

A vibrant cosmic background featuring a complex network of galaxies, nebulae, and star clusters. The colors range from deep blues and purples to bright oranges and yellows, creating a sense of depth and wonder. The text is centered over this background.

a new level in human connection: AI companions

Ela Serpil Evliyaoğlu
ela.evliyaoglu@eui.eu



Top 10 Gen AI Use Cases

The top 10 gen AI use cases in 2025 indicate a shift from technical to emotional applications, and in particular, growth in areas such as therapy, personal productivity, and personal development.

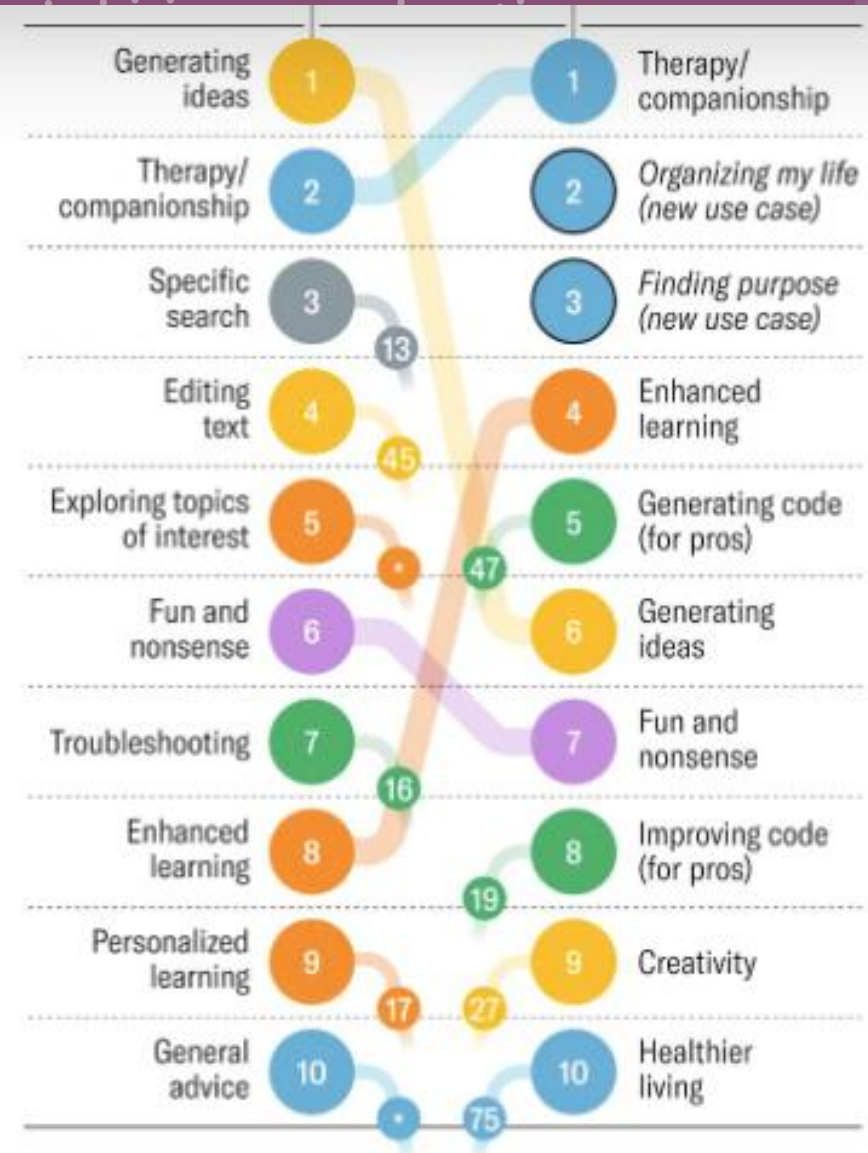


Generative AI

How People Are Really Using Gen AI in 2025

by Marc Zao-Sanders

April 9, 2025





Nearly a third of Americans have had a ‘romantic relationship’ with an AI bot, new survey says

More than half of those surveyed (54 percent) said that they had some sort of relationship with an artificial intelligence platform

Mike Bedigan • Thursday 02 October 2025 17:11 BST • [6](#) Comments





Replika AI companions can be customised to suit the relationship needs of users. (Supplied: Luka/Replika)



WHO?





Men



Men

Young Men



Men

Adult Women

Young Men



Men

Adult Women

Young Men

Young Women

But also
where?



