CSMUN XVI
ECOSOC
Chair: Kaitlyn Marks

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Letter From The Chair

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to CSMUN XVI! My name is Kaitlyn Marks and I am ecstatic to be your chair for the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). I am a junior at Carl Sandburg high school, and this will be my third year as part of the CSMUN team; however, this is my second year chairing. Likewise, I am one of the Under Secretary Generals of General Assemblies at CSMUN. The reason I chose this committee was because of its versatility and my interest in the global impact of economics. In addition, the topics I've selected bring unique perspectives to traditional ECOSOC issues and allow delegates a wide range of resolutions to establish. All in all, I feel very passionately towards the pillars of ECOSOC and bettering our globe economically.

The Economic and Social Council was established in 1945 and was later amended to support new members. ECOSOC upholds various ideals such as promoting a higher standard of living, sustainable development, coordinating economic and social cooperation, and increasing employment opportunities. Notably, there are 54 members of this committee working to bridge the gaps between developed and developing nations. Through open discussions on environmental policy, international law, human rights, and decolonization, ECOSOC is able to prioritize social and economic welfare.

As a chair, I believe there are many traits and skills needed to flourish inside of a committee. To begin, diplomacy is expected of all delegates; although every individual has the right to their own opinion, bullying or disrespect will not be tolerated. Moreover, each delegate must take a collaborative stance in addressing the issues at hand as strong blocs composed of hard workers can achieve greatness. On the other hand, it is important to make your ideas, voice, and contribution stand out in a respectful manner. Correspondingly, leadership is valued in committee, especially considering this is a learning conference for many delegates. It is important that delegates understand the difference between leadership and power del mentality. Additionally, I would like to strongly emphasize my appreciation of creativity through inspirational speeches with clever hooks and unique resolutions highlighting overlooked perspectives. Overall, I would love to see each delegate break out of their shell in some way and enjoy this experience.

I cannot wait to see all of you on October 18, but I have a few important reminders before committee. CSMUN is a no-tech conference meaning that all resolutions will be written on paper and use of technology during committee is prohibited. To add, prewriting clauses are not allowed and will result in ineligibility for awards. Delegates are expected to submit a position paper for both Topic A and Topic B on October 17th at 11:59 PM. It is also important to note that all position papers will be AI checked so please refrain from using advanced platforms to write your material. I want delegates to understand that this is a learning conference meaning that I will answer any and all questions prior to the start of the committee, it is okay to make mistakes, and above all just try your best. If you have any questions prior to CSMUN XVI, feel free to email me!

Best of luck,

Kaitlyn Marks, **270027@d230.org**

Topic A: Employing Circular Economies Towards Zero-Waste Development

History and Situation

Throughout history, the world has been evolving in terms of philosophies, trends, technologies, and, most notably, economies. During the Enlightenment period, concepts like **Marxism**, private property, and natural rights emerged. Notably, the idea of **Laissez-faire economics** was promoted by Adam Smith in his 1776 doctrine titled, "The Wealth of Nations." This philosophy helped spark the Industrial Revolution, where the world saw rapid increases in production, growth of industries and urbanization. Correspondingly, various other Enlightenment thinkers modeled their thinking after Smith's economic beliefs, as showcased through the "invisible hand" theory. This theory highlighted the logic behind an individual working in the free market, arguing that decisions made in self interest would benefit society in the long run. .

Ultimately, these early practices paved the way for current economic structures.

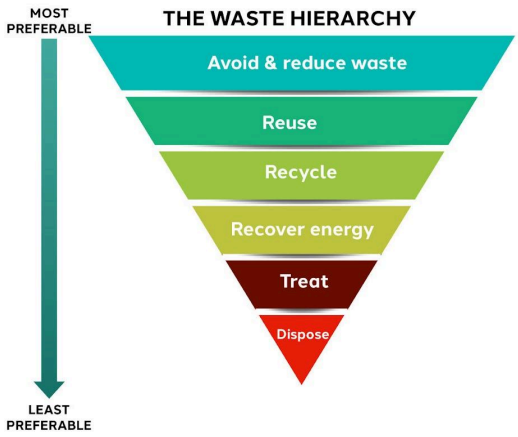
During the Industrial Revolution, the present-day linear economy was transformed through trends of population growth corresponding to increased **consumerism**. The linear economy, also known as the take-make-waste model, valued the extraction of resources for quick profit generation that ultimately caused a vast output of waste. Moreover, this expanding consumerism led to **mass production** using inventions like James Watt's steam engine, Richard Arkwright's water frame, or Eli Whitney's interchangeable parts. Although the linear economy revolutionized industry and manufacturing, the waste generation of this system quickly decreased biodiversity, shortened resource availability, and exacerbated air pollution. For instance, London's "Great Stink" and cholera outbreak of 1858 were directly correlated to the disposal of chemicals and industrial debris in the Thames River. All in all, this movement made it possible for the modern linear economy to expand markets, accelerate mass production, and develop advanced resource extraction methods.

