

## **Resolution Condemning Labor Movement Involvement with OpenAI**

**UUP Delegate Assembly, April 2026**

**WHEREAS**, Artificial Intelligence applications are proliferating rapidly in all levels of education; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2025, UUP’s national affiliate the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) entered into a \$23 million partnership with technology companies Microsoft, Anthropic and OpenAI to launch the National Academy for AI Instruction committed to “shaping the future of AI in public education”<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, OpenAI, Microsoft and Anthropic provide technological services to a range of government agencies in the US and around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, after AI company Anthropic’s contract with the US Department of Defense was cancelled on February 27, 2026 due to the company’s unwillingness to remove security controls that guard against the use of their products for domestic mass surveillance and autonomous weapons systems that can deploy lethal force without human input,<sup>2</sup> OpenAI swiftly entered into a contract with the Department of Defense for AI services that Anthropic would no longer be providing; and

**WHEREAS**, OpenAI claims that its contract with the Department of Defense includes prohibitions on uses of its product for “intentional[.]” mass domestic surveillance,<sup>3</sup> such a provision does not preclude the use of those powerful AI technologies to analyze vast amounts of materials acquired incidentally or through technically legal avenues with the end effect of amassing extensive, detailed surveillance materials;<sup>4</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, a provision in the Department of Defense contract with OpenAI states that their “AI System will not be used to independently direct autonomous weapons in any case where law, regulation, or Department policy requires human control”<sup>5</sup> implies that OpenAI’s technology may be deployed for autonomous weapons if a human is technically linked to the AI-determined outcomes, and AI applications in warfare involve intensified selection of targets for the deployment of lethal force that replace human analysis and decision-making with only cursory human oversight;<sup>6</sup> and

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<sup>1</sup> [National Academy for AI Instruction | AFT Stateweb](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Defense Secretary halts Anthropic's AI work over military use dispute | AP News](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Our agreement with the Department of War | OpenAI](#)

<sup>4</sup> [OpenAI Is Opening the Door to Government Spying - The Atlantic](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Our agreement with the Department of War | OpenAI](#)

<sup>6</sup> [These aren't AI firms, they're defense contractors. We can't let them hide behind their models | AI \(artificial intelligence\) | The Guardian](#)

**WHEREAS**, it has been reported that the AI tools under the Pentagon's earlier agreement with Anthropic were used to identify targets in Iran in spite of the security guardrails that the company claims were in place;<sup>7</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, the prosecution of mass warfare and the incursions of mass surveillance on the U.S. public are incompatible with the labor movement's aim of fostering human flourishing in democratic societies; and

**WHEREAS**, OpenAI's facilitation of warfare and surveillance directly threatens the privacy, security and well-being of all working people, including members of UUP and AFT; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of OpenAI's willingness to make its products available for warfare and mass surveillance, their continued partnership with the AFT must be read as an attempt at corporate reputational laundering. `

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the United University Professions Delegate Assembly calls upon the American Federation of Teachers to immediately sever its partnership with OpenAI in the National Academy for AI Instruction.

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<sup>7</sup> [Pentagon leverages AI in Iran strikes amid feud with Anthropic - The Washington Post](#)