# Editorial: Disrupted and Reshaped Global Supply Chains, Marketing

# Performance, and Marketers' New Tool ChatGPT and Its Competition



A Boston Consulting Group (BCG) analysis (based on BCG Trade Methodology) recently presented a big picture (see figure below) of the world trade until the end of the current decade within the context of the shifting geopolitical and economic dynamics which will strongly impact both the economic globalization, and trade opening (Gilbert et al., 2023). Networks' diversification and resilience building must be taken into account by all those depending on the disrupted global supply chains.

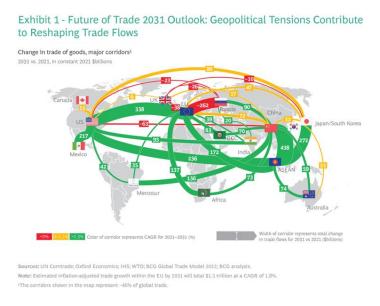


Figure no. 1: Future of Trade 2031 Outlook: Geopolitical Tensions Contribute to Reshaping Trade Flows Source: Gilbert, M., Lang, N., Mavropoulos, G. and McAdoo, M., 2023. Protectionism, Pandemic, War, and the Future of Trade, BCG, January 17, 2023. (Work cited)

In our last HMM Editorial we made reference (Purcarea, 2022), among other aspects, to companies' need for the right mindset, strategy, and capabilities while approaching the new dimensions of uncertainty and turbulence in today's interconnected world, also paying attention to customers' functional, social, and emotional value, and creating it with the help of technology investments, considering digital transformation and improved customers' and employees' experience. It is largely recognized what is considered critical for raising marketing performance (campaign execution time, customer engagement, and cost savings), and to competitive advantage (the necessary marketing capabilities like data ownership and strategy, media planning and execution, content creation and optimization, measurement, and last but not least marketing technology), as underlined by the reputed BCG (Senzer et al., 2022).

In December last year Chartr (2022) brought to our attention a significant picture (see figure below) regarding how an Artificial Intelligence (AI) bot – ChatGPT, from OpenAI – quickly become very successful in the technology world:

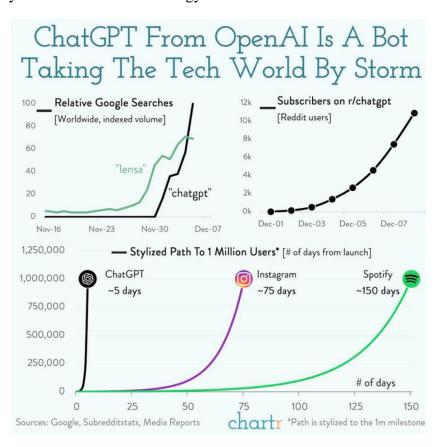


Figure no. 2: ChatGPT, from OpenAI Is a Bot Taking The Tech World By Storm

Source: Chartr, 2022. ChatGPT. The AI bot taking the tech world by storm, Newsletter, December 9, 2022. (Work cited)

A recently published article in European Business Review (Fares, O.H., 2023) analyzed the great interest of both businesses and consumers in the new technology ChatGPT (both providing creative content, and supporting content ideation), considering its great potential to

revolutionize both marketing strategies (enhancing marketing effectiveness), and customer experience (CX). And as from the point of view of Gartner's hype cycle in adopting this new technology consumers appear to build their expectations (getting close to the highest point of inflated triggers stages), marketers are challenged "to set realistic expectations for consumers and navigate the integration of ChatGPT to mitigate the effects of the trough of disillusionment stage" (while facing the gap between consumers' expectations and understanding of the pitfalls of ChatGPT). As shown by Fares: before integrating this new technology assisting humans (who are providing not only relevancy, character, and experience, but also personal connection) it is imperative for marketers to adopt and implement the appropriate strategy; it is also important to take into account both ChatGPT's possibilities for enhancing marketing processes (supporting content creation and data analysis, enhancing customer service twenty-four hours a day, and automating repetitive marketing tasks), and limitations (only a human-like tool but without emotional intelligence, not error free, and lacking humans' lived experience and understanding of the complex human nature).

On the other hand, as recently shown by Ahn and Chen (2023), beyond its recognized advantages: in order to both increase ChatGPT applications' relevance and timeliness, and enhance UX data sources (considering limited datasets) should include both pre-existing, and real-time and current data, ensuring this way its properly functioning; in order to ensure the provision of both accurate and up-to-date information (taking into account ChatGPT relatively weakness in providing new insights, advice, and recommendations with regard to a new phenomenon lacking pre-existing data and information) may be necessary data collection and digitization with the help of human action. They also brought to our attention: the possible ChatGPT contribution to human ability decline of both remembering specific facts, and critically thinking; the creation by ChatGPT of both benefits and challenges in learning and research environments, including from the point of view of educational integrity.

