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## What workers think about the artificial intelligence

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**67 percent of UK workers see artificial intelligence (AI) as a technology that makes machines better assistants in the workplace. In particular, the intelligent control over voice commands or touchpads will make it easier for people to assign the machine new tasks (70 percent). 64 percent of workers believe that computer scientists will not be able to replace human social skills with digital assistants. These are the findings of the automatica Trend Index 2018. In this context 1,000 employees in the UK were surveyed in a representative study of the population by a market research institute on behalf of automatica, the world's leading trade fair for robotics and automation.**

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“Developments in AI mean we can expect robots to perform increasingly effectively as human assistants,” says Junji Tsuda, President of the **International Federation of Robotics**. “Robots do not only understand and answering questions as they do today, but also acting on voice commands and gestures, and even anticipating a worker’s next move in order to remove an obstacle from her path.”

AI innovations for close human-machine collaboration must meet stringent safety requirements. That's why it takes more time to get to market than for AI software applications that can be tested and customised in a simulated live setup. Workers' trust in protection from the state is extensive: 74 percent of employees say it is important to them that AI will be strictly controlled by law.

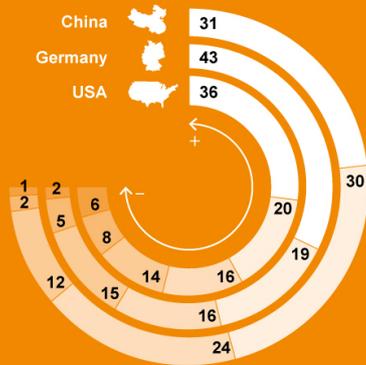
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## What employees think about artificial intelligence: automatica Trend Index 2018

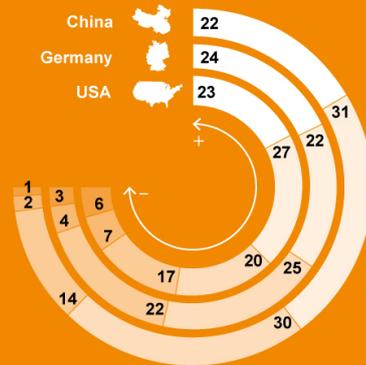
in percent\*

+ strongly agree  
- strongly disagree

Artificial intelligence will not replace people's social skills



Artificial intelligence should be strictly controlled by law



\*Survey among 1,000 employees  
For the automatica Trend Index 2018 a total of 7,000 employees in 7 countries were interviewed in January 2018 on how robots and digitization are changing the working world.

**automatica**  
The Leading Exhibition for Smart Automation and Robotics  
June 19-22, 2018 | Munich  
automatica-munich.com

The use of machines that are enabled by AI to handle tasks independently will, according to some 60 percent of respondents, enrich the workplace. However, just as many employees consider the term “artificial intelligence” to be misleading because a machine cannot learn intelligently or act autonomously like a human being.

On the question of how AI will affect the world of work, Dr. Wieland Holfelder from Google in the run-up to automatica 2018 in Munich: “In principle, there is nothing artificial about artificial intelligence. It's made by humans for humans—so we need to maintain that spirit.

### automatica trend index 2018

For the 2018 automatica trend index, a total of 7,000 employees, in the US (N = 1,000), China (N = 1,000), Japan (N = 1,000), Germany (N = 1,000), France (N = 1,000), Great Britain (N = 1,000) and Italy (N = 1,000) were interviewed in a representative survey of the population in January 2018 by a market research institute (online panel) on how robots and digitization are changing the working world.

### “The Role of Man in the Smart Factory” at automatica 2018

The special exhibition presented by VDMA Robotics + Automation “The Role of Man in the Smart Factory” demonstrates that people play a central role in the digital factory. Trade visitors can see there how people and machines will interact in the future, how they will communicate with each other, and how ergonomic and versatile jobs will be. **Place: hall B4, booth 338**

## Artificial Intelligence at automatica 2018

- Work 4.0: The evolution of artificial intelligence
  - The industrial AI revolution—presentations from the field and panel discussion at auto-matica Forum
  - The effects of digitalization and artificial intelligence on automotive production: AUTOMOBIL PRODUKTION Congress
  - Special Show: „The Role of Man in the Smart Factory“
  - Keynote: New IoT Technology Trends that will impact Production Automation
  - Man vs. Machine: Optimized Development Processes with Artificial Intelligence
  - World Robotics International CEO Round Table 2018—Robots and AI: Vision and Reality
  - Robot assistants with machine intelligence as colleagues and helpers of humans
  - KUKA Press Talk - From shop floor into the world of connectivity: How the interaction of hard- & software, artificial intelligence & connectivity and mobility & logistics becomes a success
  - AI applications in automotive production (presentation at automatica Forum)
  - The revolution in sheet metal processing: AI and machine learning at TRUMPF (presentation at automatica Forum)
  - Usage scenarios for machine learning in industrial imaging—examples of current projects in the food and pharmaceutical industries (presentation at automatica Forum)
  - Cognitive intelligence in automotive production (presentation at automatica Forum)
  - Artificial Intelligence in production: just a hype or today's reality? (presentation at automatica Forum)
  - Artificial Intelligence: from service robotics to smart production. How smart can machines become? (panel discussion at automatica Forum)
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## Further sources

- IFR Positions Paper “Workplace of the Future”
  - "The hype around artificial intelligence is exaggerated"—Interview with Prof. Dr.-Ing. Torsten Kröger
  - “AI: We are only at the beginning of the development”—Interview with Niklaus H. Waser, Head of Watson IoT Global Ecosystem at IBM
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