

DISCLAIMER

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This document is of a technical-specialist nature in the security-intelligence field

**In the *security and intelligence* sector, the Human Mind is still outstanding.
*AI as a tool for human support and enhancement.***

Let's start from the prodromes: what is meant by intelligence? It derives from the Latin "intelligere", which – if desired – it is a compound of inter-legere, that is, "to read between things". Simplifying and paraphrasing: **knowing orient.**

From this assumption (perhaps forced, the expert philologists don't mind) we must start to understand what the **purpose** of artificial intelligence (aka *Artificial Intelligence*) should be.

As can be easily understood, AI was born precisely to **help man**, to orient him in the most twisted contexts, to the point of being a champion and instrument of excellence in the management of complexities.

In short, AI means helping man in future challenges. We must not fear it, but know how to exploit it in the way correct and unhurried.

This contribution could end with these first lines, since the identification of AI should move towards an idea of a **tool with very high added value for humanity and not its direct substitute.**

This innovative system, despite being extremely sophisticated and advantageous for solving problems sometimes insurmountable, we have already begun to use it for what is very little complex: yes, the very "intelligence" that sends rockets into space, controls robots that help medical teams and that performs amazing actions, today we also use it to write low-level articles on the last Serie A match, remaining amazed and surprised, belittling so the technical skills.

What can I say, man is a "singular" creature.

Without going too far into social, philanthropic and philosophical ethics (a matter for experts in the sector and not for myself), an aspect that few have the courage to touch and explore (fully) is the use of "artificial intelligence" applied to the field of security.

I remember, years ago, when, with the advent of the first **military drones** equipped with **artificial intelligence**, the question arose as to who would be to **blame if** the machine "by mistake" **injured/killed a civilian** instead of a enemy soldier.

The cleverest believed that the responsibility lay primarily with the drone as an automated entity, then with the software, then with the manufacturer, then a little bit of everyone.

The answer: the responsibility belonged and belongs to the commander and the line of command (up to the highest summit), whoever denies this has conflicts of interest, above all economic (this problem has also arisen for third party liability policies for driverless cars automatic: in the event of an accident, who is responsible?).

In recent years, especially after 2020, efforts have been made to **apply intelligence-** based technology **artificial** also in the field of **security & intelligence**, both in the public and in the private sector, with

various objectives, including that of speeding up decision-making processes and the management of risky and harmful events (think of cyber defense countermeasures).

Yet, in reality, **the use of this tool in this sector** in turn entails

further risks, if not even wrong and catastrophic choices .

The **security-intelligence field** is completely **conditioned** by **human behaviour**, which – as obvious as it is – they change over time and are children of new needs.

I try to explain better.

In the context of corporate **anti-fraud** , use "**data analysis**" tools **based** on algorithms

sophisticated and **AI**, it certainly brings a great help to the teams responsible for containment activities

fraud, but, on the other hand, it "**guarantees**" the **increase of risks and errors** (even fatal ones).

Think of a business valuation software used in banking or insurance,

useful for **understanding** whether or not a **company is deserving of insurance coverage** or a **financing**.

Most of the **software** to verify whether or not a company is reliable **starts from some basic elements such as the Ateco Code and the statute present in the chamber of commerce registration**, in order to **identify** the **sector** to which the company belongs , so as to highlight **the main risks** – objectively – related to this business area.

This, unfortunately, is a school mistake.

In fact, more often than not, anyone who starts a **business with fraudulent or criminal purposes inserts** (or has inserted) a **different or inaccurate Ateco Code from the actual activity they are going to carry out**. Therefore,

the evaluation software may find itself evaluating a company positively with a code and company object that identifies the activity as "resale of spare parts for printers", when – in reality –

the activity carried out by the company is the marketing of food products or products for domestic use (think of the surveys on convenience stores, where in addition to the activity detectable through ATECO, additional services are carried out such as "money transfer"; companies that do not exist/operate in places other than those declared; up to situations related to illegal cases, such as money laundering and self-laundering.).

The result: **the software that was supposed to make the bank or company more efficient insurance company in the risk analysis, in reality, caused economic damage and reputational, since it based the evaluation of the company-client on data ed elements spoiled by anomalies or completely different from reality.**

Trying to simplify:

1. In the field of **security** and **intelligence**, the **behavioral variable** is the **basis of everything and it cannot be summarized in statistics**; nor can it be evaluated through virtualized actions without cross-verifying the single element in reality.
2. **Human behavior is constantly changing** and is influenced by factors of interest/psychological/choice/context which themselves can change innumerable times in each instant.
3. **AI is an excellent massive analysis tool**: it helps analysts of all types in managing large amounts of data, being able to direct pre-analysis on many "end-points" à eg. The

software helps man in gathering entry level data of huge number of companies in a short time. But **this collection is never a point of arrival**. Quite the contrary!

