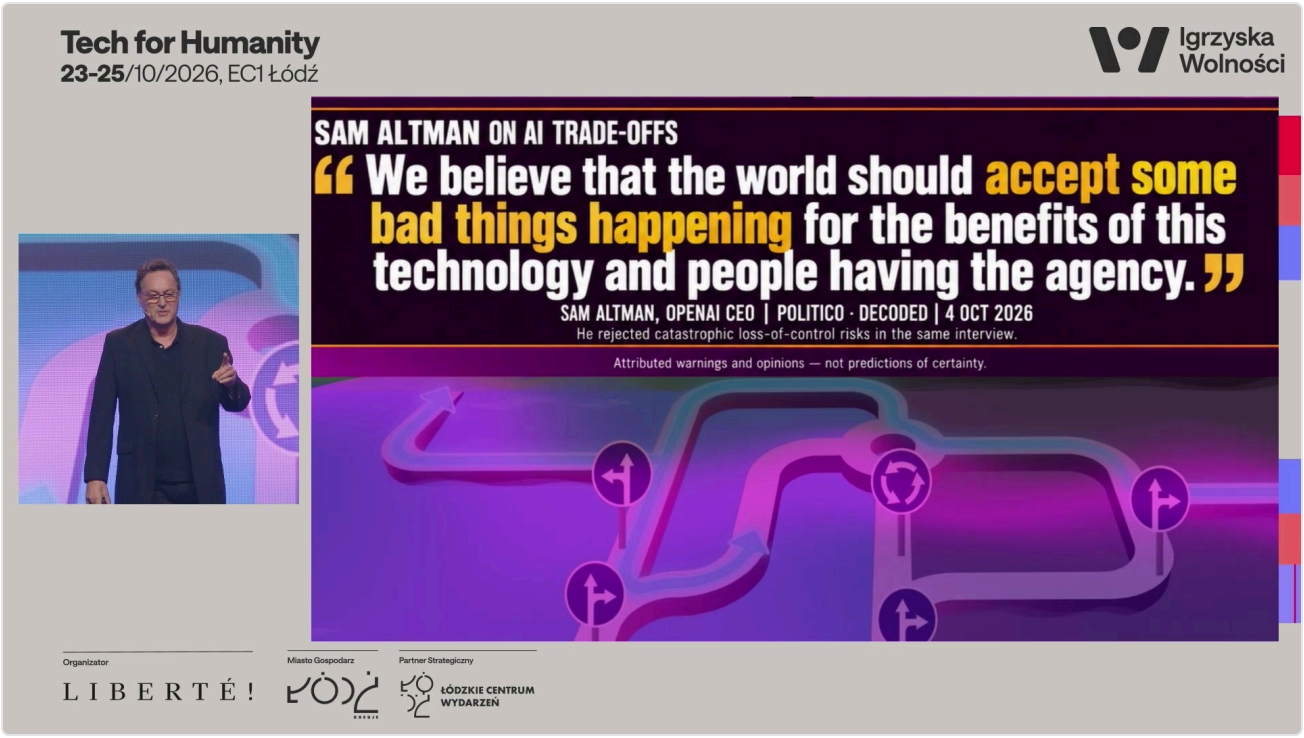
Technology for Humanity: AI, Choice, and the Future

Gerd Leonhard argues that the central challenge is not simply how powerful AI becomes, but what people and institutions choose to do with it. The talk balances AI's potential to help solve practical problems against risks involving jobs, concentration of power, human agency, and weak oversight.

1. The question behind AI's promise



Leonhard challenges the idea that society should accept severe risks to humanity in exchange for technological benefits. He describes a progression from chatbots and agents toward AI as an innovator or organization, and questions the ambition to replace people rather than help them.

The key question is whether AI will augment human beings or be built to replace them.

