OTDT Board

GENERAL GUIDELINES

on the Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence

TDKs and OTDK are communities of researchers in Hungarian higher education who set an example and take responsibility for ethical scientific practice. The primary purpose of these guidelines is to interpret and support the ethical use of artificial intelligence in the preparation and evaluation of TDK papers.

Generative applications of artificial intelligence (AI) are capable of producing and processing new content with the help of machine learning, which is why AI is being used more and more widely in scientific research and artistic creation.

A fundamental requirement of any TDK and OTDK paper is that it must qualify as the intellectual creation of the author(s). If the use of AI determines the quality of the TDK paper to such an extent that it can no longer be regarded as the participant's intellectual creation, the TDK paper does not meet the fundamental professional and ethical requirements of the TDK.

The participant's intellectual creation is a human creation, the result of the participant's intellectual achievement and thought. At the same time, content generated by AI may form part of a human intellectual creation or support it in other ways. A clear distinction between human intellectual creation and AI-generated content is a condition of the ethical use of AI, and it also serves to protect the integrity of human intellectual work.

The basic requirement of ethical AI use is transparency. Accordingly, in their intellectual work (TDK paper, presentation), the participant must clearly identify the part of content produced by AI, specify in which part of the content AI was used as a supporting tool or function, and state the exact purpose of its use.

At the 38th OTDK, the AI applied must be indicated in a separate statement in the OTDT online system during registration for the OTDK, in a manner suitable for subsequent identification (the statement will be accessible to reviewers and Section Panel members in connection with the submitted TDK paper). The statement must specify the part of content concerned, the purpose of use, a brief description of the prompt (AI query), the name of the AI application (model, version), and the date of download. In the OTDK presentation, reference to AI use must be included in the PowerPoint slides.

The purpose of use may be, for example (the list below is illustrative only, the function may be defined otherwise):

- literature collection or analysis,
- producing a content summary of a publication,

- structuring a research theme,
- data cleaning and processing,
- pattern recognition,
- supporting statistical analysis,
- supporting text creation,
- linguistic correction (grammar, style, coherence),
- translation,
- generation of figures and tables,
- image creation and retouching,
- generating research questions,
- other.

If the participant failed to indicate the use of AI because they were unaware of the use of AI software during an IT process, this fact must be taken into account during evaluation, and it must be considered to what extent the identification of AI use could reasonably have been expected from the author, given all the circumstances.

The ethical use of AI is to be assessed by the Section Panel members (reviewers) evaluating the TDK paper.
The guidelines also apply to the evaluation of papers, stating that it is considered unethical for reviewers if the findings of a professional written evaluation originate from AI.

The OTDT Board publishes these guidelines in full awareness that technological applications and software designed to verify and filter AI use retrospectiveThe Presidium of the OTDT publishes these guidelines in full awareness that technological applications and software designed to verify and filter AI use retrospectively (AI detectors) do not yet yield reliable results, but can at most raise the suspicion of AI use.ly (AI detectors) do not yet yield reliable results, but can at most raise the suspicion of AI use. Their application during the evaluation (review) of TDK papers is not a requirement, but not excluded either.

The Section Calls issued by the scientific field sections may support the application of these guidelines with additional specific provisions.

3 October 2025