

TECH / META / ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Meta disbanded its Responsible AI team



Illustration by Nick Barclay / The Verge

/ A new report says Meta's Responsible AI team is now working on other AI teams.

By [Wes Davis](#), a weekend editor who covers the latest in tech and entertainment. He has written news, reviews, and more as a tech journalist since 2020.

Nov 18, 2023, 9:24 PM UTC | [□](#)

Meta has reportedly broken up its Responsible AI (RAI) team as it puts more of its resources into generative artificial intelligence. [The Information](#) broke the news today, citing an internal post it had seen.

According to the report, most RAI members will move to the company's generative AI product team, while others will work on Meta's AI infrastructure. The company regularly says it wants to develop AI responsibly and even [has a page](#) devoted to the promise, where the company lists its "pillars of responsible AI," including accountability, transparency, safety, privacy, and more.

The Information's report quotes Jon Carvill, who represents Meta, as saying that the company will "continue to prioritize and invest in safe and responsible AI development." He added that although the company

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is splitting the team up, those members will “continue to support relevant cross-Meta efforts on responsible AI development and use.” Meta did not respond to a request for comment by press time.

The team already saw a restructuring earlier this year, which [Business Insider wrote](#) included layoffs that left RAI “a shell of a team.” That report went on to say the RAI team, which had existed since 2019, had little autonomy and that its initiatives had to go through lengthy stakeholder negotiations before they could be implemented.

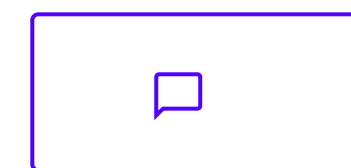
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RAI was created to identify problems with its AI training approaches, including whether the company’s models are trained with adequately diverse information, with an eye toward preventing things like moderation issues

on its platforms. Automated systems on Meta’s social platforms have led to problems like a Facebook translation issue that [caused a false arrest](#), WhatsApp AI sticker generation that results in biased images [when given certain prompts](#), and Instagram’s algorithms [helping people find child sexual abuse materials](#).

Moves like Meta’s and a [similar one by Microsoft](#) early this year come as world governments race to create regulatory guardrails for artificial intelligence development. The US government entered into [agreements with AI companies](#) and President Biden later directed government agencies to [come up with AI safety rules](#). Meanwhile, the European Union has [published its AI principles](#) and is still [struggling to pass its AI Act](#).



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