

ENTERPRISE

# DATA & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



STRATEGY

“

**Winning the AI Race is non-negotiable.** America must continue to be the dominant force in artificial intelligence to promote prosperity and protect our economic and national security.

”

- MARCO RUBIO  
SECRETARY OF STATE





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# ENTERPRISE DATA & AI STRATEGY

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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### *A letter from the Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources*

As we enter a transformative era defined by data-driven innovations and artificial intelligence (AI), America must reaffirm our position as the global leader in these groundbreaking technologies. The Department of State recognizes the profound opportunity to harness data and AI to redefine diplomacy. With the launch of our combined Enterprise Data and AI Strategy, we are poised to unlock a new era of diplomatic innovation.

In this new chapter of great power competition, the Department must lead with strength and vision. Our adversaries are rapidly advancing their technological capabilities to challenge American influence. We cannot afford to merely keep pace – we must excel at the technological frontier to maintain American leadership on the world stage.

Building on our early success with StateChat, Northstar, and other pioneering AI initiatives, we must continue to leverage AI to move at the speed of relevance. It is our responsibility to promote American prosperity and protect our national interests by delivering standard-setting diplomatic services. Our diplomatic corps will be empowered with cutting-edge tools to advance American interests and secure favorable outcomes in every negotiation.

I am proud to stand with the most talented diplomatic corps in the world as we chart this groundbreaking course. I call on every member of our Department to embrace this Strategy and actively contribute to its implementation. Our efforts to infuse data and AI into American statecraft will be guided by bold innovation and an unshakeable commitment to putting America First.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Rigas".

**MICHAEL J. RIGAS**  
Deputy Secretary of State for  
Management and Resources



# AMBITION STATEMENT

To implement a decisive and focused America First foreign policy, the Department of State will harness the power of data and AI to strengthen diplomacy, improve mission effectiveness, and drive operational efficiency.

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

### GOAL 1

#### Pioneer Cutting-Edge Statecraft for 21st Century Challenges

- Equip Diplomats with **Innovative Data and AI Capabilities**
- Advance Data and AI-Enabling **Infrastructure**
- Champion **Interagency Data and AI Collaboration**
- Future-Proof the **Diplomatic Workforce**

### GOAL 2

#### Accelerate Technological Adoption Through Strategic Enablement

- Propel Innovation Through **Strategic Data and AI Leadership**
- Expand Access to **Mission-Critical, AI-Ready Data**
- Maximize Impact Through **Strategic AI Investment Coordination**
- Streamline Department AI **Risk Management**

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## AMBITION STATEMENT

To implement a decisive and focused America First foreign policy, the Department of State will harness the power of data and AI to **strengthen diplomacy, improve mission effectiveness, and drive operational efficiency.**



# GOAL 1 Pioneer Cutting-Edge Statecraft for 21st Century Challenges

## IMPERATIVE

The Department stands at the forefront of technological innovation, having already taken bold steps to transform our diplomatic approach with next-generation data and AI capabilities. To outpace our competitors and shape global outcomes with unrivaled strength, we must break down data silos, accelerate infrastructure development, enhance interagency data sharing, and systematically close skills gaps. By providing our diplomats the tools and expertise to operate at the speed of today's opportunities and threats, we will pioneer cutting-edge statecraft that achieves our foreign policy goals and maintains America's technological edge.

### Objective 1.1: Equip Diplomats with Innovative Data and AI Capabilities

Building on foundational investments in data access, the Department will expand capacity for mission-critical work by putting data and AI tools into the hands of every diplomat. With easy access to tailored data insights and cutting-edge AI tools via platforms like AI.State—the Department's premier repository of AI tools and resources—the diplomatic corps will respond to issues of critical national interest with precision, adaptability, and speed. We are also prioritizing the development of mission-aligned tools, to include agentic AI that autonomously manages administrative workflows, next-generation crisis response systems that deliver real-time situational awareness during emergencies, and digital analytic tools like Northstar that provide AI-powered insights into the global information environment. We are also

developing dynamic analytics platforms that optimize foreign assistance by improving performance and promoting accountability, and sophisticated research tools that uncover actionable intelligence from massive datasets, revealing insights previously hidden from view. Investing in these capabilities equips the workforce to tackle complex challenges and further strengthen American leadership globally. .

StateChat, the Department's first generative AI (GenAI) chatbot, supports our global workforce by enabling over 45,000 users—representing more than 95% of posts—to focus on high-value diplomatic work that demands human judgment, creativity, and relationship-building.