It is also important to note that the circular economy remained a primary commercial practice until the early 19th century. Following the success of the linear economy in the Industrial Revolution, the circular economy began to phase out in three "modes" or shifts. To

begin, the first mode was caused by coal-fired steam engines, as they generated quick energy to power locomotion. Alongside that, the cost of gathering resources decreased with synthetic materials rising in popularity. This initial shift resulted in widespread urbanization as factories became the primary source of work. Countless families were uprooted from their peaceful rural lives to migrate to the city for industrial jobs. The second shift occurred during the hygienist movement of the 19th century where circulation of waste was claimed to be the main driver of epidemics. Therefore, cities were restructured around the idea of flushing out waste rather than allowing it to re-enter the ecosystem. This led to the transition from circularity's association with "being clean" to buying new and discarding old trends. Finally, in the 1930s, mode three took place due to society's consumerism lifestyles. Individuals were hardwired to view nature as something to conquer and economic growth became the overpowering goal of society.

Bigger Issue

As of recent years, circular economic practices have resurfaced due to deep investment in promoting **zero-waste development**. Zero-waste philosophies idealize efficient resource lifecycles to mitigate waste and prioritize resource management. On an economic level, the adoption of this ideology allows businesses to improve public health, increase economic savings through waste disposal, and allocate resources more effectively. Within the consumer goods sector, circularity has been embraced by replacing plastic with reusable materials such as stainless steel. Not only has this transition limited waste but it has also improved customer satisfaction through the extended life of each product. To correct the negative impact of fast fashion, circular guidelines have promoted sustainable brands that allow individuals to return or "recycle" their used clothing in return for credits towards new clothing items. Every recycled item is then utilized towards the creation of new clothes rather than becoming part of a landfill. For example, Japan's GU Recycling Program collects used clothes to be repurposed and distributed as aid. Additionally, the food industry is using newfound technologies to minimize waste and redirect surpluses to households, communities, or establishments in areas of poverty. Evidently, the circular economy aligns directly with the fundamental ideals of zero-waste development.



Traditionally, economies have utilized the linear economy model, which has significantly hindered zero-waste development. Firstly, the consumerism behind this economy results in

developed countries collecting mass amounts of natural resources at a low price which causes surpluses. Consequently, manufacturing firms deploy facilities in developing nations to ensure a low-cost labor market. This results in the waste generated by these surpluses to be burdened by the developing nations. Additionally, the construction industry accounts for 30% of natural resource harvesting while releasing 25% of solid waste. Likewise, construction sites have been found to be a top contributor to CO2 emissions due to a disregard for sustainable energy solutions. It is also necessary to discuss volatile supply chains as dependency on raw materials allows for economic insecurity, which will lead to geopolitical tensions, price shocks, and supply shortages. During the Yom Kippur War, Arab members of OPEC, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, imposed an oil embargo on any nation supporting Israel. As a result, tensions grew and global oil prices quadrupled. Nevertheless, governments will be forced to set aside large sums of money to manage landfills and oversee cleanups. Correspondingly, linear economies create job scarcity as they prioritize mass production at low costs with high returns which, in this modern era, provides more opportunities to AI systems rather than people. Notably, the ambition of a linear economy to rapidly gather natural resources with no return has caused a loss of biodiversity, deforestation, pollution, economic instability, and several other issues.

