Based on the article (working progress) **Implementing Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education: Pros and Cons from the Perspectives of Academics** 

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### Exploratory study

- Research Questions:
- Which are the pros and cons of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in HE (HE), in the view of Romanian academics?
  - (1) What are, in your opinion, the advantages and the opportunities of implementing AI in Higher Education?
  - (2) What are, in your opinion, the disadvantages and threats of implementing AI in Higher Education?

#### Secondary research objective:

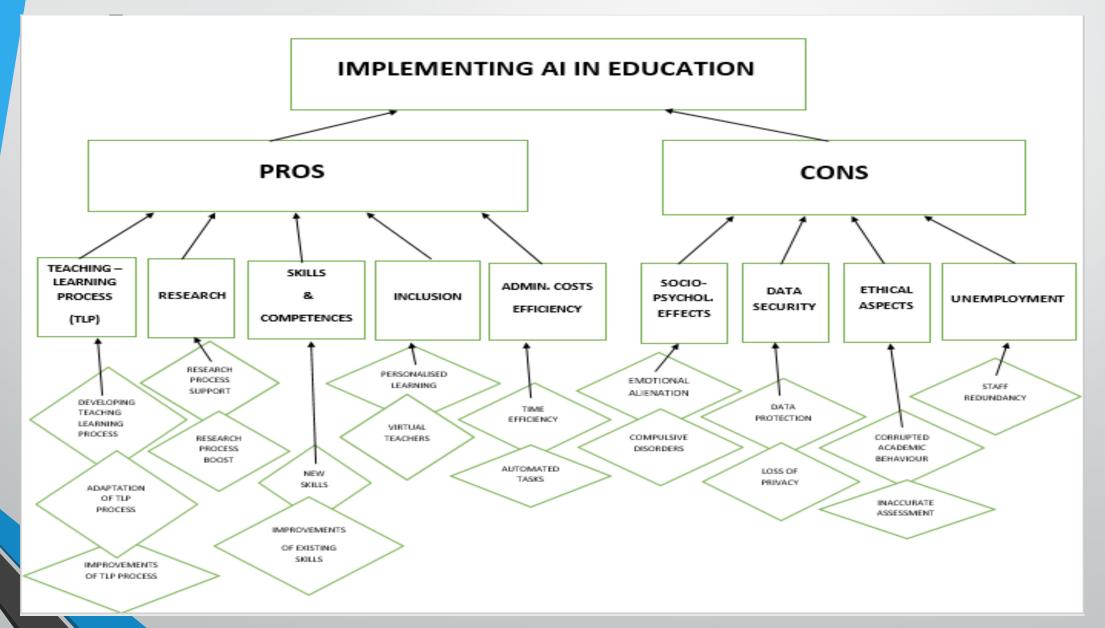
- What is the significance of these perceptions for HE (management of HEI)?
- AI working definitions
  - "the field to attempt to build machines that will function autonomously in complex, changing environments" (Russell 2018, p.18)
  - "the theory and development of computer systems able to perform tasks normally requiring human intelligence, such as visual perception, speech recognition, decision-making, and translation between languages" (Oxford Dictionary, 2017).

#### Qualitative research based on in-depth interviews

- 18 academics from 5 Romanian universities
- respondents were over 40 years of age, with solid experience in Higher Education,
- 11 women and 7 men
- all the respondents were in the field of Social Sciences and Humanities

#### Studies developing similar methodology

• Leoste, J., Jõgi, L., Õun, T., Pastor, L., San Martín López, J., & Grauberg, I. (2021). Perceptions about the future of integrating emerging technologies into higher education—the case of robotics with artificial intelligence. *Computers*, *10*(9), 110



### Conclusions

- Implementing AI in HE is more likely seen as a future process than a reality that academics are confronted with
- The opinions expressed are more general, expressing rather a minimal exposure to AI.
- Most of the perceptions regarding pros are related to the effects on the teaching-learning process, research and new skills developments (similar with the findings of other studies)
- socio-psychological effects and the loss of the sense of "being human", a kind of fear of the dissolution of humans as social beings, together with security and ethical aspects are among the most prominent concerns

## Conclusions, cont.'

- Lack of concern regarding the efforts (human, time, financial) necessary to put in keeping pace with the development of new technologies
- Lack of concern regarding the fact that the efforts to adapt constantly to new developments can lead to inequalities among HE institutions, between those with resources and those lacking in resources
- Ethical aspects are too much concentrated on cheating, with no worry about the efforts and strategy that should be dedicated to eliciting an ethical approach to AI.
- There is an evident concern regarding for one's own employability (the teachers role under AI) and not a preoccupation for the employability of others, from other industries.

#### Managerial implications

- Need to develop a strategy dedicated to implementing AI in HE institution (ex. transforming AI in a competitive advantage)
- Human resource strategy (training, cost efficiency)

# Va multumesc!