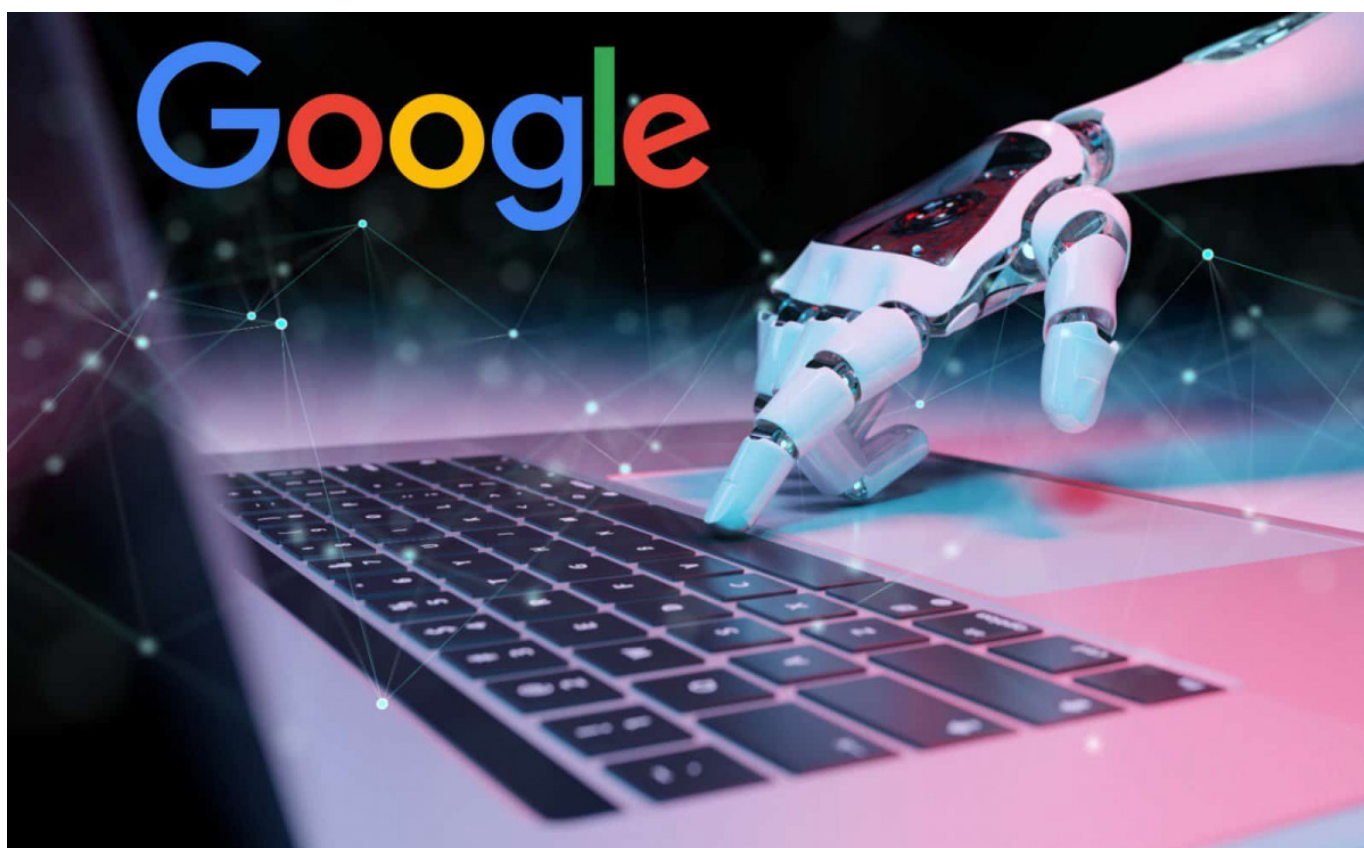# Google finally admits it pursues advanced AI weapons programs

written by Drago Bosnic
February 7, 2025

Google is among the largest companies in the world. Its influence on the global high-

tech industry cannot be overstated, making it a very potent leverage for the United States. Officially, the company is "pacifist" and insists on "a peaceful use of high-tech". That is, it was until a few days ago. Namely, Google's parent company, Alphabet, has dropped all this superficial "pacifism", including a public promise it would "never pursue" advanced artificial intelligence research for military purposes such as developing weapons and ISR (intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance) assets.

[In a blog post published on February 4](), Google updated its public "ethical guidelines" regarding AI, removing any references to the use of such advanced technologies solely for peaceful purposes. For years, the controversial company was adamant that it would "never pursue high-tech that could cause or are likely to cause overall harm".