However, this commercial practice does have certain beneficial counterparts that must be addressed in the debate of circular economies versus linear economies. To illustrate, this economic structure is glorified for its simplicity, as it provides quick output without complex systems needed for the input. Within a circular economy, many recycling technologies are needed to safely extract and create sustainable items,causing slower production and less scalability. In addition, corporations are able to manufacture goods at a lower up-front cost, allowing more consumers to afford products. The mass production of linear economies also enables nations to boost their GDP and support international trade. For centuries, linear economic practices have had such a heavy influence on the globe that instability could occur when transitioning to a new foundation as it disrupts industries revolving around resource extraction and waste disposal, creates uncertainties with investors who may be wary due to unclear returns, and causes cultural resistance. Notably, traditional small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Italy have resisted the integration of circularity due to cultural emphasis on craftsmanship, high initial prices, and regulatory confusion.

Likewise, there are many gaps that must be bridged in order to incorporate circularity into linear nations. For instance, this transition would have significantly higher initial costs due to a lack of structure in guidelines, barriers, and a need for stronger circular innovations.

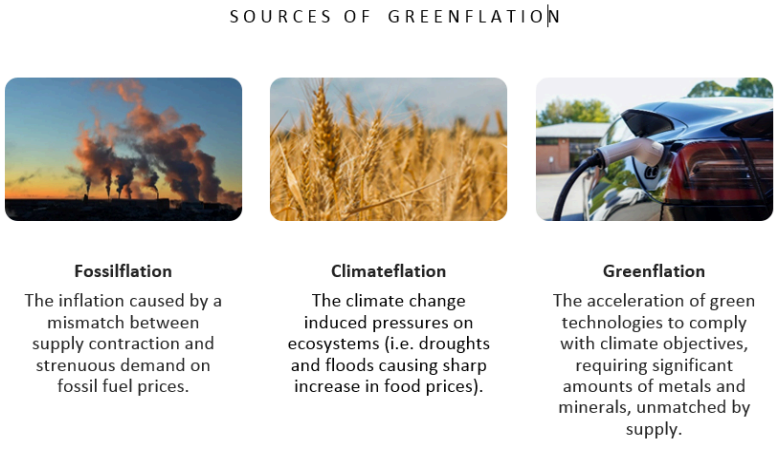
Similarly, across the globe there have been minimal case studies on the stability and functionality of circular economic practices. This lack of research causes uncertainty

in governments and their citizens in regards to the success of this economic method as well as the technological capability needed for each nation. On the other hand, many scientists have revealed that circular economies may be needed because of regulatory demands, improved profitability, and resource conservation. However, other scientists worry about the prosperity of the economy in accepting this alien lifestyle due to lack of incentives, awareness, investment into new technologies, punishments for refusing to change procedures, and increased complexity. To conclude, there are many gaps that must be addressed in order for circularity to thrive and promote zero-waste development.

Recent Updates

As of lately, nations have begun implementing circular practices into their current economic systems. In 2023, the Spanish Association for Standardization and Certification renewed initiatives to further promote zero-waste development. Additionally, several studies in Europe have investigated the potential of circularity, revealing that it has the capability to create 700,000 European jobs within the next six years. Another key instance of circular integration would be through China's 14th Five-Year Plan for 2030. Through this program, green lifestyles are encouraged, **carbon intensity** is being reduced, economic growth is ensured, and circularity is leveraged to improve living standards. To emphasize, this plan has already increased research and development spending of circularity by 7%, has deployed carbon trading markets to incentivize emission reductions, and commits to carbon peak by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2060 goals. Similarly, countries such as India and Kenya have deployed intensive recycling strategies to preserve their communities. India has e-waste recycling hubs while Kenya promotes **green-entrepreneurship** and bans plastic bags. Colombia has fostered the circular economy roadmap (CONPES 411) to commit to various sustainable **SDGs** as well as ease the transition out of linear economic structures. Therefore, the UN has openly showcased their dedication to bettering the world in terms of the economy and the environment through SDG 8, SDG 12, SDG 13, and more.

Furthermore, various nations have been faced with the cruelty of linear economies and their impact on resource availability alongside inflation rates. Primarily, national sovereignties are struggling with **'greenflation'**. For instance, the over extraction of crude oil has led to significant price fluctuations in the gasoline industry, leaving citizens exposed to **price volatility**. In 2022, gas prices across the United States nearly doubled, and these price increases comprised 50% of Europe's year-on-year inflation. To add, trade relations have started faltering due to continuous



resource depletion, including the exploitation of crude oil. Countries like Venezuela that specialize in this raw material have battled with supply shocks, with production falling from three million barrels a day in the 1990s to one million barrels in the 2020s. Correspondingly, this drop in generation has resulted in economic instability across Venezuela and its trading partners. Although instability across nations cannot be entirely attributed to the consequences of linear economies, this practice has undoubtedly worsened existing issues.

