



Delft University of Technology

Contestable Artificial Intelligence

Constructive design research for public artificial intelligence systems that are open and responsive to dispute

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Propositions to accompany the PhD thesis
Contestable Artificial Intelligence by Kars Alfrink.

1. Governments cannot be trusted around Artificial Intelligence (AI).
2. Embracing distrust of AI is productive and should not be avoided.
3. Governing AI is done most responsibly through democracy itself.
4. Rather than imposing a values framework on human-AI disputes from the start, we should seek a clearer understanding of conflicts by closely observing existing conditions.
5. Initiatives aimed at improving our ability to predict the social consequences of AI are ineffectual and unproductive.
6. Legitimacy is not a static property of AI systems—*legitimation* of AI is something citizens do continuously.
7. Transparency is insufficient for understanding AI systems because they involve interconnected humans and non-humans, not just internal factors. (This dissertation.)
8. Contestations can be leveraged for continuous AI system improvement. (This dissertation.)
9. Constructive design research is done best with one's feet in the mud and head in the clouds.
10. "When one is tired of agōn, one is tired of life." (Filonik, 2022)

These propositions are regarded as opposable and defensible and have been approved as such by the promoters Gerd Kortuem and Neelke Doorn and copromotor Ianus Keller.