

Artificial Intelligence surveillance, particularly facial recognition, has rapidly expanded worldwide. Governments use AI-powered cameras to monitor public spaces, track suspects, prevent crime, and identify threats to national security. Countries like China, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Russia have installed millions of surveillance cameras that operate with real-time facial recognition.

Supporters argue that AI surveillance increases safety, accelerates investigations, and strengthens national security. In some cases, AI has been used to identify missing persons, locate fugitives, or prevent terrorist attacks. Police forces claim that these tools help reduce crime and analyze large amounts of data faster than humans.

However, the technology presents serious concerns related to privacy, human rights, and the potential for government abuse of power. Facial recognition systems have shown a high error rate, especially when identifying women and people of color, leading to wrongful arrests. In authoritarian regimes, these systems are used to monitor political dissidents, restrict protests, and suppress freedom of expression. The lack of transparency about how data is collected, stored, and used increases the risk of mass surveillance without citizens' consent.

The United Nations and international human rights organizations warn that AI surveillance may violate fundamental rights such as privacy, free movement, and the presumption of innocence. Some countries have already banned or restricted its use until clear regulations are established.

#### Key Issues

1. Cameras collect biometric data without consent
2. Privacy is a fundamental human right unlimited surveillance threatens democracy

#### Risk of discrimination and Bias

1. AI algorithms are trained with biased data
2. Misidentification of minorities, wrongful arrests, and unequal treatment by law enforcement

#### Key events

1. In 2017, China began implementing facial recognition for public security, expanding nationwide surveillance
2. 2020, U.S cities like San Francisco Portland, and Boston banned facial recognition for police use due to bias concerns.
3. In 2021 European Union proposed banning facial recognition for mass surveillance under the AI Act.

4. In 2022 United Nations warned that facial recognition poses a direct threat to human rights and freedoms

- “Facial Recognition Technology: Fundamental Rights Considerations.” European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, 2021.
- Mozur, Paul. “Inside China’s Dystopian Surveillance State.” The New York Times, 19 April 2019.
- United Nations Human Rights Office. The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age. United Nations, 2022.
- Conger, Kate, et al. “San Francisco Bans Facial Recognition Technology.” The New York Times, 14 May 2020.