Possible Solutions

On a short-term scale, there are a multitude of resolutions that can be enacted to address the transition from linear to circular economies. Namely, public acceptance must be achieved through the installment of awareness campaigns towards circularity and the negative effects of a linear economy. To illustrate, social media campaigns, educational seminars, and case studies would be beneficial to reach this goal. Having said this, it is also necessary to research the viability of economic integration into a circular model. Additionally, phasing out single-use plastics like plastic straws could be applied to businesses as well as stores. Nonetheless, providing citizens with alternative solutions to the typical raw material or linear product will assist with the overflow of waste and the depletion of resources. For example, private corporations should offer more biodegradable packaging, and the extensive advocacy of electric vehicles should be encouraged. Evidently, several short-term resolutions can be upheld in order to support circular economies in zero-waste development.

Furthermore, in order to aid the progression of the circular economy, nations must also collaborate to facilitate long-term strategies. Notably, investments in sustainable infrastructure and construction methods can greatly impact the trajectory of zero-waste development. For instance, waste tracking systems can be modified to limit debris and foster “reduce, reuse, recycle” mentalities. Solar powered buildings and improved durability in facilities will strengthen circularity within communities. It is also necessary to redesign manufacturing techniques to favor circular economic foundations. Through inclusions of circular technologies, products can have enhanced quality while simultaneously protecting limited resources. In addition, creating frameworks will allow for the concept of circularity to become adaptable to all.

Committee Involvement

ECOSOC has long since prioritized zero-waste development and has collaborated with other UN bodies to foster the International Day of Zero Waste. This day pertains to all things

sustainable and showcases the importance of responsible waste management among all platforms. Additionally, this committee has outwardly advocated for circular methods, but no direct action has been taken to facilitate this conversion. Besides this, ECOSOC engages in financial analysis, data collection, and policy structuring to aid nations in establishing zero-waste strategies. It is also important to note that in recent ECOSOC conferences,special meetings pertaining to circularity's role in mitigating waste have been held. Specifically, the 2021 Youth Forum hosted sessions to showcase youth-led innovations that upheld circular ideals in sustainable consumption. Individuals promoted community-driven clothing swaps, zero-waste packaging startups, and circular agriculture methods. Most importantly, this UN body has openly devoted various dialogues and time to bettering zero-waste initiatives.

Questions to Consider

1. *How have linear economic practices hurt or strengthened your nation and to what degree?*
2. *How can circularity be integrated into existing trade agreements and economic development strategies?*
3. *What impact will the overall social and economic foundations of our globe endure in progressing towards circular economies?*
4. *In what ways has resource depletion affected the stability of your nation?*
5. *How can technology accelerate circular movements and transitions?*

Vocabulary

Biodiversity-biological diversity in an environment as indicated by numbers of different species of plants and animals

Carbon intensity-a measure of how many greenhouse gasses are emitted per unit of activity, product, or service

Consumerism-the promotion of the consumer's interests; the theory that an increase in consumption of goods is economically desirable

Green entrepreneurship-the degree of variation or fluctuation in the price of an asset, commodity, or market over a specific period

Greenflation-the increase in the price of goods and services that are linked to environmental sustainability and the transition to a green economy

Laissez-Faire economics-a policy of minimal government intervention in the economy, allowing free markets to regulate themselves

Marxism-a socioeconomic philosophy analyzing class relations and societal conflict using a materialist interpretation of historical development

Mass production-production of goods in large quantities typically by machinery

Price Volatility-the degree of variation or fluctuation in the price of an asset, commodity, or market over a specific period

SDGs-sustainable development goals adopted by all members of the UN in 2015

Zero-waste development-focuses on minimizing waste generation and maximizing resource recovery through strategies like waste prevention, reuse, recycling, and composting

Suggested Sources

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https://journals.openedition.org/factsreports/6530 *highlights the history of circular economic practices while providing suggestions to reinstate its prevalence in society*

https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-69626-8_131#:~:text=High%20initial%20costs%2C%20the%20need,necessitating%20policy%20and%20regulatory%20changes *provides a study on worker insight that can be leveraged in resolution making*

https://eulacfoundation.org/en/system/files/case_studies_circular_economy_eu_lac.pdf *further illustrates circularity's integration through specific models*

