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Australia bans AI songs from music charts – 7th September 2026

Level 4

The fight against the use of AI in music goes on. Australia's recording industry (ARIA) has banned songs that are "wholly" created with AI from the official music charts. There is controversy over an AI version of a Madonna hit. The cover version used AI technology. It spent 16 weeks in the top 20. It also made music lovers angry. ARIA said that "wholly AI-generated" music will be banned from the charts, but "AI-assisted" music is OK.

ARIA said the industry must protect artists' livelihoods. It said AI can be used, but not if it excludes human creativity. It said the new rules were to "promote the human nature of artistry". The artist who created the Madonna cover said he used AI on the song. He saw no problem with using AI as a tool in creating music. He also said the new rules were "a great move". He wrote: "I understand that AI in music isn't for everyone and that's fine."

Level 5

The fight against the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in music continues. Australia's recording industry (ARIA) has banned songs that are "wholly" created with AI from entering the official music charts. There is controversy over an AI version of the Madonna hit "Like a Prayer". The cover version used AI technology. The song spent 16 weeks in the Australian top 20. It also created a backlash among music lovers and the general public. ARIA said that "wholly AI-generated" music will be banned from the charts, while "AI-assisted" music can still be included.

ARIA said the music charts must protect artists' livelihoods. It said there is a legitimate use of AI, but not if it excludes human creativity. It said the new rules "reflect our intent to remain dynamic and promote the human nature of artistry". Josh Fawaz, the artist who created the AI Madonna cover, said he used AI on his version of the song. He defended his use of AI as a "tool" in creating music. He also said ARIA's new rules were "a great move". He wrote: "I understand that AI in music isn't for everyone and that's fine."

Level 6

The fight against the intrusion of artificial intelligence (AI) into music continues. The Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) has banned songs that have been "wholly" created with AI from entering the country's official music charts. There has been a recent controversy over an AI version of the 1989 Madonna hit "Like a Prayer". The cover version of the tune made considerable use of AI technology. The song spent 16 weeks in the Australian top 20. It also created a backlash among music purists and the general public. ARIA declared that "wholly AI-generated" music will be banned from the charts, while "AI-assisted" music will still be eligible for inclusion.

ARIA CEO Annabelle Herd said the music charts must protect artists and their livelihoods. She said there should be a legitimate use of AI, but not to the extent that it excludes human creativity. She commented on the new rules, saying: "These changes reflect our intent to remain dynamic and promote the human nature of artistry in what is, to say the least, a rapidly developing space." Josh Fawaz, the artist who created the AI Madonna cover, acknowledged his use of AI on his version of the track. He defended his use of AI as a "tool" in creating music. He also called ARIA's new rules "a great move". He wrote: "I understand that AI in music isn't for everyone and that's fine."