

Humboldt Kolleg

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Global Challenges of the 21st Century

- 1) *Technological development and human health/ quality of life*
- 2) *Climate change and environmental sustainability*
- 3) *Democracy and cohesion in Europe*

Morally Responsible AI? Limits & Boundaries

As research in robotics and artificial intelligence (AI) has rapidly evolved over the past decade, a new set of social, philosophical and cultural issues emerge. Assets that traditionally belonged exclusively to humans, such as complex reasoning or intelligence, start to be challenged by AI. In 2018, AlphaZero made the headlines as the first machine-learning system that can learn to do more than one task with superhuman ability, becoming world champion at Go, chess and shogi. But self-learning AI also displays behaviour with negative consequences, challenging us to answer new and pressing moral questions, which the current research aims to address: Who is morally responsible for the decisions taken by self-learning artificial systems? Can robots and AI be morally praise- or blame- worthy to the effect that we may consider them moral agents? Is moral responsibility exclusively confined to human beings or do we need to refine our current philosophical framework to encompass new and emerging technological advances such as artificial systems?

Mihaela Constantinescu is a member of the Research Centre in Applied Ethics (www.ccea.ro), at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Bucharest and a postdoctoral fellow of the Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (ICUB). She works on topics revolving around the concepts of moral responsibility and moral agency, such as organizational responsibility and AI ethics, approached within the philosophical framework of Aristotelian virtue ethics. Mihaela co-authored the Romanian volume on *Institutionalising Ethics: Mechanisms and Instruments* and is author and co-author of articles published in international volumes and scientific journals such as the *Journal of Business Ethics*. She became a member of the Romanian Young Academy (RYA) in 2020.