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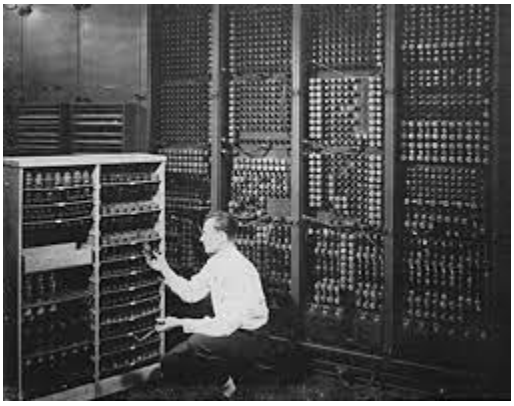
Topic B: Ensuring Equitable Employment in the Age of AI

History and Situation

Technology has played a key role in the workforce since its earliest introductions into society. Notably, the world's journey to the creation of the modern-day computer revolutionized industry and manufacturing. To begin, in 1937 Bell Laboratories constructed the "Model K" Adder, demonstrating the role of **binary additions** in processing logical operations. Following this groundbreaking discovery, Bell Laboratories was able to construct the Complex Numbers Calculator (CNC), which utilized a Teletype terminal to act as a remote access computing device. In 1941, the Z3 computer was created by Konrad Zuse. This early computer was capable of completing aerodynamic calculations, performing binary arithmetic, used 2,300 relays, and had 22-bit word length. In the early 1950's, these inventions, along with various others, led to the first commercial computer known as ERA 1101. Likewise, the first microcomputer titled ASR-33 was later developed to provide access to an inexpensive communications network. In the late 1970s, the Video Display Module was introduced as the earliest form of memory-mapped technology with video-display for personal computers. Evidently, these advancements paved the way for video games, cellphones, and other praised technological discoveries.

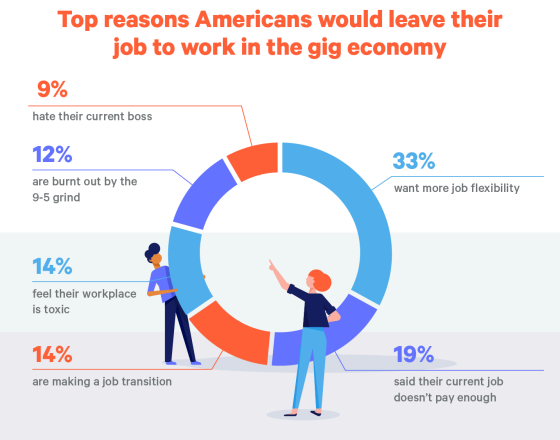


While the globe has experienced many modernizing movements, the creation of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** is one of the most prominent discoveries. Dating back to the early 1900s, the groundwork for AI began, however no legitimate progress was made until the 1950s. In 1952, Arthur Samuel created the first program that allowed an individual to play chess with a computer rather than a partner. Later, in 1958, John McCarthy established LISP, which was the earliest form of programming language towards AI research. Additionally, in 1965 the first "expert system" was constructed in order to replicate the internal workings of a human brain. Likewise, in 1966 "chatterbot" was invented utilizing natural language processing (NLP) to allow computers to digitally converse with humans. Although AI experienced many successes in its early stages, it overall did not meet the executions of national sovereignties resulting in an AI

Winter. The AI Winter began in 1987 and lasted until 1993 with significantly less supervision and funding aimed towards development of this technology. Following the AI Winter, technology has been leveraged in households as seen through the 2002 Roomba launch and in programs like NASA where rovers are placed on planets to survey the land with no human intervention. Overall, the presence of AI left an impressive mark on our globe, even in its earliest forms.

Bigger Issue

Across the globe, **job insecurity** has increased along with immense growth in unemployment rates. Studies have shown that the vast majority of front-line workers constantly believe they are at risk of being laid-off, resulting in vast amounts of anxiety. For instance, the 2019 CareerArc Layoff Anxiety Study revealed that 48% of employed Americans experience layoff anxiety. Additionally, various employees feel as though their employers value cutting costs over loyalty, causing popularization of the **gig economy**. Through this flexible economic practice, individuals idealize the concept of "being your own boss" with little acknowledgment to its instability. In 2025, a survey highlighted that nearly 60% of gig workers in the UK experienced unpredictable income. Although it allows workers to avoid the mistreatment of employers, it has actually harmed them in terms of receiving less protections and lower incomes. In addition, many job opportunities are lost due to offshoring factories to nations with cheaper labor. To illustrate, between 1980 and 2010 the United States experienced a loss of millions of manufacturing jobs due to **globalization**. Subsequently, the employment market is dwindling with substantial growth in individuals seeking work.

