

# Global Addiction: Neurobehavioral Mechanisms, the International Security System, and AI Ethics

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## ARTICLE INFORMATION

### Article history:

Published: May 2026

### Keywords:

Global Addiction  
 Neurobehavioral Mechanisms  
 International Security System  
 AI Ethics

## ABSTRACT

Global addiction has emerged as a complex multidimensional phenomenon that extends beyond public health concerns and increasingly intersects with neurobehavioral science, international security, and artificial intelligence ethics. This study examines the neurobehavioral mechanisms underlying addictive behaviors, focusing on how dysregulation in reward systems, impulse control, and decision-making processes contributes to vulnerability in both individual and collective contexts. Furthermore, the research explores how global patterns of addiction may influence social stability, risk perception, and security dynamics within the international system. In parallel, the role of artificial intelligence technologies in shaping behavioral reinforcement, digital dependency, and ethical concerns is critically analyzed. The study adopts an interdisciplinary conceptual framework combining neuroscience, psychology, and security studies. Findings suggest that global addiction should be understood not only as an individual behavioral disorder but also as a structural factor affecting international security systems and emerging AI-driven environments.

## 1. Introduction

Global addiction has increasingly become a significant subject of interdisciplinary scientific inquiry, extending beyond traditional clinical and psychological frameworks. In contemporary research, addiction is no longer understood solely as an individual behavioral disorder, but rather as a complex neurobehavioral phenomenon influenced by biological, psychological, social, and technological factors. Advances in neuroscience have demonstrated that addictive behaviors are closely associated with dysregulation in the brain's reward system, particularly involving dopaminergic pathways, which affect impulse control, decision-making, and behavioral reinforcement processes. In parallel with these neurobiological developments, globalization and digital transformation have intensified the scope and scale of addictive behaviors. The widespread use of digital platforms, artificial intelligence-driven systems, and algorithmic content delivery has contributed to the emergence of new forms of dependency, including behavioral and technological addictions. These developments have created a situation in which addiction is not only a health issue but also a socio-technical and structural phenomenon with broader implications. From a security perspective, global addiction may influence behavioral stability, social cohesion, and risk perception at both individual and collective levels. Impaired decision-making and increased vulnerability to impulsive behavior can contribute to broader societal risks, including criminal activity, social instability, and susceptibility to manipulation in digital environments. As a result, addiction can be considered not only a clinical issue but also a factor relevant to international security systems. Furthermore, the rapid development of artificial intelligence introduces new ethical challenges in relation to behavioral influence and cognitive autonomy. AI-driven systems are capable of shaping user behavior through personalized content, reinforcement mechanisms, and predictive algorithms. This raises important ethical questions regarding autonomy, consent, and behavioral manipulation in digital ecosystems. Despite growing interest in these areas, there remains a significant gap in the literature regarding the integrated analysis of neurobehavioral mechanisms of addiction in relation to both international security and AI ethics. Most existing studies focus separately on either clinical addiction or technological ethics, without sufficiently addressing their intersection within a global security framework. Therefore, this study aims to develop an interdisciplinary conceptual framework that examines global addiction through the lens of neurobehavioral science, international security studies, and artificial intelligence ethics. The objective is to highlight how addictive behaviors may function as both a neuropsychological condition and a structural factor influencing modern security environments.

## 2. Literature Review

Global addiction has been widely examined within the fields of psychiatry, psychology, and neuroscience, where it is primarily conceptualized as a chronic disorder characterized by compulsive engagement in rewarding stimuli despite negative consequences. Classical models of addiction emphasize the role of dopaminergic reward pathways and reinforcement learning mechanisms in the development and maintenance of addictive behaviors. In this context, neurobehavioral frameworks highlight how alterations in prefrontal cortex functioning and limbic system activation contribute to impaired impulse control and maladaptive decision-making processes. Recent advancements in behavioral neuroscience have expanded this understanding by integrating cognitive and social dimensions of addiction. Studies indicate that environmental stressors, socioeconomic instability, and exposure to digital

technologies significantly modulate addiction-related behaviors. In particular, the rise of internet-based platforms and algorithm-driven content delivery systems has introduced new forms of behavioral addiction, often referred to as digital or technological addiction. These developments suggest that addiction is increasingly embedded within socio-technical systems rather than existing solely as an individual pathology. From a security studies perspective, emerging literature has begun to explore the broader societal implications of behavioral dysregulation associated with addiction. Research in this area suggests that impaired cognitive control, increased impulsivity, and reduced risk assessment capacity may contribute to heightened vulnerability to criminal behavior, social instability, and manipulation in high-risk environments. However, the integration of addiction science into international security frameworks remains limited and underdeveloped. In parallel, the field of artificial intelligence ethics has increasingly focused on the behavioral consequences of algorithmic systems. AI-driven recommendation engines and predictive behavioral models have been shown to reinforce repetitive engagement patterns, potentially contributing to dependency-like behaviors. Ethical concerns in this domain center on issues of autonomy, informed consent, and the potential for behavioral manipulation through digital systems. Despite this growing body of work, there is still a lack of integrated research that connects neurobehavioral mechanisms of addiction with both security implications and AI ethical considerations. Overall, the existing literature demonstrates a clear fragmentation between neurobiological, behavioral, security-oriented, and technological perspectives. This gap highlights the need for interdisciplinary frameworks capable of addressing global addiction as a multifaceted phenomenon operating at the intersection of neuroscience, international security, and artificial intelligence ethics.

