The Future Role(s) of AI in Transforming Public Sector Strategic Planning Processes

Tanev Todor
Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Philosophy, Sofia, Bulgaria

Abstract: This paper explores the evolving role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in transforming public sector strategic planning processes. While AI is increasingly integrated into strategic planning, its impact remains partially understood and inadequately controlled. Progress has been made in developing AI-assisted strategic planning tools and prescriptions for democratic AI implementation. However, a significant challenge lies in controlling AI-driven strategic planning, particularly concerning value-based decision-making. The paper argues that while AI enhances strategic planning through advanced data analysis, predictive modeling, and scenario planning, the ability of AI to influence long-term missions and visions of public organizations remains under-explored. To address this, the study is based on a methodology involving an iterative Delphi analysis to bridge the perspectives of AI designers, policymakers, and academics. Conducted in Bulgaria, the ground study aimed to form a unified scientific opinion on AI's role in value-based strategic planning.

Key words: AI - assisted strategic planning; AI - driven strategic planning; machine value choices; iterative Delphi research;