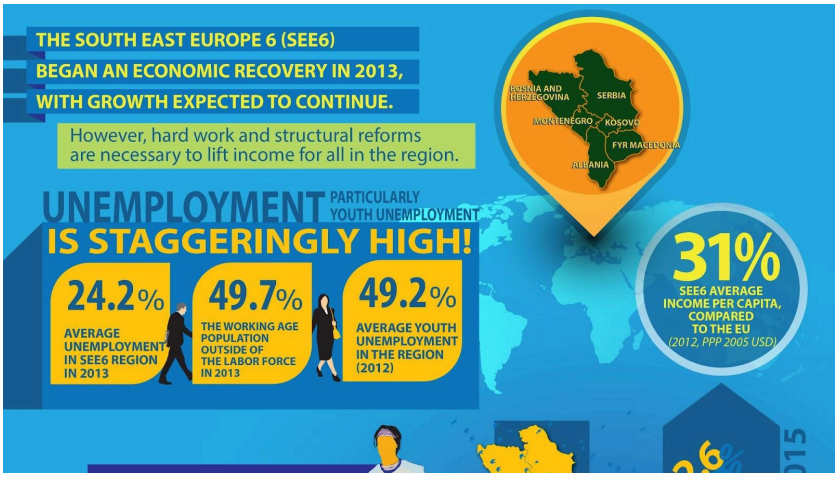


The age of **automation** has also been a driving force in job insecurity across fields like customer service, manufacturing, and transportation. In fact, a study by McKinsey Global Institute has demonstrated the strong possibility of AI comprising 30% of all hours worked by 2030. Additionally, a program in South Korea revealed that even the presence of automation in the workforce caused psychological responses in laborers that negatively impacted worker productivity. Primarily, **knowledge hiding behaviors** (KHB) were discovered in employees leading to large gaps between advanced technologies and those working these machines. Besides automation's efficiency in jobs with repetitive tasks, AI has been found to reduce demand for careers that require creativity as it imitates human thought. It is also important to note that the importance of STEM skills in this growing world of automation creates several disparities. Studies have shown that women, Black, and Latino citizens are severely underrepresented in

fields corresponding to AI, strengthening segregation within the workforce. To illustrate, the U.S. High-Tech Workforce Diversity research clinic found that in 2024, women comprised only 22.6% of careers in the technology workforce. Additionally, Hispanic workers made up 10% of this industry followed by black individuals accounting for 7.4%. Overall, the prominence of AI in the workforce has caused internal conflicts as well as job insecurity across all fields and all age groups.

On the other hand, advanced intelligence has proven to assist job security in a multitude of ways. To begin, along with assistance in building foundations for entrepreneurs, AI has combated unemployment by creating new roles in cybersecurity, STEM, and data collection. In addition, workers that utilize advanced technologies have demonstrated a 40% enhancement of performance in comparison to those that don't use it. To illustrate, working *with* rather than *against* AI can decrease stress, aid in accomplishing tedious tasks allowing workers to prioritize strategic work, and detect inefficiencies in productivity before they get out of hand. Similarly, it has been found to increase workplace safety as it is able to rapidly analyze potential hazards that would restrict an individual from continuing their job. Ultimately, there are various positive outcomes of AI being incorporated into the workplace when paired with regulations.

