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The UN's first global AI governance dialogue led the day, with a direct focus on inclusion, transparency, and the international AI divide. Elsewhere, Liquid AI offered one of the clearest edge-AI commercialization signals, while skepticism about AI ROI sharpened around costs and measurable output.

UN opens a first formal venue for global AI governance

The United Nations launched what Yoshua Bengio described as its first platform for member states and other multistakeholders to discuss AI governance, with an emphasis on inclusivity and transparency [1]. Bengio said frontier AI development is concentrated in two countries, a pattern that is raising concern in developing nations that fear an AI divide will leave them behind [1]. He also pointed to an independent international scientific panel meant to establish a fact-based baseline and argued that effective AI governance will require multilateral, UN-led solutions [1].

> "We don't speak for our countries. We don't speak for our companies. We speak for our expertise and this will set the baseline for the facts."

[1] *The UN Global Dialogue on AI Governance (3:47)*

Why it matters: This is a concrete new venue for AI governance, and it puts the international AI divide at the center of the discussion alongside transparency and shared benefits [1].

Liquid AI makes a strong case for device-native foundation models

Liquid AI said its open-weight LFM family is now seeing more than 1 million weekly Hugging Face downloads and ranks fifth in the U.S. behind Google, Meta, Microsoft, and NVIDIA [2]. The company also said LFM2/LFM2.5 models are already in production at Shopify, where they improved click-through on recommendation and search, and that a new Mercedes-Benz deal will put a 600MB Liquid model behind the car's voice system [2]. On the research side, its Automated Foundation Model Design process used real target hardware and roughly 100 downstream benchmarks to converge on architectures built mostly from double-gated convolutions with a smaller share of attention, matching Liquid's broader view that architecture should change with scale and deployment setting [2].

Why it matters: This is a notable commercial and research signal for on-device AI, with production deployments and hardware-in-the-loop design pushing model architecture away from a one-size-fits-all frontier template [2].

Cost discipline is becoming a louder part of the AI conversation

Gary Marcus amplified commentary arguing that AI is in a "messy middle phase" where usage can look productive even when output remains unclear [3]. The same discussion cited a Forbes framing that AI is now costing some companies more than the people it was supposed to replace, alongside claims that Uber reportedly burned its 2026 AI coding budget in four months and that Microsoft curbed an AI coding assistant after costs became hard to justify [3].

> "AI is now costing some companies more than the people it was supposed to replace." [4]

Why it matters: In prominent commentary, AI economics are being judged more directly on cost discipline and demonstrable output, not just visible usage or activity [3].

Sources

1. The UN Global Dialogue on AI Governance
2. Intelligence on the Edge: Liquid AI's Ramin Hasani on the Search for Device-Native Foundation Models
3. X post by @rohanpaul_ai
4. X post by @GaryMarcus