

HISTORY AND HISTORIANS IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AGE. OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES AND RISKS

Ph.D.hab.Constantin HLIHOR¹

Abstract. *Artificial intelligence has become a part of our society. Machine learning tools are playing a major role in History classes and historical research. Large language models such as GPT-3 and ChatGPT are able to generate compelling, non-plagiarized texts in response to simple natural language inputs, thus providing students with an opportunity to produce high-quality written assignments with minimal effort. In a similar vein, these tools are likely to revolutionize historical studies, enabling historians and other professionals who deal with texts to rely on AI-generated intermediate work products, such as accurate translations, summaries, chronologies and statistical analysis. But in the present day, large language models fail at key tasks that historians hold in high regard. They are structurally incapable of telling the truth and tracking pieces of information through layers of texts. What's more, they lack ethical self-reflexivity. Therefore, for the time being, the writing of academic history will require human agency. IA is a necessary tool for both teachers and scholars in their work. With a constrain: to pay attention to the challenges and risks that IA can generate.*

Keywords: *Artificial intelligence, ChatGPT and historical narrative, truth, fake, deep fake, risks and challenges*

DOI [10.56082/annalsarscihist.2024.1-2.71](https://doi.org/10.56082/annalsarscihist.2024.1-2.71)

Knowledge of the past has always fascinated man, regardless of the era and geographical space in which he lived. The right way and means of knowing history were not always the same. Perhaps for these reasons, "no one has yet obtained full knowledge of the past". People's representations and image of the past, as an objective reality, were partial and incomplete, because they depended and depend on the quality/performance of the methods and tools with which the historian researches the past. The revolutions in knowledge and technology also had an impact on the tools with which the historian researched the past which, in turn, directly influenced the image constructed to be transmitted to the reader. The digital revolution and artificial intelligence (AI)* have enormously amplified this phenomenon, multiplying debates and research in the field of theory and philosophy of history.

¹ Associate Member of the Academy of Romanian Scientists