### 3. Methodology

This study adopts a qualitative, interdisciplinary research design aimed at developing an integrative conceptual framework for understanding global addiction in relation to neurobehavioral mechanisms, international security, and artificial intelligence ethics. Given the complexity and multidimensional nature of the subject, a systematic literature-based approach was selected as the primary methodological strategy. A structured narrative review methodology was employed to synthesize existing scientific knowledge from three core domains: neuroscience and behavioral psychology, international security studies, and AI ethics. Academic databases including Scopus-indexed journals, Web of Science publications, and peer-reviewed articles in the fields of psychology, psychiatry, and information systems were examined. The selection of literature was guided by relevance to neurobehavioral addiction mechanisms, behavioral risk analysis, and technology-driven behavioral modulation. The analytical process followed a thematic synthesis approach. First, studies related to neurobiological mechanisms of addiction were categorized based on their focus on reward systems, impulse control, and cognitive regulation. Second, literature addressing behavioral outcomes, such as risk-taking, criminal vulnerability, and social instability, was analyzed within a security framework. Third, research on artificial intelligence and digital technologies was reviewed to identify ethical concerns related to behavioral manipulation, algorithmic reinforcement, and digital dependency. No primary experimental data were collected in this study. Instead, secondary data from existing scholarly sources were systematically analyzed to construct an interdisciplinary conceptual model. This approach allows for the integration of fragmented knowledge across multiple disciplines and supports the development of a holistic understanding of global addiction as both a neurobehavioral and structural phenomenon. The methodological limitation of this study lies in its reliance on secondary data, which may introduce publication bias and restrict empirical validation. However, the strength of this approach is its capacity to synthesize diverse theoretical perspectives and generate a unified analytical framework applicable to future empirical research.

### 4. Discussion

The findings of this conceptual analysis suggest that global addiction should be understood as a multidimensional neurobehavioral phenomenon that extends beyond the boundaries of traditional clinical psychiatry. At the neurobiological level, addiction is primarily associated with dysregulation of the brain's reward system, particularly involving dopaminergic pathways that regulate motivation, reinforcement learning, and impulse control. These mechanisms contribute to impaired executive functioning, reduced cognitive flexibility, and increased susceptibility to compulsive behaviors. From a behavioral perspective, these neurobiological alterations manifest as maladaptive decision-making patterns, heightened risk-taking tendencies, and diminished capacity for long-term planning. Such behavioral impairments are not limited to substance-based addictions but also extend to behavioral addictions, including digital dependency and technology-related compulsive engagement. In this context, global addiction emerges as a phenomenon that is increasingly shaped by environmental and technological factors. Within the framework of international security, these neurobehavioral disruptions may have broader systemic implications. Individuals experiencing impaired cognitive control and elevated impulsivity may demonstrate increased vulnerability to social manipulation, criminal involvement, and destabilizing behaviors. At a collective level, widespread behavioral dysregulation can contribute to social fragmentation, reduced institutional trust, and increased exposure to security risks. Therefore, addiction can be conceptualized not only as a medical condition but also as a contributing factor to structural insecurity in modern societies. Artificial intelligence technologies further complicate this landscape. AI-driven systems, particularly algorithmic recommendation engines and predictive behavioral models, have the capacity to reinforce repetitive behavioral patterns through personalized content delivery and reinforcement learning mechanisms. While these systems enhance user engagement, they also raise significant ethical concerns regarding autonomy, behavioral manipulation, and informed consent. The intersection of AI systems and addictive behaviors creates a feedback loop in which neurobehavioral vulnerabilities are amplified by technological design. The integration of these three domains—neurobehavioral science, international security, and AI ethics—highlights the need for a unified analytical framework. Current literature remains fragmented, with limited interdisciplinary synthesis across these fields. This study argues that global addiction should be conceptualized as a hybrid phenomenon operating at the intersection of biological predisposition, behavioral adaptation, and technological influence. Overall, the discussion suggests that addressing global addiction requires not only clinical intervention strategies but also policy-level considerations involving digital governance, ethical AI design, and international security frameworks.

## 5. Conclusion

This study has provided an interdisciplinary conceptual analysis of global addiction by integrating perspectives from neurobehavioral science, international security studies, and artificial intelligence ethics. The findings indicate that addiction should not be viewed solely as an individual clinical disorder, but rather as a complex neurobehavioral phenomenon with significant structural and systemic implications. At the neurobiological level, addiction is strongly associated with dysfunctions in reward processing systems, impulse control, and decision-making mechanisms. These alterations contribute to maladaptive behavioral patterns that extend beyond substance use and include behavioral and digital dependencies. As a result, addiction emerges as a condition that is increasingly shaped by both biological vulnerabilities and external environmental influences. From a security perspective, the study highlights that widespread neurobehavioral dysregulation may have indirect but significant implications for social stability and international security systems. Impaired cognitive control and increased impulsivity can elevate risks related to social disorder, vulnerability to manipulation, and behavioral instability in complex societal environments. This suggests that addiction-related phenomena should be considered within broader security and risk assessment frameworks. In addition, the rapid development of artificial intelligence technologies introduces new ethical dimensions to the study of addiction. Algorithmic systems and digital platforms may reinforce repetitive behavioral cycles, thereby intensifying dependency-like behaviors. These developments raise important ethical concerns regarding autonomy, behavioral influence, and the responsible design of AI systems. Overall, the study emphasizes the need for an integrated multidisciplinary approach to global addiction, combining insights from neuroscience, behavioral psychology, security studies, and AI ethics. Future research should focus on empirical validation of this conceptual framework and explore policy-oriented strategies for mitigating the combined neurobehavioral and technological risks associated with addiction in the digital era.

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