Within this framework, it is also worth highlighting other aspects, such as:

- The significant message, regarding important implications for business school education, of the reputed Professor Christian Terwiesch from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (Terwiesch, 2023), who documented the performance of Chat GPT3 on the final exam of Operations Management (as a typical MBA core course);
- The recently released by the young Edward Tian from Princeton University of his GPTZero app (based on his GitHub Co-Pilot software, and powered by GPT-3) in order to stop the misuse of the ChatGPT, and becoming able to learn how to use this new technology, as well as taking the appropriate measure to carefully enter the challenging future (Rosalsky and Peaslee, 2023);
- How Microsoft's Consumer CMO recently (a few weeks after making known the significant Microsoft's investment in ChatGPT owner OpenAI) saluted Bing's new chatbot (seen as being better than ChatGPT, and being clearly customized for search) improved by Prometheus model

from the point of view of relevancy, furnishing answers with explanatory notes, yielding more recent results, understanding geolocation, and better safety; how Google reacted to ChatGPT by announcing entering within a short time on this relevant market (making it known for the first time) with its Bard chatbot (already available to Google's trusted testers, according to the CEO of Alphabet and Google), based on a smaller version of Google's AI model LaMDA (that was built by adjusting precisely a family of transformer-based neural language models specialized for conversation), and focusing on producing easy-to-digest formats from multiple sources of information (Goldman, 2023). It is interesting to note the already remarkable close acquaintance with ChatGPT among US adults, as shown in figure below.

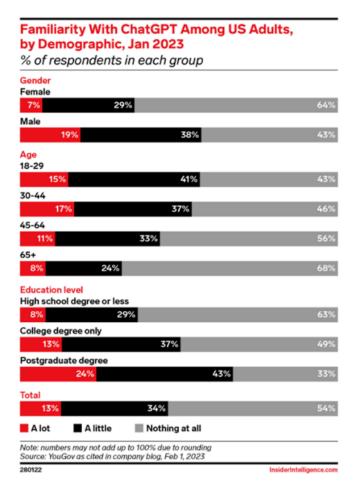


Figure no. 3: Familiarity with ChatGPT Among US Adults, by Demographic, Jan 2023

Source: Goldman, J., 2023. Driven by ChatGPT, Microsoft and Google debut the next generation of search, Insider Intelligence, Feb 8, 2023. (Work cited)

• The test recently made by an Editor for Search Engine Land (who is covering all things PPC, pay-per-click) with the new ChatGPT integrated Bing browser, and concluding that she could see herself regularly using this new technology (Farley, 2023).

Recently, the Founder and CEO of the marketing technology management platform CabinetM (Brearton, 2023), Anita J. Brearton (Author of the book "Attack Your Stack: A Guide

to Building and Managing Your Marketing Technology Stack", 2 Nov. 2018), expressed her continuous astonishment regarding "how few companies know what's actually in their stack or how well those products are performing. Sooner or later there will be a reckoning and hopefully, it will be because of budget overruns and not because of data privacy or security issues which is a real risk when flying blind. If it were up to me, I'd anoint 2023 as the << year of stack rationalization >>". In her opinion, the decline in investment in marketing technology industry is explained by two main factors, the economic uncertainty and the so-called investment fatigue, and among other aspects she presented a comparison between the new product launches in the last two years (see figure below), as shown in the 2022 year-end MarTech Innovation Report published by CabinetM.



Figure no. 4: Top 10 Launch Categories

Source: Brearton, A., 2023. The state of martech in 2023, MarTech, February 6, 2023. (Work cited)

It is useful now to highlight that according to Gartner (2023), in the current uncertain economy (characterized by inflation, supply chain constraints, and rising talent costs), in order to establish guideposts for planning CMOs must avoid budget cuts and focus on valorizing (as shown in figure below) both marketing analytics, and marketing mix modeling, establishing marketing investment triggers, predicting their impact, and targeting marketing-led innovation.



Figure no. 5: CMOs Respond to Economic Uncertainty in a variety of Ways

Source: Gartner, 2023. 3 Techniques to Prove Marketing Value. [pdf] Gartner for Marketers, eBook, p 2. (Work cited)

Without doubt, marketers are under pressure to deal with challenging times, even more so now entering the new marketing universe which is metaverse, as underlined by (Hollensen, Kotler and Opresnik, 2022).

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#### Editor-in-Chief

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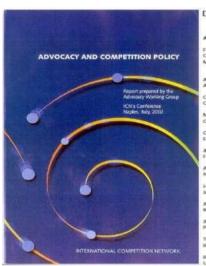
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First meeting, Bonn, Germany, May 19, 2003, of Deborah Platt Majoras (Assistant to the Attorney General, Department of Justice, US),

Bärbel Dieckmann (Mayor of Bonn), and Theodor Purcarea (President of Romanian Competition Council)

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