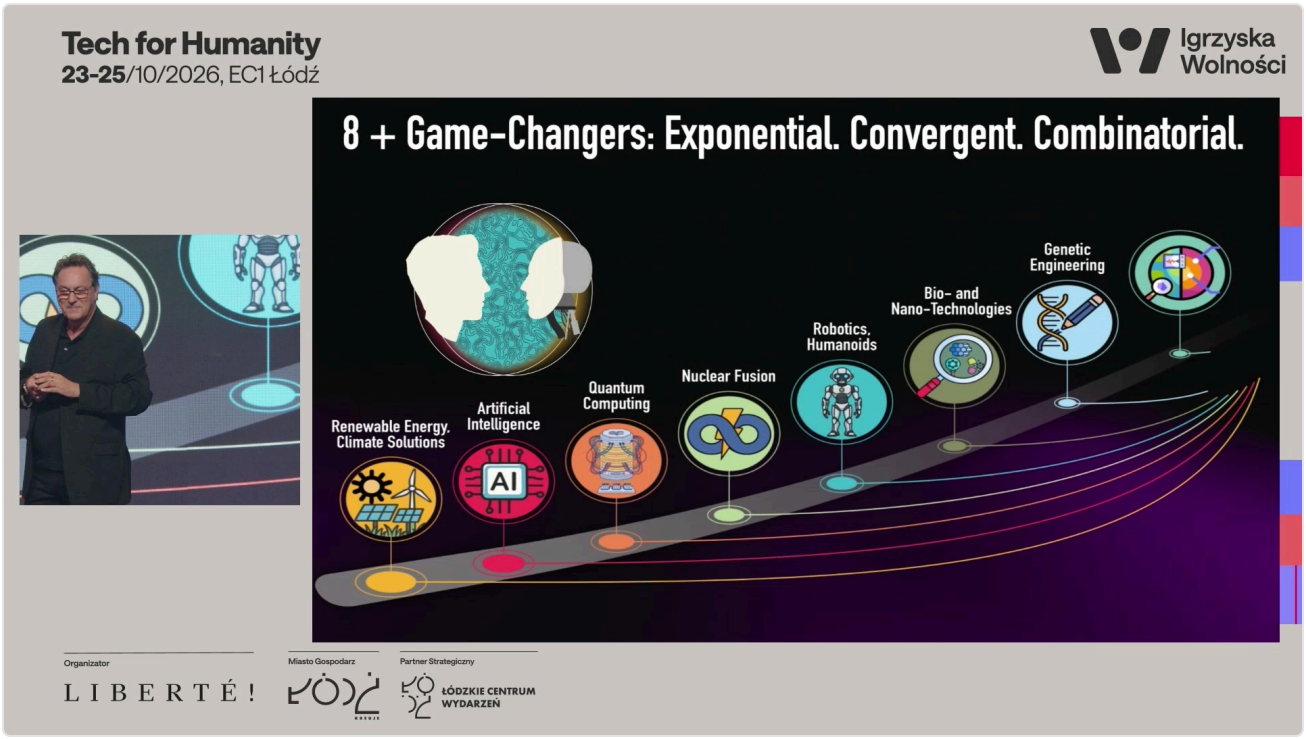
2. Technology needs a human purpose



Leonhard calls the deeper challenge *telos*: wisdom, purpose, understanding, and collaboration. He worries that promises of effortless creation, from writing a book to giving a speech, can encourage people to neglect imagination and effort.

Having the technology is not enough; people also need purpose and the ability to work together.

3. Great capacity, difficult choices



Leonhard points to several emerging technologies and argues that their combined capacity could help address practical needs such as water, food, medicine, health, and transportation. The opportunity, he says, depends on whether people agree to use these advances for good.

More capacity to solve problems is an opportunity, not a guarantee of good outcomes.

