Article: Italian newspaper says it has published world's first AI-generated edition

By Angela Giuffrida | The Guardian, 18 March 2025

Tool used to create summary and ask follow-up question: *Perplexity.ai*

AI SUMMARY & RESPONSE TO FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

Key Takeaways from the Article on Il Foglio's AI-Generated Newspaper:

- Historic Initiative: The Italian newspaper Il Foglio launched the world's first fully AI-generated newspaper edition, Il Foglio AI, on March 18, 2025. The four-page supplement is part of a month-long experiment to evaluate AI's impact on journalism and daily life [1][2][7].

- AI's Role: The AI system was responsible for every aspect of the edition, including writing articles, crafting headlines, creating summaries, and even incorporating humor and irony. Journalists' involvement was limited to asking questions and reviewing the AI-generated content [1][3][12].

- **Content Highlights:**

- Topics covered included Italian economic reforms, an analysis of Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's speeches, a critique of Donald Trump's supporters in Italy, and a fashion story [2][8][13].

- AI also generated letters to the editor, one humorously addressing its own limitations [4][11].

- Purpose: Editor Claudio Cerasa emphasized that the project aims to "revitalize journalism," not replace it. It seeks to explore AI's potential and boundaries in producing creative and irreverent content typical of Il Foglio [2][5].

- **Reception:**

- The AI-generated content was described as clear, well-structured, and stylistically consistent with human-written articles [3][6].

- Critics raised concerns about the lack of human creativity and analytical depth in AI-generated journalism [13].

- Comparison with Other Efforts: While Il Foglio claims to be the first daily newspaper with an entirely AI-generated edition, similar experiments have been conducted, such as Sweden's Nöjesguiden, which published an AI issue in 2024 as satire [1][9].

This experiment has sparked debates about the role of AI in journalism, its efficiency in producing quality content, and its limitations compared to human creativity and critical thinking.

Citations:

[1] https://macaonews.org/news/around-the-world/ai-generated-newspaper-journalism-il-foglio/

[2] https://techxplore.com/news/2025-03-italian-paper-fully-ai-journalism.html

[3] https://www.tweaktown.com/news/104049/worlds-first-newspaper-written-by-an-ai-seemingly-isnt-complete-shambles-surprisingly/index.html

[4] https://www.govtech.com/question-of-the-day/where-was-the-first-ai-generated-edition-of-a-newspaper-published

[5] https://www.thejakartapost.com/culture/2025/03/21/italian-newspaper-prints-fully-ai-edition-but-not-to-kill-journalism.html

[6] https://www.reddit.com/r/singularity/comments/1je6556/italian_newspaper_is_worlds_first_admitted_fully/

[7] https://www.business-standard.com/technology/tech-news/ai-journalism-italy-il-foglio-first-fully-ai-generated-newspaper-125031801397_1.html

[8] https://promptengineering.org/the-future-of-news-italys-first-ai-generated-newspaper-shakes-up-journalism/

[9] https://www.niemanlab.org/reading/italian-newspaper-says-it-has-published-worlds-first-ai-generated-edition/

[10] https://www.newindianexpress.com/world/2025/Mar/18/italian-newspaper-il-foglio-publishes-worlds-first-ai-generated-edition

[11] https://www.eweek.com/news/news-ai-generated-italian-newspaper-il-foglio-journalism/

[12] https://gizmodo.com/italian-newspaper-creates-entirely-ai-generated-edition-2000577463

[13] https://goodereader.com/blog/digital-publishing/worlds-first-newspaper-to-be-produced-entirely-by-ai-launched-in-italy

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A follow-up question asked whether readers were informed that the content produced was AI-generated; this is the response generated by Perplexity, the AI tool used to analyze the article:

Based on the available information, readers were indeed informed that the section was AI-generated. The newspaper, Il Foglio, openly announced and promoted this initiative as the world's first fully AI-generated newspaper edition [1][4].

The AI-generated content was published as a distinct four-page supplement alongside the regular edition of Il Foglio, both in print and online [2][5]. This separate format likely made it clear to readers that they were engaging with AI-produced content.

Furthermore, the editor-in-chief, Claudio Cerasa, publicly discussed the experiment, stating that it would be "the first daily newspaper in the world on newsstands created entirely using artificial intelligence" [3][4]. This public announcement and the transparent nature of the experiment suggest that readers were well-informed about the AI-generated nature of the content.

The initiative was part of a month-long experiment aimed at exploring the impact of AI technology on journalism [4][6]. Given the experimental and pioneering nature of this project, it's highly likely that Il Foglio made efforts to clearly communicate the AI-generated aspect to its readership, as transparency was a key component of the experiment's purpose.

Citations:

[1] https://goodereader.com/blog/digital-publishing/worlds-first-newspaper-to-be-produced-entirely-by-ai-launched-in-italy

[2] https://pylessons.com/news/italian-ai-journalism-innovation

[3] https://www.govtech.com/question-of-the-day/where-was-the-first-ai-generated-edition-of-a-newspaper-published

[4] https://www.deccanchronicle.com/technology/italian-newspaper-il-foglio-makes-history-publishes-worlds-first-ai-generated-edition-1867809

[5] https://www.tweaktown.com/news/104049/worlds-first-newspaper-written-by-an-ai-seemingly-isnt-complete-shambles-surprisingly/index.html

[6] https://techxplore.com/news/2025-03-italian-paper-fully-ai-journalism.html

[7] https://www.niemanlab.org/reading/italian-newspaper-says-it-has-published-worlds-first-ai-generated-edition/

[8] https://promptengineering.org/the-future-of-news-italys-first-ai-generated-newspaper-shakes-up-journalism/

[9] https://www.reddit.com/r/singularity/comments/1je6556/italian_newspaper_is_worlds_first_admitted_fully/

[10] https://gizmodo.com/italian-newspaper-creates-entirely-ai-generated-edition-2000577463