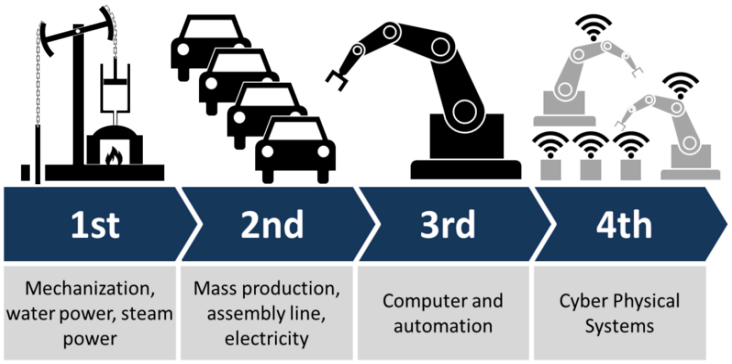
Nevertheless, this growing technological field plays an even larger role in youth employment. As of recent years, nearly 50% of the Gen Z population seeking work has felt as if AI has been a main contributor to **underemployment**. In addition, AI has restricted young individuals from gaining early work experience that later impacts them when seeking a higher level profession. Moreover, employers desire candidates with extensive technological understanding, causing youth from marginalized backgrounds-such as those from low-income households, rural communities, underfunded schools, and historically underrepresented racial groups-to face significant disadvantages. Moreover, applications like ChatGPT have obstructed critical thinking, as students rely on AI to provide them with quick responses to rid them of dull responsibilities. Correspondingly, this has worsened job insecurity towards youth as they now lack certain traits needed to thrive in their careers.



Recent Updates

Meanwhile, the advanced intelligence industry is continuing to grow across all nations. In 2025, Meta revealed their plans to construct 'superintelligence' that will exceed the functionality of both the human brain and typical AI programming. Within the healthcare sector, AI analysis tools have been found to be twice as effective as a doctor in reviewing brain scans, enabling faster diagnosis with more accurate prescriptions. Since paramedics in the UK experience 350,000 calls for an ambulance needed per month, advanced technologies have been used to assist officials in deciding whether or not this transportation is necessary. Furthermore, these technologies have also been leveraged in the agricultural field. As pests continue to destroy crop yields, AI devices like FarmSense's FlightSensor have been placed in farms to rapidly detect and trap insects. Not only this, but the device will also scan external conditions such as weather to notify farmers of the predicted cause of infestation. To add, the emergence of autonomous AI tools has enabled sectors like personal marketing, cybersecurity, and financial analysis to thrive due to its ability to plan and execute goals independently. For instance, firms in India like RazorPay and ZestAI have utilized AI models to observe credit risk and optimize loan approval rates. Similarly, Israeli companies including CyberArk have used autonomous tools to neutralize any cyber threats detected. To conclude, AI has had several improvements that help industries flourish.

Henceforth, these recent enhancements must be further analyzed in developing nations. The World Bank estimates that developing nations will account for 34% of global population growth in 2050, yet they received less than 2% of global foreign investment in 2022. This severe gap in finance and aid has caused these countries to fall behind technologically during the **Fourth Industrial Revolution**. To combat this, developed nations have begun establishing programs like 'Fusemachines' and 'Cloudfactory' to facilitate technological growth. Fusemachine provides jobs to individuals in places such as Nepal or the Dominican Republic with the goal of enriching these employees on AI engineering and functionality. In order to train possible employees, this facility offers one-year training platforms to prepare them to work in the AI field. Similarly, Cloudfactory hires around seven thousand Kenyans and Nepali to specialize in advanced technology datasets and deployment. However, several investigations have revealed that companies similar to those listed above exploit underage workers. On the other hand, the introduction of AI tools into the healthcare system has allowed developing nations to reap several benefits. For instance, Malawi's adoption of AI-augmented fetal monitoring systems

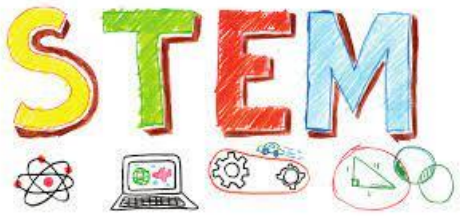


resulted in an 82% decrease in stillbirths. In short, developing nations have progressed in the sector of emerging technologies but still have many gaps that must be bridged.

Possible Solutions

In terms of short-term resolutions, employees of all ages must be prioritized first to create a lasting effect. Across the globe, businesses integrating technologies need proper training to **destigmatize** AI in their workplace, create healthy boundaries or regulations, uphold worker rights, and support **augmentation** rather than total automation. In order to do this, a collective group of scientists, engineers, managers, and other officials must streamline informative seminars to balance AI and human interactions within industry. These seminars can foster potential productivity of AI and human collaboration. It is also necessary to suggest baseline human employment targets that depend on the sector of business, size of the facility, and more to assist job security. Additionally, extensive technological training must be offered to all individuals before being hired to ensure no disadvantages. Having said this, developed nations must work with developing countries to nurture this necessary training, whether that be through financial aid, online classes, or international internships. Nonetheless, disparities amongst minority groups must be addressed through education, employment, representation, and, above all, action.