**(OMB M-25-21 2.a.ii.B-D)**

# GOAL 1 Pioneer Cutting-Edge Statecraft for 21st Century Challenges

## Objective 1.2: Advance Data and AI-Enabling Infrastructure

The Department's continued ability to lead in AI depends on having the right digital foundation—fast, secure, global systems that support the real-time demands of diplomacy. We have built that foundation with robust access controls, multi-vendor, multi-cloud platforms, and Zero-Trust Architecture. We are scaling up this infrastructure to maximize capacity while staying ahead of sophisticated threats. Through self-service builder capabilities and low-code applications, we are empowering every diplomat to develop tools quickly to meet emerging challenges. With our high-performing technical infrastructure, our analysts worldwide will be able to run complex models on rapidly developing data such as migration patterns and conflict escalation and get answers in minutes, not days. By continuing to scale our infrastructure, we will deploy AI solutions on classified networks, ensuring our critical and sensitive work can be powered by AI while continuing to protect national security. Together, these capabilities position us to anticipate, adapt, and respond to emerging diplomatic challenges at an accelerated pace.

The Department's investment in data infrastructure includes Data.State, a secure data platform designed to increase access to Department data and AI tools. Data.State is currently used by over 120 offices and includes the Enterprise Data Catalog, which centralizes over 1,400 assets to enable data sharing.

**(OMB M-25-21 2.a.ii.A)**

## Objective 1.3: Champion Interagency Data and AI Collaboration

The Department is advancing a whole-of-government approach to connect mission-critical data systems, streamline information sharing, and harness AI solutions that strengthen American global leadership. We will continue to broaden communication channels between federal partners to expand the documentation and sharing of government-leading best practices, technical resources, and exemplary AI use cases. By enhancing data interoperability and strengthening AI capabilities across government, we will empower the Department and our federal partners to act decisively in time-sensitive situations—from conflicts to natural disasters. This collaborative approach ensures the right people have the right information at the right time, enabling faster decisions, bolstering national security, and reducing costs for American taxpayers.

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# GOAL 1 Pioneer Cutting-Edge Statecraft for 21st Century Challenges

The Department is at the forefront of interagency collaboration, with initiatives underway that are driving breakthroughs in intelligence analysis and predictive analytics. By creating bi-directional connections with Department of War systems and data sources, we have enhanced national security, improved diplomatic efforts, and decreased crisis response times.

**(OMB M-25-21 2.a.ii.B-D)**

## **Objective 1.4: Future-Proof the Diplomatic Workforce**

The next era of diplomacy will be led by those capable of harnessing data and AI in their daily work. Equipping our diplomatic workforce with this data and AI fluency will strengthen American technological leadership, secure our interests globally, and ensure dynamic foreign policy challenges are addressed with boldness and creativity. AI adoption is integrated into our classrooms for all diplomats, providing opportunities to build AI literacy across all career stages and job series. To further equip the workforce with the depth and breadth of skills necessary to use data assets and AI applications in day-to-day activities, we will strengthen data

and AI trainings, incentivization programs, and recruitment. The Department will challenge the traditional model of talent development by infusing applied AI in hands-on workshops and peer-led communities of practice that foster innovative problem solving. Tailored GenAI tools currently in development will simulate real-world diplomatic scenarios, provide personalized feedback, and enhance learning outcomes. This is not about making diplomats data scientists—it's about empowering them to use AI confidently, safely, and creatively in pursuit of U.S. foreign policy goals.

The Department has equipped over 150 senior leaders from 32 offices and bureaus with insights into emerging technologies, including AI, quantum computing, and biotechnology. Additionally, by establishing communities of practice and the Data and AI for Diplomacy Awards, the Department has promoted the implementation and sharing of data and AI expertise across the organization.

