



**IEEE Standards Association Board of Governors Resolution  
Endorsing the work of The IEEE Global Initiative on Ethics of Autonomous and Intelligent Systems (The  
Global Initiative)  
December 2018**

Our Process

To ensure the greatest cultural relevance and intellectual rigor possible in our work, The IEEE Global Initiative has sought for and received global feedback for versions 1 and 2 (after hundreds of experts created first drafts) to inform this *Ethically Aligned Design, First Edition (EAD1e)*.

We released *Ethically Aligned Design Version 1 (EADv1)* as a Request for Input in December of 2016 and received over two hundred pages of in-depth feedback about the draft. We subsequently released *Ethically Aligned Design Version 2 (EADv2)* in December 2017 and received over three hundred pages of in-depth feedback about the draft. This feedback included further insights about the eight original sections from EADv1, along with unique/new input for the five new sections included in EADv2.

Both versions included “candidate recommendations” instead of direct “recommendations”, because our communities had been engaged in debate and weighing various options.

This process was taken to the next level with *Ethically Aligned Design, First Edition (EAD1e)*, using EADv1 and EADv2 as its initial foundation. Although we expect future editions of *Ethically Aligned Design*, a vetting process has taken place within the global community that gave rise to this seminal work. Therefore, we can now speak of “recommendations” without any further restriction, and *EAD1e* also includes a set of policy recommendations.

This makes *EAD1e* a policy statement of an IEEE organizational unit (The IEEE Global Initiative is a formal grouping within IEEE), and thus, a review process by IEEE’s Global Public Policy Committee (a committee of IEEE’s Board of Directors) became necessary.

The review included matters of “internal consistency” across the various chapters of *EAD1e* and also more specific or broader criteria, such as consistency with respect to existing policy statements of IEEE. The review also considered the need for IEEE to maintain a neutral - and thus credible - position in areas and processes where it is likely that IEEE may become active in the future.

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Beyond these formal procedures, the Board of Governors of IEEE Standards Association endorses the work of the IEEE Global Initiative with following resolution:

Whereas the IEEE Global Initiative on Ethics of Autonomous and Intelligent Systems is an authorized activity within the IEEE Standards Association Industry Connections program created with the stated mission:

*To ensure every stakeholder involved in the design and development of autonomous and intelligent systems is educated, trained, and empowered to prioritize ethical considerations so that these technologies are advanced for the benefit of humanity;*



Whereas versions 1 and 2 of *Ethically Aligned Design: A Vision for Prioritizing Human Well-being with Autonomous and Intelligent Systems (A/IS)* were developed as calls for comment and candidate recommendations by several hundred professionals including engineers, scientists, ethicists, sociologists, economists, and many others from six continents;

Whereas the recommendations contained in *Ethically Aligned Design: A Vision for Prioritizing Human Well-being with Autonomous and Intelligent Systems (A/IS), First Edition* are the result of the consideration of hundreds of comments submitted by professionals and the public at large on versions 1 and 2;

Whereas through an extensive, global, and open collaborative process, more than a thousand experts of the Global Initiative have developed and are in the process of final editing and publishing *Ethically Aligned Design: A Vision for Prioritizing Human Well-being with Autonomous and Intelligent Systems (A/IS), First Edition*; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the IEEE Standards Association Board of Governors:

1. expresses its appreciation to the leadership and members of the IEEE Global Initiative on Ethics of Autonomous and Intelligent Systems for the creation of *Ethically Aligned Design: A Vision for Prioritizing Human Well-being with Autonomous and Intelligent Systems (A/IS), First Edition*; and
2. supports and commends the collaborative process used by The IEEE Global Initiative to achieve extraordinary consensus in such complex and vast matters in less than 3 years; and
3. endorses and offers *Ethically Aligned Design: A Vision for Prioritizing Human Well-being with Autonomous and Intelligent Systems (A/IS), First Edition* to businesses, governments and the public at large for consideration and guidance in the ethical development of autonomous and intelligent systems.