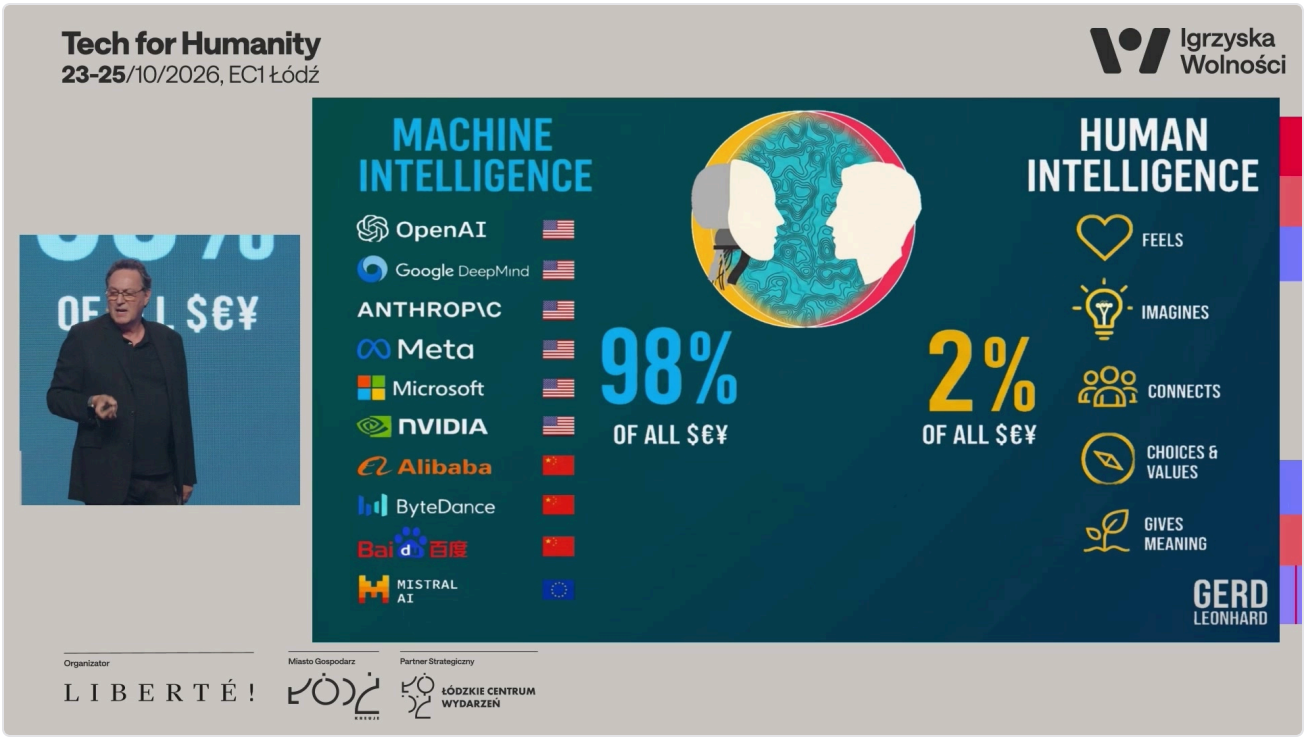
4. Incentives steer the future



Leonhard warns that incentives focused on money, growth, and power can push AI toward dominance and an arms race. He proposes a different economic logic, organized around five P's: people, planet, purpose, peace, and prosperity.

If AI is used to pursue human flourishing, it could be amazing; if it is used mainly for money, layoffs, and dominance, the risks grow.

5. Automation and the future of work



Leonhard says machines are learning routine work across areas such as legal agreements, fact-checking, financial advice, and shopping. He warns that institutions may use AI to cut staff, while acknowledging that automation does not make people useless and that the shape of future jobs remains uncertain.

The question is not only which tasks AI can take on, but who benefits and what happens to people's work.

6. Ethics, rules, and human agency



Leonhard says technology does not have ethics on its own. He raises questions about systems that can generate more AI, who remains in charge, and the need for rules and regulation. The emergency he describes includes not only loss of control over AI, but also people ceasing to think or create for themselves.