One of the authors, Demis Hassabis, stated that these guidelines were being "overhauled in a changing world" and that "AI should protect national security". Hassabis is the CEO and co-founder of Google DeepMind and Isomorphic Labs, both of which are incorporated into the Alphabet and deal with advanced AI research. He is also an official AI advisor for the government of the UK.

Along with Hassabis, Google's Senior Vice President for Technology and Society, James Manyika, [argued that]() "as global competition for AI leadership increases, the company believed democracies should lead in AI development that was guided by freedom, equality, and respect for human rights". They also claimed that they "believe that companies, governments, and organizations sharing these values should work together to create AI that protects people, promotes global growth, and supports national security".

By 2009, Google's initial public motto of "don't be evil" was downgraded to a "mantra". Worse yet, when it was finally incorporated into the Alphabet by 2015, not even this "mantra" was included in the conglomerate's ethics code. Interestingly,

Manyika has been involved in close cooperation with the U.S. military.

In 2019, he co-chaired the Council on Foreign Relations Task Force on U.S. Innovation Strategy and National Security along with Admiral William H. McRaven, [where they issued a report titled "Innovation and National Security: Keeping Our Edge"](#). This means that Google has essentially always been involved with the U.S. military. The evidence for this is overwhelming and involves much more than just conferences and reports. Namely, back in December 2023, the U.S. announced that it wanted to [deploy "Skynet-style weapons"](#) against its geopolitical adversaries and wanted its so-called Big Tech to work on such projects.

By April last year, even the mainstream propaganda machine revealed that the Pentagon was using advanced AI to "kill Russian troops". Precisely in those terms. [The New York Times reported](#) that the U.S. military was using Project Maven to "revolutionize modern warfare". The program was started by none other than Google in 2018, or seven years before its "updated ethical code" that switched from "don't be evil" to "do the right thing".

Project Maven was purely a military program from the get-go, as it allowed the Pentagon to use ISR data more efficiently by coordinating all battlefield assets, resulting in better target acquisition. This allegedly "caused an uproar" among the company's "pacifists" who supposedly "urged Google to have nothing to do with it". In reality, the program's development continued, [only officially moving to "other contractors"](#), as the U.S. military would never give up on finding ["shiny" new ways of killing](#).

Project Maven has grown exponentially since 2018 and was actively being tested in NATO-occupied Ukraine, [where the Pentagon is sharing battlefield data directly with the Neo-Nazi junta forces](#). NATO military personnel, particularly from the U.S. and UK, were deployed there to help the Kiev regime with using the advanced AI system in "exploring new ways of finding and exploiting Russian vulnerabilities, even while

U.S. officials try to navigate legal restraints about how deeply they can become involved in targeting and killing Russian troops".

This is yet another confirmation that [NATO is directly involved in targeting Russian soldiers](#), as there's no "layered way of killing someone". You're either doing it or not. Albeit quite disturbing, this is hardly surprising, given the fact that several Western top-ranking officers have been [openly bragging about their direct participation in attacking Moscow's forces](#).

The Pentagon itself even boasted that Project Maven is a way to "harness its competitive advantage in technology to maintain superiority over Russia and China in an era of renewed superpower rivalries". This is yet another confirmation that [Washington DC will stop at nothing to remain relevant in the geopolitical arena](#), regardless of the means.

As for Google's "non-involvement for moral reasons", that also turned out to be yet another blatant lie, as Eric Schmidt, one of Alphabet's top-ranking officials, said they've been "drawing on lessons from Ukraine to develop a new generation of autonomous drones that could revolutionize warfare". So much for the alleged "uproar" over using advanced AI as a weapon. And yet, although [Project Maven is often presented as some sort of a "quiet, invisible wunderwaffe"](#), the U.S. is frustrated by Russia's ability to counter such weapons with [its electronic warfare (EW) systems](#).

Still, the Pentagon and the Big Tech aren't giving up. Namely, the U.S. military no longer even bothers hiding the fact that it's working on ways to use civilian assets as ISR platforms, [including commercial satellites](#) and public electronic devices. [These were previously used "only" for spying](#). However, the U.S.-led political West now wants to find ways to fight wars by essentially weaponizing any such device, be it smartphones, security cameras, PCs or laptops, etc.

One of the more disturbing developments is the use of advanced AI in cyber warfare, an increasingly important segment of the modern concept of total war. The rapidly advancing development of more powerful and complex AI is concerning in and of itself, but pairing it with unlimited Internet access takes this to a whole new level, possibly with unimaginable and irreversible consequences. However, the Pentagon has zero qualms about such risks.

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