4. **AI is an excellent parallel support in the process of research and data collection** in the OSINT (Open Source Intelligence), IMINT (Imagery Intelligence), SIGINT (Signal Intelligence) and SOCMINT (Social Media Intelligence) areas.

5. Security / **intelligence analysis** must **always be enhanced** and **cross-checked** with **human cross-processing**.

6. HUMINT (Human Intelligence) and the collection of information in physical and non-physical **reality** virtual/virtualized **is the** added and **irreplaceable** value brought **by man**.

7. In a **negotiation with a kidnapper**, **statistics are not certain data**: the **dialogue** is done by the **mediator** can **modify** any **variable**, **human pathos** is always **conditioning**.

The same example is **also applicable** in case of financial/insurance/economic fraud, **corporate warfare**, "violent" and/or **unfair competition**, economic challenge: **the choice made by the criminal/competitor/adversary can change at any time**

à **to prevent moves you need ears, eyes and heart, not algorithms/math**.

Therefore, in the security-intelligence field, where the mind, behavior and human interests are the masters, **AI** is a new tool with great **potential**, but **we must not fall into the trap** of **entrusting what is completely influenced by man to a virtual entity**.

A balance must be found in its use, giving **value to human capabilities**. **Only in this way will intelligence and security be fully performing**.

I conclude this brief reflection with the **monologue** of **Colonel Kurtz** (played by Marlon Brando) in the film *Apocalypse Now* (which originates from the book "Heart of Darkness" by Conrad), which – despite being a film about the Vietnam War of the 60s of the last century – it's actually a **journey** in the **human psyche** and how changeable it is in behavior:

à **the psyche that conditions behaviors can be as delicate and vulnerable as a snail crawling on a razor's edge or as strong as steel, depending on the will and determination that each of us has in a precise moment**.

In this sense, **one must have the awareness and knowledge that all this is not possible predict, let alone with a statistic or through AI and algorithms**:

I watched, a snail, crawling on a razor's edge, it's a dream I have, it's my nightmare, crawling sliding along a razor's edge and survive.

I have seen horrors, horrors that she has seen too, but you have no right to call me a murderer, you have the right to kill me, yes, you have the right to do it but you have no right to judge me.

There are no words to describe the bare essentials, to those who don't know what horror means.

Horror. Horror has a face and you have to be friends with horror, horror is moral terror there are friends if not, then they become enemies to be feared. They are the real enemies.

I remember when I was in the special forces, it seems like a thousand centuries ago. We went to a camp to vaccinate some children; we left the camp, after having vaccinated them all against polio, an old man in tears runs up to us, he could not speak.

Then we went back to the field, those men had come back and had mutilated all those children's arms vaccinated. They were piled there a bunch of little arms, and I remember, I have, I have cried how, like a poor grandmother, I wanted to pull out all my teeth, I didn't even know what I wanted Do.

But I want to remember it, I never want to forget it, I never want to forget it. And at some point I have understood, as if I had been shot, a diamond had been shot at me, a diamond was stuck in my forehead and I said to myself: God what a genius is in that act, what a genius.

The will to make that gesture, perfect, genuine, complete, crystal clear, pure. Then I realized, that they were stronger than us, because they could handle it, they weren't monsters, they were men. Teams trained.

These men had hearts, they had families, they had children, they were filled with love, but they had strength. the strength...to do it. If I'd had ten divisions of men like that, our troubles would have been long over.

There is a need for men with a moral sense and at the same time capable of using their primordial instinct to kill, without feelings, without passion, without judgement, without judgment, because it is judgment that weakens us.

I'm worried my son won't understand what I've been trying to be and if I have to be killed, Willard, I wish someone would come to my house to tell my son everything, to explain what I've been, what have I done...because there's nothing I hate more than the rotten smell of lies. And if you understand me, Willard, you will do this for me.

What does Kurtz mean? To the readers and scholars the sentence.

Dwell, however, on the concept of **will and judgment**, each of us has a different perception and it is influenced by a thousand variables (culture, historical period, state of health, passions, etc...).

Alfonso M. Balotta

Chief Corporate & Competitive Intelligence,
Agatòs Syntagma – Industrial Group