



Pop AI is a project financed by the European Commission and promoted by Zanasi&Partners, research and advisory company of Security and Defence, under the coordination of the Greek National Research Center “Demokritos”.

Pop AI is a 2020 Horizon project, whose final goal is paving the way for the creation of a shared approach for the Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the security sector.

In Europe and worldwide, the interest for a legal application of artificial intelligence – and thus its utilization by the security forces – is growing steadily. This technology has great potential, nowadays not fully exploited, as its possible employment spans across different domains, such as antiterrorism, crowd security and criminal investigations. However increasingly beneficial, resorting to the AI for these purposes is also becoming at the same time controversial. In the last years, several wrongdoings have undermined the public trust toward this approach; the Facebook–Cambridge Analytica and Live Facial Recognition scandals, together with the “Snowden’s case”, are good instances of human misuse of the AI.

According to many stakeholders of the civil society, an abuse of the technologies behind the AI could undermine the core values of democracy, exposing the security forces to privacy issues, racist behaviours, or an overcontrol not strictly required to prevent illicit acts. The final aim of pop AI is addressing these concerns, fostering a constructive dialogue between the European policymakers, the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), and the ordinary citizens. If the European Union aims to be a world leader in the development of a tailored Security-AI, it must uniform as much as possible the regulatory framework between the Member States, devising a bottom-up strategy.

In order to deliver this result, pop AI will create a common Hub for all the LEAs interested in using the Artificial Intelligence, sharing their experiences and polling the stakeholders potentially more involved in the implementation of this technology.

From the scientific viewpoint, the project is rooted on the one side on the empirical and direct experience of the EU security forces, and on the other one on the academic reflections conveyed trough essays, papers and specialist reviews. The length of the project is 24 months. As far as the realization is concerned, that is embedded in three steps:

1. Ethical, social and legal analysis. This investigation has the objective of acknowledging the state of the art.
2. Empirical research. This step comprehends the development of tools of social listening and the LEAs Hub.
3. Recommendations. The final outcome should be a collection of best practices and suggestions to draw a *white book* on this topic.

During the third phase, pop AI will profit from advices coming from several stakeholders – coordinated by Z&P – and will be seeking better coordination with other similar projects, such as AI 01 (research roadmap) and AI 02 (first-hand research). Before the completion of the last tasks, the pending results will offer inputs to, and take inputs from, these projects.

Zanasi & Partners (<http://www.zanasi-alessandro.eu>) is a research and advisory company based in Modena (IT) and specialized in Security and Defence.

Coordination



Technology experts



Legal and ethical experts



Security practitioners (LEAs)