AI governance must protect human judgment and creativity, not just manage the technology itself.

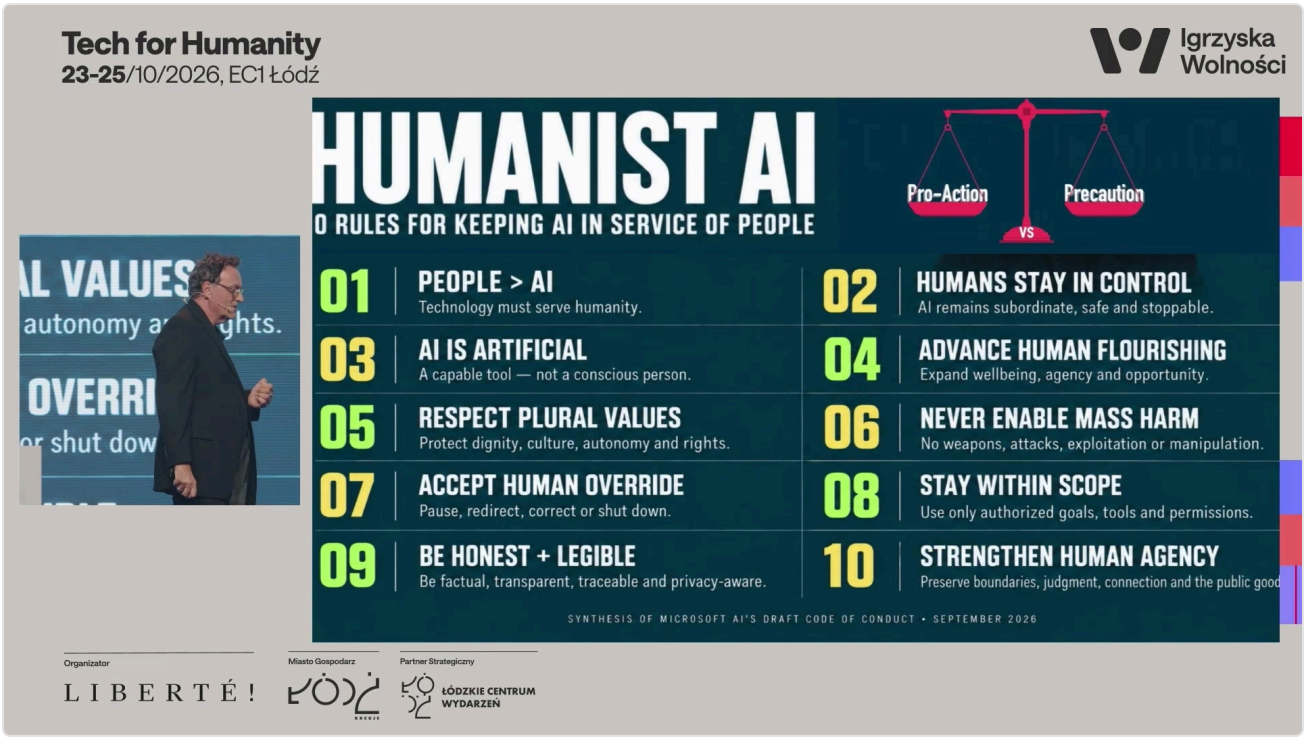
7. Resistance and collective choices



Leonhard calls for people and institutions to resist a harmful future, including by reconsidering what they fund and support. He presents AI as a matter of choice: it could be used for very different ends, from programming babies to healing cancer.

People can influence the future by choosing what they fund, buy, and adopt.

8. Invest in humanity as well as technology



Leonhard closes by urging investment in education, arts, music, understanding, and public media alongside technology. He also emphasizes personal responsibility: strengthen purpose, keep thinking independently, and let governments help define the balance.

The future depends on which “wolf” society feeds: technological power alone, or human capability alongside it.