

Preface

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The 8th Conference on Technology Ethics (TETHICS2025) was held in Vaasa, Finland, on November 11th and 12th. Tethics continues to expand its horizons outside Turku, having now been organized in Tampere in 2024 and Vaasa in 2025. This year as well, Tethics received a good number of high-quality papers across different disciplines. Attendance remained at previous levels, and Tethics continues to be on the smaller side in size in order to continue to act as a place for discussion and forming professional connections, especially for more junior researchers.

Submissions were peer reviewed by an independent program committee comprising of scholars with expertise in technology ethics. Additional reviews to supplement these reviews were asked of, and provided by, the first authors of submitted manuscripts. The review process was carried out in a double-blind fashion. Acceptance was based on perceived topic relevance from the point of view of the call for papers and their overall quality. In total 7 full papers and 2 short papers were accepted.

The TETHICS2025 programme comprised of (a) two keynotes, (b) nine paper presentations split into four paper sessions, (c) a poster session, (d) a discussion session ("Town hall meeting") on the current state and future of Tethics, and (e) a workshop session for work-in-progress papers and extended abstracts where presenters received feedback on their work from other researchers.

The two keynotes were given by Rachael Garrett from KTH Royal Institute of Technology and Kai Kimppa from University of Turku. Garrett's keynote discussed felt, somatic, and embodied perspectives on ethics in human-computer interaction, focusing on how a felt perspective can generate deeper understandings of our ethical practices as well as considering how technologies might be designed to relate to our bodies in ethical ways. Kimppa's keynote discussed the history of IT and ethics in Finland, as well as its present and future, providing an overview of notable people involved as well as challenges such as the lack of consistent IT and ethics education in Finland.

The accepted papers were split into four sessions for presentation at the event: (1) Risks and Security, (2) Education, (3) Design, and (4) Identity, and Bias. On the first day, there were two paper sessions. In the first session on Risks and Security, Emmanuel Anti's and Pius Ewoh's paper examined the opportunities, threats, and challenges of applying Generative AI, based on systematic literature review and netnography, and Lauri Tuovinen presented a survey of fatal or near-fatal AI-related incidents. In the second session on Education, Juuso Rytilahti, Panu Puhtila, and Erkki Kaila's paper examined cheating methods enabled by large language models and demonstrated them through examples, and Erkki Kaila, Katja Lempinen, and Matias Nevaranta's paper featured a survey of higher education teachers' experiences, attitudes, and ethical perceptions towards AI in education.

On the second day, there were similarly two paper sessions. In the first session on Design, Laura Havinen, Johanna Silvennoinen, and Teemu Mäenpää's paper discussed deceptive patterns in user interface design strategies and designer intent behind them, while Tero Saarinen, Erno Vanhala, and Jussi Kasurinen in their paper discussed players' views on ethical and sustainable monetization strategies in digital games, and José Antonio Siqueira de Cerqueira, Mamia Agbese, Rebekah Rousi, Nannan Xi, Juho Hamari, and Pekka Abrahamsson's work explored the use of AI in developing ethical AI systems

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in practice. In the second session on Identity and Bias, Leslye Denisse Dias Duran's work explored the labels of 'user', 'client' and 'consumer' in healthcare, while Siiri Leppälampi, Sonja M. Hyrynsalmi, and Erno Vanhala's paper focused on gender bias and occupational stereotypes in AI-generated image content.

Worthy of note this year was that, even though our Call For Papers did not focus on AI and did not even directly mention Generative AI (GenAI), most of the accepted papers of 2025 nonetheless focused on ethical issues surrounding GenAI technologies. Points of view in these GenAI-related papers included education, bias and stereotypes, cybersecurity, and safety and trust. This serves to highlight the growing impact of these recent advances in AI that have now made so-called Generative AI (i.e., AI that produces human-like content, including large language models) prevalent in both the everyday life and professional life of many. While Tethics continues to be about *technology ethics* more widely, the growing practical ethical concerns surrounding AI have, at least for the time being, resulted in a growing number of submissions related to AI ethics specifically.

We thank the Finnish Foundation for Economic Education (in Finnish: Liikesivistysrahasto (LSR)) for helping fund this year's Tethics and keep it free of charge for doctoral students. We also thank our program committee, our reviewers, for reviewing all the submissions to a high standard. Finally, we thank all the authors and participants for keeping Tethics going.

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