On a long-term scale, countries should focus on ensuring equitable youth employment in the age of AI. Namely, modifying curriculums to include AI literacy skills, increased STEM practices, computer sciences, and inclusivity will aid individuals in their future careers. It is also necessary to engage in public and private collaborations to facilitate AI-focused internships. In addition, national sovereignty should be highly recommended to invest in digital infrastructure such as community learning centers. Likewise, the supervision of bias in AI-hiring mechanisms will ensure fair hiring practices to employees. Moreover, offering modular training programs to college graduates experiencing underemployment will help prepare them in applying to careers aligning with their education. To sum up, long-term solutions are needed to aid not only the youth but the entirety of the globe in this technological transition period.



Committee Involvement

As ECOSOC recognizes the growing concerns of implementing AI strategies in the workplace, they have held various conventions to explore the connections between this technology and SDGs. Primarily, they have advocated for ethical responsibility in its deployment and fair opportunities to attain skill mentorship. Specifically, ECOSOC hosted the youth forum

of 2025 titled "AI and Digital Innovation: Youth Led ESG-Actions" where they compiled various ESG (Environment, Social, and Governance) specialists, AI engineers, and youth leaders to discuss the role of this technology in sustainability, the economy, and the empowering of future generations. This forum also hosted an event linking youth mental health to the stress of finding a job. It provided strategies to maintain healthy mindsets when searching for a career while upholding the pillars of SDG 3 and 8. All in all, ECOSOC has worked tirelessly to represent the issue at hand.

Questions to Consider

1. *How can businesses draw the line between automation and augmentation when introducing AI into their facilities?*
2. *How has AI-induced job insecurity affected productivity levels of corporations within your nation? How has productivity changed amongst solely the human laborers?*
3. *What role does psychological responses to AI play in each industry?*
4. *In what ways have youth workers been limited or constrained in applying for highly desired jobs?*
5. *How many underemployed and/or **discouraged** workers are of youthful generations?*
6. *Are current educational systems preparing individuals for entering a job market with strong AI influence?*
7. *How have disparities across minority groups worsened job insecurity due to AI?*

Vocabulary

Artificial Intelligence- the simulation of human intelligence in machines that are programmed to think and act like humans, including tasks like learning, reasoning, problem-solving, and decision-making

Augmentation-changing something for grow in size or prominence

Automation-automatically controlled operation of an apparatus, process, or system by mechanical or electronic devices that take the place of human labor

Destigmatize-to remove notions of shame or disgrace from

***Discouraged workers*-**individuals who want a job, are available for work, but are not actively looking for employment because they believe no jobs are available for them or they lack the qualifications

***Factory System*-**a method of manufacturing that centralized production in large facilities using machinery and a division of labor

***Fourth Industrial Revolution*-**the digital transformation of manufacturing and industrial processes

***Gig economy*-**a labor market characterized by short-term, freelance, or temporary jobs, often facilitated by digital platforms

***Globalization*-**the increasing interconnectedness and interdependence of countries worldwide, driven by the exchange of goods, services, information, and culture

***Job insecurity*-**the feeling of uncertainty or anxiety about the stability of one's employment

***Underemployment*-**occurs when individuals are working in jobs that do not fully utilize their skills, education, or experience, or when they are working part-time when they would prefer to work full-time

Suggested Sources

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https://www.americanprogress.org/article/will-ai-benefit-or-harm-workers/ *demonstrates both the positive and negative aspects to AI in the workforce*

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2444569X2400129X *highlights the connection between AI, psychological employee responses, and productivity*

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Position List

1. United States
2. France
3. United Kingdom
4. China
5. Russia
6. India
7. Germany
8. Kenya
9. Nigeria
10. Colombia
11. Egypt
12. Peru
13. South Korea
14. Pakistan
15. Dominican Republic
16. Israel
17. Nepal
18. Indonesia
19. Brazil
20. Mexico
21. Ukraine
22. Argentina
23. Turkey
24. Japan
25. Venezuela
26. Greece
27. Poland
28. Portugal
29. Italy
30. Zimbabwe
31. Lebanon
32. Malawi