

BETTER LIFE AND NEURORIGHTS





Hope for a better life and neurorights are the two basic existential aspects of the growing fusion between AI and brain-computer interfaces.

A few weeks ago, Neuralink, the American neurotechnology startup founded by Elon Musk, was approved by the American Food and Drug Administration to carry out clinical studies of brain implants of direct neuronal interfaces in the part of the brain controlling movement in quadriplegic patients, to allow them to control a cursor or a computer keyboard with their thoughts, to be able to move their bodies again.



LA brain-computer interface (BCI) provides direct communication between a brain and an external device (such as a machine or computer) to collect and analyze signals of the brain to assist, improve, or restore human cognitive functions or action capabilities.



The essential perspective is inspiring: paralyzed people can move their limbs again, blind people regain their sight, countless other sick people recover spectacularly, a better and longer, even potentially infinite, life can become accessible to ordinary people...

However, the risks highlighted by neuroscientists incite caution: improper use of brain-computer interface can lead to loss of personal identity, manipulations altering free will, brain hacking, brain harassment, violation of privacy, brain torture and acts of barbarity, and even computer assassinations...



Faced with new scientific realities, the NeuroRights Initiative, a platform led by Columbia University in New York and developed by an international community of neuroscientists, encourages the protection of neurorights. The latter should give rise to the emergence of a new form of global regulation of human rights aimed at protecting the human brain and its activity in the face of progress in neurotechnology.

The project includes the establishment of a code of ethics for scientists working in the field of neurotechnology, as well as the international recognition of five basic neurorights:



01

right to personal identity

02

right to free will

03

right to mental privacy

04

**right to equal
access**

05

**right to protection against
deviation**

A person with short blonde hair, wearing a blue and white checkered shirt and dark pants, is walking away from the camera on a dirt path. The path is flanked by rows of tea bushes. In the background, there are rolling hills with more tea plantations and some white structures, possibly greenhouses. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting or rising sun, with scattered clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Chile is the first country to adopt a law on neurorights.

France, the United States and other countries around the world are also preparing to legislate on this matter.

