

A Meta-Analysis of the Research Literature on AI Ethics in Iran: Trends, Research Gaps, and Future Directions

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Abstracts

Abstract

The present study aimed to map the landscape of the research literature on "AI ethics" in Iran and to identify its trends and gaps. To this end, a qualitative meta-analysis approach was adopted. Relevant peer-reviewed scholarly articles were systematically searched in national databases, and after applying inclusion and exclusion criteria, the articles were screened in accordance with the PRISMA guidelines. Ultimately, 25 articles were selected for analysis. These articles were examined based on a multidimensional framework using descriptive statistics and comparative content analysis. The findings indicated that the Iranian literature on AI ethics is an emerging and interdisciplinary phenomenon, having largely taken shape after 2021 (1400 in the Iranian calendar). It is produced at the intersections of philosophy and theology, health, communication and media, and professional domains, with prominent themes including privacy and data protection, algorithmic bias and discrimination, justice, transparency, human dignity, and human autonomy. In conclusion, the study underscores the necessity of moving beyond conceptual discussions toward localized empirical research and the development of actionable frameworks and standards for the ethical governance of AI in Iran.

Keywords

Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, Meta-Analysis of Research Literature, AI Ethics, Ethical Research.

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