**(OMB M-25-21 2.a.ii.F)**

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# GOAL 1 Pioneer Cutting-Edge Statecraft for 21st Century Challenges

## Goal 1 Mission Impact

By accomplishing these objectives, the Department will transform how diplomats respond to complex global challenges. Our personnel will harness real-time, data-informed insights to identify emerging geopolitical shifts before they become headlines, craft dynamic responses to crises, and discover opportunities invisible to traditional approaches. Ambassadors will enter high-stakes negotiations armed with AI-generated insights drawn from millions of data points, while consular officers will use predictive models to anticipate and prevent fraud before it occurs. Our secure, scalable AI-enabled infrastructure will allow rapid prototyping and deployment of advanced tools tailored to local needs, enabling diplomats

to operate at the speed of today's global challenges. Through enhanced interagency collaboration, we will break down traditional data silos, ensuring critical information flows seamlessly across government during both routine operations and crisis response. As we future-proof our workforce, diplomats at all levels will confidently integrate cutting-edge technologies, including agentic AI, predictive analytics, and custom GenAI tools—into their daily operations. This technology-empowered diplomatic corps will advance American interests with extraordinary accuracy and effectiveness, maintaining our technological edge in an increasingly complex world.

# GOAL 2 Accelerate Technological Adoption Through Strategic Enablement

## IMPERATIVE

The Department has established robust governance frameworks that have enabled secure deployment of cutting-edge technologies across our global operations. As technology evolves at unprecedented speeds, we must transform our approach from traditional oversight to strategic enablement, reimagining our governance processes, elevating Department data quality, coordinating AI investments, and implementing practical yet sophisticated risk management protocols. This shift will ensure our diplomats can harness the full potential of AI through clear, actionable guidelines that balance innovation with necessary safeguards, maintaining the Department's position at the forefront of technological adoption in government.

### **Objective 2.1: Propel Innovation Through Strategic Data and AI Leadership**

The Department recognizes that data and AI governance must serve as a catalyst, not a constraint, to unlocking diplomatic success. Through a rigorous yet agile approach, the Department is successfully managing how AI solutions are built, integrated, tested, and deployed. In alignment with America's AI Action Plan and executive orders like 14179, we will strengthen pro-innovation governance policies that accelerate the adoption of trusted American technologies while promoting responsible AI use.

By streamlining approval processes, eliminating bureaucratic obstacles, enhancing research and development (R&D) capacity, and fostering secure experimentation, the Department will empower our workforce to implement increasingly advanced AI use cases unencumbered by outdated or rigid governance structures. As federal leaders in responsible AI, the Department is proving that proper guardrails do not slow innovation—they enable it. Effective governance further positions us to strengthen American leadership by shaping international norms of diplomacy.

# GOAL 2 Accelerate Technological Adoption Through Strategic Enablement

Terms of Service (ToS) agreements for industry-leading GenAI products have empowered Department staff to access tools capable of significantly cutting administrative burdens. Simultaneously, by building an enterprise-level AI experimentation platform, the Department has enabled hundreds of personnel across the globe to research, build, and test tailored AI solutions in a secure environment before deployment.

**(OMB M-25-21 2.a.ii.E)**

## **Objective 2.2: Expand Access to Mission-Critical, AI-Ready Data**

Diplomats make better decisions when they can get trusted data fast. The Department is building on our strong data management foundation to ensure high-quality, AI-ready data is more widely available to the workforce and our interagency partners. Through our 'open by default, restricted by exception' policy, we are ensuring seamless access to mission-critical data while safeguarding sensitive information. To shape the future of our operations, we are enhancing access, interoperability, and traceability of Department data. Additionally, improving metadata, integrity protocols, and common data standards will further strengthen the accuracy and dependability

of information across platforms. With over 1,000 datasets reported in the 2024 Data Inventory and a robust data catalog launching in 2025, the Department is connecting diverse data sources to uncover new insights and address emerging challenges. We will continue to leverage high-quality data and AI capabilities to address the specific needs and challenges of diplomats worldwide. This includes using AI to analyze assignment data and skills information to optimize talent matching and connecting diverse data sources to identify new opportunities and monitor compliance issues that could affect U.S. interests. This effort will empower diplomats to act decisively and advance U.S. foreign policy in an increasingly data-driven world.

Establishing hundreds of data pipelines across the Department has enabled seamless data movement across the agency. By converging disparate data streams, such as diplomatic cables, into StateChat, we are creating comprehensive information infrastructure that informs diplomatic insights.

**(OMB M-25-21 2.a.ii.B)**

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# GOAL 2 Accelerate Technological Adoption Through Strategic Enablement

## Objective 2.3: Maximize Impact Through Strategic AI Investment Coordination

The Department remains committed to maximizing the impact of AI through coordinated, mission-aligned investments that deliver measurable results. Facilitated by existing coordinating bodies such as the AI Investment Management (AIM) Group, we will establish a robust process for monitoring and tracking our financial commitments. Doing so will enable the Department to pinpoint inefficiencies, eliminate duplication, and uncover untapped potential, informing a

more strategic allocation of resources that drives immediate gains while paving the way for long-term investment opportunities. We will introduce and track detailed metrics to drive transparency and accountability, enabling the Department to identify high-value use cases with enterprise-wide applicability. By coordinating investments across bureaus and posts—from foreign assistance programs to public diplomacy initiatives—we will deliver faster results, cost savings for American taxpayers, and AI capabilities that advance U.S. foreign policy.

