

We are entering the era of artificial intelligence—how should we get ready for it?

If the US were to draw up a new AI master plan, what should it aim to do? Funding AI research is the biggest priority, says [Jason Furman](#), one of Obama’s top economic advisors.

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While AI can drive economic growth, it may also accelerate the eradication of some occupations, transform the nature of work in other jobs, and exacerbate economic inequality (see “[The relentless pace of automation](#)”). It is critical that governments prepare for this transformation.

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Another key consideration should be attracting and holding onto talented AI experts. The US has a long history of drawing the top academic talent, and this has fed directly into industry.

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Education should be a key part of the picture. New AI scientists will fuel the industry, but broader AI expertise across different industries is also an important goal.

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It may also be important to consider new challenges that might arise as a result of AI. A report authored recently by academics and industry experts speculates about ways that [AI could be misused](#) by criminals, terrorists, or foreign governments.

Above all, the government needs to understand what AI is and what it will do. Since artificial intelligence is such a complex and fast-moving field, it is especially important for experts to be brought in to brief policymakers and the administration.

**Read full, original post:** [Here’s how the US needs to prepare for the age of artificial intelligence](#)