

Preface

This *Seminar on Technology Ethics* – arranged at 23-24.10.2019 at the University of Turku – is the third instance of seminar originally invented by Kai K. Kimppa. This year our aim has been to establish this as a conference that gathers up people that are interested in the ethical use and development of technology - especially information technology. As Moor already noted in 1985, we have entered to a time where information technology has become an integral part of our everyday life, and there is a need for ethics to seek future that is good for us (Moor, 1985).

Nowadays, technology is everywhere in modern societies. Advances in technology change our lives in numerous ways and the change will most likely accelerate by technologies such as artificial intelligence are more and more implemented. There may be unforeseen changes in society that creates new business opportunities for those who can deploy new technologies. However, all changes are not what we desire and those may increase the good in our life. Thus we need to understand the possible problems, risks and ways to control the change towards a better world. Technology plays a strategic role in society but we are still missing the tools for understanding how technology impacts the goodness of society (Brey, 2017).

Thus, there is a need for understanding how phenomena such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and expanding data economy are affecting society from the viewpoint of ethics. This Seminar is part of this rising interest toward ethical and thus more resilient societies where technology should be seen as mean to end not end itself. If we neglect the ethical issues – and do not look what kind of values we are implementing with technology – we are just drifting and we may end up with a dystopic society where technology draws borders of our lives instead that we draw the lines how we want to use it to serve us.

This seminar contributes to this aim of ethical society by presented papers and two keynote speaks: “*What kind of AI systems should we design?*” by Virpi Roto and “*Fairness – key to European Data Economy Model?*” by Jaana Sinipuro. However, I see that the biggest contribution was to bring people who are interested in ethics together as we need more collaboration at the national and international levels. We need more forums where these issues are seen important and it is a pleasure to see that we were attracting such a group of people that were interested in making a better world.

References

- Brey, P. (2018). The strategic role of technology in a good society. *Technology in society*, 52, 39-45.
- Moor, J. H. (1985). What is computer ethics?. *Metaphilosophy*, 16(4), 266-275.

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