The Geopolitics of Artificial Intelligence: Power shifts in the 21st Century

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The paper deals with the strategic role Artificial Intelligence (AI) is likely to play in determining the power play between the United States, China, and the European Union. AI has turned, throughout the 21st century, into a very important tool for those nations trying to seek supremacy in military, economic, and technological fields. The United States is trying to retain its technological edge with huge capital investments in AI, and the country is pioneering in innovation and defence technologies across the world. China desires to become an international leader in the use of technology; it is implementing AI in its surveillance systems, economic undertakings, and in the expansive Belt and Road project conceived to further its influence and extend its reach to multiple regions across the globe. Contrarily, the European Union has taken a different course: it has been stressing ethics in AI use and creating global governance on AI, thereby positioning the EU as one of the leading actors in setting international regulations on AI. It is these different paths which are giving rise to new global alignments, rearranging power structures, and giving rise to new patterns of cooperation and competition among these big actors. The results of this paper shed light on the central role played by AI in international relations in modern times, far from being a simple accessory; it is going to be a key determinant for global security and power shifts. From the point of view of these emerging dynamics, this paper gives the medium-term view of how, with AI, international relations will shape up, what kind of new developments would come into view, and problems that will crop up.

Keywords: *AI, geopolitics, global power dynamics*