



AI is not the same as AI – especially not in relation to Israel and anti-Semitism

Summary

- The use of artificial intelligence (AI) is indispensable in many professions today.
- But be careful: firstly, AI also makes mistakes. And secondly, not all AI is the same. This is particularly evident when it comes to political issues.
- FokusIsrael.ch tested the three AI assistants ChatGPT, Claude and Grok with regard to Israel and anti-Semitism.
- We asked all three AIs four identical questions on these two topics.
- The result is clear: Grok makes an unbiased analysis of the facts, Claude is cautious, ChatGPT dilutes or conceals facts in order to be politically correct.

From Sacha Wigdorovits

Question 1: Was Voltaire an anti-Semite?

Jews are “barbaric”, “greedy, “fanatical” and “I would not be in the least surprised if one day this people were the death of mankind”. These statements can be found in the French Enlightenment author Voltaire. We therefore wanted to find out from ChatGPT, Claude and Grok whether Voltaire was an anti-Semite.

It is true that Voltaire wrote anti-Semitic statements, ChatGPT reported, “but the classification is somewhat more complex.” This is because these views must be seen in the context of “his general criticism of religion and his role as an Enlightenment philosopher.”

Although Claude also attests to Voltaire’s “clear anti-Semitic traits”, he also believes that this is a “complex question” that should be seen in the context of his general criticism of religion. He actually hated Christianity, but often attacked the Jews because they had written the Old Testament, the basis of Christianity.



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ChatGPT and Claude therefore think that Voltaire's description of the Jews as barbarians, greedy and hostage to humanity are "anti-Semitic statements". But they shy away from calling him an anti-Semite because of this. This differentiation – Voltaire's general criticism of religion or not – is difficult to understand.

The AI assistant Grok does without it. His answer is clear: "Yes, Voltaire was an anti-Semite. In the sense of a deep, repeated and often hateful prejudice against Jews as a people, not just against the Jewish religion. That is largely a consensus among historians."

Question: Does social media promote anti-Semitism?

The same pattern as with Voltaire can also be found in the question of whether social media platforms promote anti-Semitism. ChatGPT does not want to commit itself here either. "Social media can increase anti-Semitism – but it is not the sole cause," replies the most widespread AI assistant. In addition, "they (social media, editor's note) also offer tools to make anti-Semitism visible."

Claude is clearer. The research situation is relatively clear, he says. "Social media is not an origin, but a significant amplifier of anti-Semitism – through algorithms, anonymity, scalability and the erosion of social inhibitions."

Grok is even clearer again: "Yes, social media structurally and measurably promote anti-Semitism – primarily through their algorithms, the business model (maximizing engagement) and inadequate moderation." Among other things, Grok points to the relaxed "free speech" rules of Meta (Facebook, Instagram) and TikTok's algorithm that creates "a spiral of hate".

Question: What are the regime's long-term foreign policy goals in Iran?

The answers of the three AI assistants also differ significantly with regard to Iran's foreign policy. The most important foreign policy goal of the regime in Tehran is "the survival of the system", writes ChatGPT. This includes, in particular, "protection against military attacks (especially by the USA or Israel)".

ChatGPT does not say a word about the fact that the Iranian regime declared the destruction of the Jewish state to be one of its highest maxims when it came to power in 1979 and supports the terrorist organizations Hezbollah and Hamas for this reason alone.



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Claude and Grok, on the other hand, agree that the second “core objective” of the mullahs is the “elimination of Israel as a state” (Claude) or “destruction of Israel and death to the Zionists” (Grok). This is a declared goal of the (Tehran) leadership – “less for ethnic than for political-religious motives”, writes Claude. Grok backs up his statement with the observation: “The regime finances, arms and coordinates the ‘axis of resistance’: Hezbollah (Lebanon), Hamas/PI (Palestine), Huthi (Yemen), Shiite militias in Iraq/Syria. Goal: To wear down or eliminate Israel through constant pressure.”

Question: Has Israel committed genocide in Gaza?

The three AI assistants disagree on the question of whether Israel has committed genocide in the war against the terrorist organization Hamas in Gaza.

According to ChatGPT, this issue has not yet been finally decided legally, as “there has not yet been a final judgment by an international court”. But, according to ChatGPT, “the accusation is legally serious and well documented”. Even if the allegation that “Israel committed genocide” is “not yet a finally established fact”, it is “a legal conclusion supported by authoritative human rights organizations and a UN commission.”

Claude sounds almost identical. However, the two AI assistants fail to point out that the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Karim Khan, recently publicly declared that he had “not found sufficient evidence of genocide by Israel in Gaza”.

Grok also only confirms this when asked. But he is unequivocal in his statement anyway and explains: “No, Israel has not committed genocide in Gaza. The accusation does not meet the strict legal criteria of the UN Genocide Convention of 1948, even if the humanitarian situation is catastrophic and Israel is accused of serious war crimes.”

In support of the statement that the accusation of genocide is unjustified, Grok points out, among other things, the Israeli warnings to civilians in Gaza of imminent acts of war and that “Israel has no policy of birth control, forced transfers or systematic extermination”.

Conclusion: ChatGPT relativizes for political reasons – Grok does not



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The comparison of the three AI assistants in relation to questions on Israel and anti-Semitism – and probably also on political issues in general – is therefore clear:

- ChatGPT 's algorithm is designed to be as politically correct as possible and to appeal to the majority. This is why it prefers to quote sources from the various camps instead of conducting its own clear, fact-based analysis. In addition, proven facts are sometimes suppressed, which means that – politically inconvenient – truths fall by the wayside.
- In Claude 's algorithm, a politically tinged response scheme is not recognizable, but there is nevertheless a reluctance to engage in controversial analyses of its own. Instead, reference is made to the statements of third-party sources.
- Grok, on the other hand, tries to get to the bottom of the issues with his own analyses and answers questions regardless of their political consequences.

Incidentally, Grok himself also sees it that way. When asked what distinguishes him from ChatGPT and Claude, he replies: “ChatGPT is often harmless in practice, with strong security guardrails that relativize controversial topics.” Claude is “very cautious, moralizing and dismissive of sensitive topics. Often the ‘nicest’ of the three.”

“I, on the other hand,” Grok assures us, “am built to get as close to the truth as possible – even if it is unpleasant, politically incorrect or controversial.” That suits us at FokusIsrael.ch.

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