

SHARING AI BENEFITS WITH LIBERAL MIGRATION POLICY

Will AI concentrate or distribute economic and political power and if concentrate, then in whom? Will it make human lives and societies more diverse or more uniform? Expand or contract individual liberty? Enrich or degrade human capabilities?

AI may be a class of technologies for which serious consideration of the role of technical characteristics in shaping impacts is especially needed, in view of its labile nature and its potential for profound societal disruption. An obvious and widely discussed possibility would be general-purpose AI assistants serving individual people, either unitary systems or integrations of multiple special-purpose systems. Such agents could act as information source, advocate, and negotiator for their clients in multiple interactions. They could provide suggestions and recommendations, manage the mechanics of transactions, and bargain on your behalf in consumption and other commercial interactions, both present ones and new ones it would enable – e.g., renting out your car, tools, or other costly assets when you do not need them. They could play similar roles in financial and investment decisions, and in labor-market participation. In situations of conflict or interaction with authorities, they could aid you in negotiations and advise you on your legal rights. They could support and advise your political participation, whether through existing channels such as voting and candidate support or through new, AI-enabled processes that combine elements of representative and direct democracy, such as issue specific proxy delegation or other forms of “liquid democracy.” And they could act as a personal coach, helping you make decisions and manage your time in line with your goals and values.

(Reference: Could AI Drive Transformative Social Progress? What Would This Require? UCLA School of Law, Public Law Research Paper No. 19-49, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3476404)

Immigration policy

In a recent paper Nicholas Bloom, John Van Reenen and Heidi Williams analysed different policy instruments for promoting innovation and provided a basic “toolkit” describing which policies are most effective. In the short-run, R&D tax credits or direct public funding seem the most productive, but in the longer-run increasing the supply of human capital (**e.g. relaxing immigration rules or expanding university STEM admissions**) are likely more effective.

Liberal immigration benefits both developed countries where AI is developed and developing countries needing AI enabled solutions from disaster management to peacekeeping. Knowledge generating countries benefit with increased supply of global talent from outside country borders. AI solution utility depends on algorithm, data and iteration. Without adaptation, AI solution developed in another context will be underexploited and adaptation needs liberal non-immigrant travel permits for

developing countries IT professionals. Technology charity like free use of AI patents would not address the inequality between knowledge generating nations and knowledge utilizing nations.