

2025 ILINA Junior Research Fellowship

AI Governance

With the rapid advancements taking place, there is reason to believe that advanced artificial intelligence (AI) is likely to radically transform the long-term future. Even though there may be reasons why we should look forward to such a state of affairs, there has also been growing concern around the risks that advanced AI systems could pose. We're interested in work that helps decision makers (for example governments, donors or other researchers) to understand these risks better or decide on specific steps to take.

To get an **introduction to the AI Risks** we are referring to, you can start [here](#).

To understand **what exactly we're concerned about** with regards to advanced AI systems & the **current work in AI Governance**, refer to [this reading list](#).

In the next part of this document, we've listed some of the open questions we're excited about. Please note that these questions are not exact research projects we're proposing. They're just starting points which we hope prospective applicants can use to develop research projects.

Definitional note

In this section, when we say 'highly capable AI' we mean AI that can match or exceed human performance in almost all cognitive tasks.

On the other hand, 'global south countries (GS countries)' means countries (except China and the so-called 'Asian Tigers') in the region usually described as the global south. We expect research to focus on these countries as a group (because despite the generalisation, they do have an array of shared socio-economic realities); or certain regions (e.g. African or sub-Saharan Africa countries) or certain important and influential countries eg. India.

Questions we're particularly interested in

1. Any of the research ideas detailed in [this document](#).

2. Research on how existing legal standards, tests, frameworks or provisions can be used to promote the AI safety mission (to prevent the materialization of catastrophic or existential risks).
3. Research on how to ensure that advanced AI does not lead to large-scale malicious biological attacks.
4. Research on how to get GS countries' governments to be more concerned about the existential risks that highly capable AI could pose.
5. Research on levers that GS countries' governments/ people can use to positively influence the trajectory of AI development towards a solid AI safety orientation.
6. Any other strong research projects that are about studying ways to ensure AI safety prevails and highly capable AI does not lead to catastrophic or existential risks.