



DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

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UAE LAUNCHES INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ROBOTICS (iCAIR)

- A new international council was formed today by the UAE Prime Minister's Office, inspired by the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Artificial Intelligence and Robotics on the occasion of the 7th Global Agenda Summit in Dubai, UAE.
- Founding members of the International Council on Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (iCAIR, pronounced "I care") will include the leading researchers and innovators from the world's best universities, companies, and organisations, including:
 - University of California, Berkeley
 - Carnegie Mellon University
 - Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
 - University of Southampton
 - American University of Beirut
 - Climate Bridge Ventures
 - Universal Robotics
 - Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna
 - Khalifa University
 - Machine Intelligence Research Institute
 - University of Lisbon
 - And many others
- "Humanity is on a journey," said His Excellency Mohammad Al Gergawi, Minister of Cabinet Affairs for the Federal Government of the United Arab Emirates. "There are milestones on this journey - from the discovery of fire, to the invention of agriculture, to the industrial revolution. Robotics, automation and artificial intelligence are the next major steps in this journey."



- The Council will advise on the best way to use robotics and artificial intelligence to improve people's lives, including the creation of educational materials and a global action plan.
- "There is no limit to the imagination. There is no limit to hope," said Gergawi. "In the UAE, we believe in giving opportunity to everyone, and in using technology to help people achieve their dreams"
- The Council will be managed by the UAE Prime Minister's Office and will meet annually to pursue a broad range of initiatives.

INITIATIVES - THE UAE "ROBOTS FOR GOOD" AWARD

- The first initiative of the Council will be the UAE "Robots for Good" Award.
- The Award will build on the successful UAE "Drones for Good" Award, which received 800 submissions from 62 countries around the world.
- The goal of the Award is to encourage research and application of innovative solutions to challenges in three areas:
 - Health
 - Education
 - Social Services
- Winning submissions will provide real services that improve people's lives, ranging from hardware to software intelligence and artificial agents.
- The Award will be opened for submission in February, 2015, at the Government Summit in Dubai, UAE.
- Members of the Council will form the Judging Committee.
- Other initiatives of the Council will include educational conferences, the use of robotics in UAE schools and universities, and leading policies on the humanitarian and positive uses of robotics and artificial intelligence.



QUOTES

- "We are pleased to collaborate with the UAE to develop a test bed and global action plan that will have measurable economic and policy impact, as well to encourage public understanding and awareness of the positive potentials of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics," said **Dr. Corinna E. Lathan, Chair, World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Artificial Intelligence and Robotics.**
- "The UAE recognises the potential for AI to bring unlimited good to humanity, and is challenging all of us to bring our best ideas to reality." **Professor Stuart Russell, Smith-Zadeh Chair of Computer Science at the University of California, Berkeley**
- "I'm delighted to be part of this initiative which reflects the increasingly significant role that automated systems will play in all our lives and the need to harness the benefits for society as well as recognise the challenges. The vision and leadership shown by the government of the UAE to inaugurate this Council will be an inspiration to the world" **Professor Dame Wendy Hall, University of Southampton, UK**
- "This is indeed a reflection of the UAE's focus on creating hope and opportunity for all of Dubai's citizens - now and far into the future." **Professor Justine Cassell, Associate Vice-Provost for Technology Strategy and Impact at Carnegie Mellon University,** describes the value of allying a competition such as this one with educational opportunities, community outreach, and scholarly conferences.
- "As a worldwide logistic hub, the UAE recognizes that the expansion of artificial intelligence and robotics has broad reaching implications to improve the efficiency and safety of the supply chain.", says **David Peters, CEO of Universal Robotics.**
- "The decisive and visionary way in which UAE is embracing the future in the field of AI and robotics is extremely impressive, and I'm delighted to be

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joining the Council", said **Alex Wyatt, founder of the Climate Bridge group of companies in China.**

- "Robot industry shall be a new economic growth engine" said **Professor Jong-Hwan Kim of KAIST University.**
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