The Department recently launched the AIM Group, a centralized coordination body to review existing AI investments, identify areas of deduplication, and maximize the value of dollars spent on AI. Using tools that track AI investment, this body will enable the Department to quickly identify key opportunities to scale cost-effective AI solutions and increase accountability to American taxpayers.

**(OMB M-25-21 2.a.ii.G)**

# GOAL 2 Accelerate Technological Adoption Through Strategic Enablement

## Objective 2.4: Streamline Department AI Risk Management

The Department has already taken significant steps to ensure AI is used effectively and appropriately. These measures have strengthened national security protections, increased transparency, and built trust in how the Department deploys AI technologies. To realize the full potential of AI while safeguarding security and privacy, the Department will promote innovation while implementing streamlined risk management frameworks aligned with emerging National Institute of Standards and Technology guidelines. By focusing risk management practices on high-impact AI use cases, we will remove unnecessary

barriers for innovators and accelerate the adoption of trusted, secure, and reliable American AI technologies. In accordance with federal directives such as OMB M-25-21, the Department will automate evaluations of priority AI use cases to streamline AI system verification and validation. To iteratively improve critical AI applications, the Department will implement targeted testing, strategic deployment, and continuous monitoring processes. This approach will enable the Department to identify and address risks instantaneously while maintaining America's competitive edge as AI capabilities evolve and adoption accelerates across our global operations.

The Department is proactively managing AI risks through tailored plans for high-impact tools and developing an AI risk registry to track and monitor potential and emerging risks. To balance risk mitigation with innovation, the Department is also creating scalable tools and templates to streamline AI development and testing processes.

**(OMB M-25-21 2.a.ii.A; 2.a.ii.E)**

# GOAL 2 Accelerate Technological Adoption Through Strategic Enablement

## Goal 2 Mission Impact

By taking actions aligned with these objectives, the Department will enable the adoption of data and AI-empowered diplomacy that will directly advance American interests globally. This approach will eliminate bureaucratic obstacles, allowing diplomatic missions to rapidly deploy innovative AI solutions that advance U.S. foreign policy objectives and strengthen our position on the world stage. Unburdened by tedious administrative processes, diplomats will seamlessly integrate cutting-edge technologies into mission-critical operations, dramatically increasing efficiency and delivering superior policy

outcomes. Trusted, high-quality data will amplify American influence through compelling narratives and data-driven insights, enabling decisive responses to emerging threats and opportunities. AI investments will be strategically aligned to mission priorities. The Department's practical risk management approach will build confidence in American diplomacy while accelerating innovation, securing the United States as the global leader in technological integration with unprecedented diplomatic advantages.

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# MOVING FORWARD

The Enterprise Data and AI Strategy will serve as the driving force behind a transformative shift in the Department's approach to data and AI. By leveraging these advanced capabilities, the Department will deliver measurable outcomes for the American taxpayer, strengthen diplomatic initiatives, improve mission effectiveness, and optimize operational efficiency.

Grounded in interagency, academic, and industry expertise and aligned with key Administration directives like America's AI Action Plan, Executive Order 14179, and OMB M-25-21 and M-25-22, the Enterprise Data and AI Strategy will empower the diplomatic workforce to prioritize data and AI innovations that advance American interests, strengthen diplomatic efforts, and meet the demands of a dynamic global environment.

Complementing this Strategy, the Department is launching an interactive Implementation Dashboard on AI.State—an exciting approach to strategy execution that enables unprecedented transparency and collaboration across our global workforce. The Dashboard will feature live metrics, and interactive milestone

tracking, creating a single source of truth for our AI transformation. This dynamic platform will transform how we track progress, breaking down silos by allowing all Department personnel to monitor real-time advancement of strategic initiatives.

As we embark on this journey, the Department will maintain a relentless focus on improving the conduct of diplomacy, driven by continuous monitoring and data-informed decision-making. The success of this Strategy hinges on the collective embrace of data and AI's transformative power by every individual within the Department.

