic systems are needed to address algorithmic accountability. Significant human rights issues are also raised by the widespread use of digital surveillance technology and the collecting of personal data. These tools may be used by both government and commercial organisations to invade people's privacy, conduct widespread surveillance of their online activity, and track their every move. Strong legal frameworks, independent monitoring, and efficient procedures to remedy abuses and safeguard persons' privacy are needed to establish responsibility for these actions. Difficult ethical and human rights questions arise from the creation and use of autonomous technology like drones and autonomous weaponry. Human rights abuses in the context of technological warfare and surveillance must be investigated and prosecuted to prevent further damage and violations of the right to life and security. Multi-stakeholder cooperation and involvement are crucial for improving accountability for human rights breaches made possible by technological means. It is imperative that governments, NGOs, tech firms, and international organisations collaborate to define appropriate legal parameters, enhance transparency and oversight systems, and encourage the ethical design, implementation, and consumption of technological innovations. In the IT industry, it's crucial to promote a sense of personal responsibility and teamwork. Human rights impact evaluations, strong ethical norms, and reliable grievance channels for those whose rights have been violated as a result of technological advancements are all part of this effort.

Conclusion:

Technology's implications on human rights in a global context are intricate and multidimensional. While technology has opened up many doors of possibility, it also poses threats and difficulties that must be carefully considered and countered if human rights are to be safeguarded and advanced. One way that technology has helped people's voices be heard, spread ideas, and broaden people's access to knowledge is by making previously inaccessible resources more widely available. Individuals and underrepresented populations have been given a voice on social media platforms, while social movements and repressive regimes have been met with resistance. Online platforms have democratised knowledge, which has increased access to education and boosted the economy. Concerns about privacy rights, surveillance tactics, and the digital divide have emerged in response to the fast development of technology. Concerns about invasion of privacy and the possible exploitation or abuse of personal information are prompted by widespread monitoring, data collecting, and digital profiling. Inequalities are exacerbated by the digital gap, which persists even as access to technology and internet connection becomes a precondition for the exercise of certain rights. New technologies, including AI and autonomous weaponry, provide new challenges for human rights and ethics. The right to be treated equally is threatened by discriminating AI systems and biased algorithms, which might perpetuate existing inequalities in society. The employment of autonomous weapons poses a threat to the right to life and human dignity in armed conflicts, raising



questions about accountability for human rights breaches. Taking addressing the issue of technology's impact on human rights on a global scale calls for a holistic and cooperative strategy. To ensure that human rights are respected and maintained in the digital age, international human rights frameworks must adapt and grow to embrace the consequences of technology breakthroughs. In order to defend people's rights, ensure their privacy, and stop discrimination, governments, civil society groups, and tech firms need to work together to create strong legislative frameworks, increase transparency, and create accountability systems. To enable people to effectively navigate the digital world, know their rights, and make educated choices regarding their privacy and online behaviours, digital literacy and awareness initiatives are crucial. Potential hazards may be reduced and the responsible development and deployment of technical advancements promoted by education and training on responsible and ethical use of technology.

References

1. Pasquale, F. (2015). *The Black Box Society: The Secret Algorithms That Control Money and Information*. Harvard University Press.
2. Zuboff, S. (2019). *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism: The Fight for a Human Future at the New Frontier of Power*. Public Affairs.
3. United Nations Human Rights Council. (2018). *The Impact of New Technologies on the Enjoyment of Human Rights: Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression*. A/HRC/38/35.
4. United Nations Human Rights Council. (2018). *The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age: Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*. A/HRC/38/35.
5. Access Now. (2018). *The State of Digital Rights: A Global Survey of Human Rights Online*. Retrieved from: <https://www.accessnow.org/cms/assets/uploads/2018/11/2018-Global-Survey-of-Digital-Rights.pdf>
6. Amnesty International. (2020). *Surveillance Giants: How the Business Model of Google and Facebook Threatens Human Rights*. Retrieved from: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/11/google-facebook-surveillance-privacy/>
7. Dencik, L., Hintz, A., & Cable, J. (Eds.). (2020). *Digital Citizenship in a Datafied Society*. Polity Press.
8. Hill, K. (2019). *We Have Always Been Data: Technology and the Quest for Justice*. Yale University Press.
9. Taylor, L. (2017). Data Justice and the Right to Data Protection. *Big Data & Society*, 4(2), 1-14.
10. Diakopoulos, N. (2019). Algorithmic Accountability Reporting: On the Investigation of Black Boxes. *Columbia Journalism Review*. Retrieved from:
11. Human Rights Watch. (2020). *World Report 2020: Rights Trends in 2019*. Retrieved from: <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2020>
12. Electronic Frontier Foundation. (2021). *Surveillance Self-Defense: Defending Yourself Against Global Mass Surveillance*. Retrieved from: <https://ssd.eff.org/>
13. Digital Rights Foundation. (2021). *The State of Digital Rights in Pakistan 2021*. Retrieved from: <https://digitalrightsfoundation.pk/the-state-of-digital-rights-in-pakistan-2021/>
14. Floridi, L. (2019). *The Logic of Information: A Theory of Philosophy as Conceptual Design*. Oxford University Press.



15. Tufekci, Z. (2017). *Twitter and Tear Gas: The Power and Fragility of Networked Protest*. Yale University Press.
16. Bria, F. (2020). *Artificial Intelligence in the Information Society: Implications for Democracy and Human Rights*. UNESCO.
17. Access Now. (2021). *Global Technology Report: A Roadmap for Digital Rights*. Retrieved from: <https://www.accessnow.org/cms/assets/uploads/2021/02/Global-Technology-Report-2021-Final-Web.pdf>
18. United Nations Human Rights Council. (2020). *Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in the Digital Age*. A/HRC/44/38.
19. <https://assets.weforum.org/editor/OOJ8CN4xnPJKtiLkVrpPNg5g5Sj1uXQA1oiLmaAegZY.png>