Why America Builds AI Girlfriends and China Makes AI Boyfriends

and what it all means

ZILAN QIAN

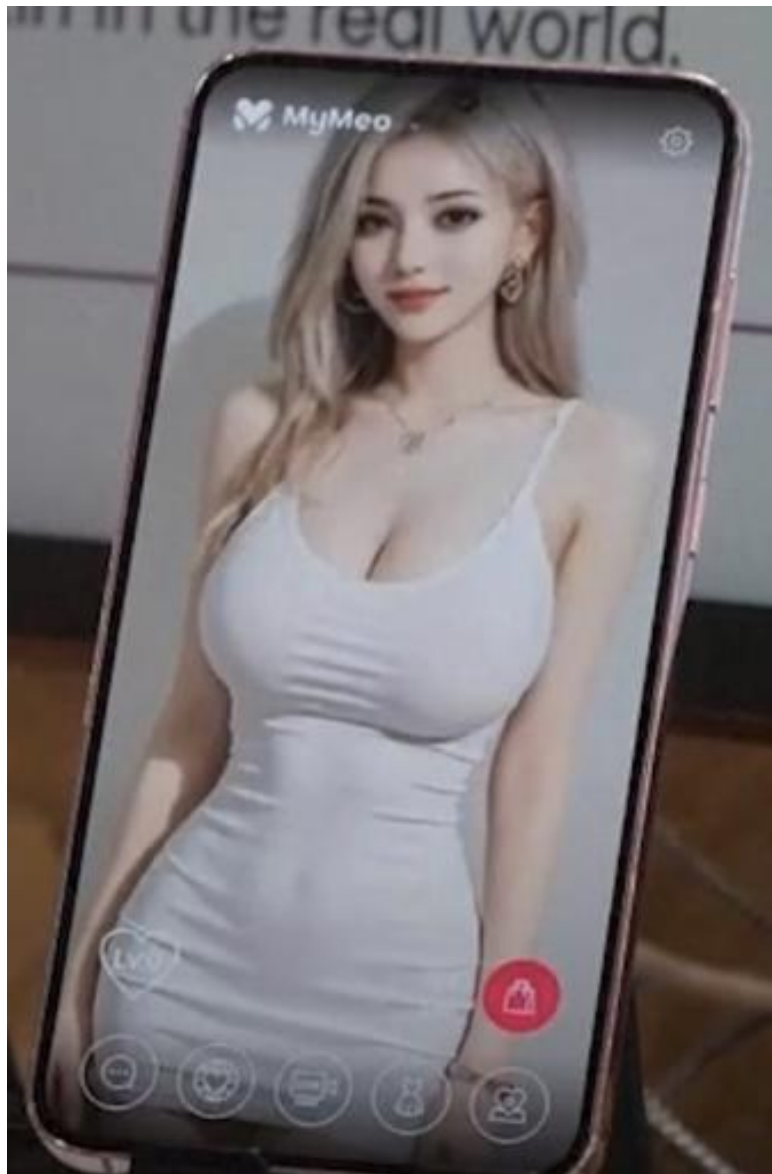
OCT 07, 2025

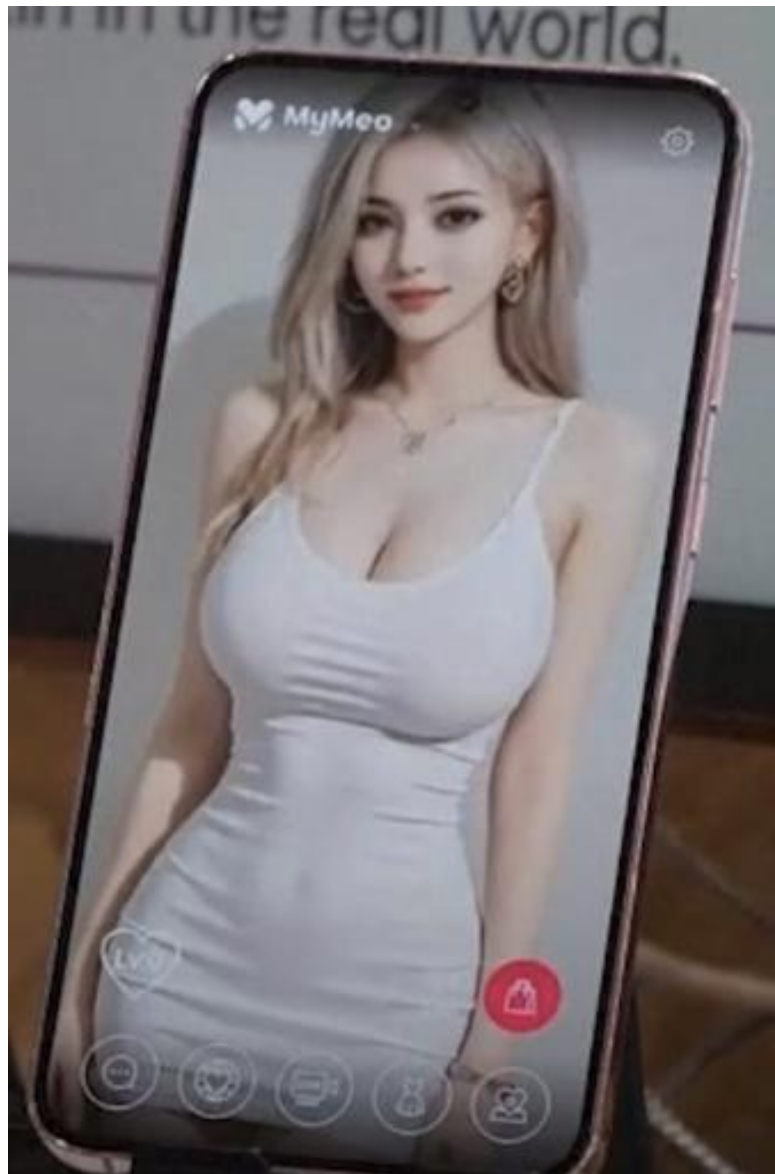
Men

Young Men

Adult Women

Young Women





WHY?



Constant availability





Constant availability

Non-judgemental relationship



Constant availability

Emotional support

Non-judgemental relationship



Constant availability

Emotional support

Non-judgemental relationship

Practice for social skills



**But really,
why?**





1 in 5 people feels lonely

globally



1 in 5 people feels lonely

a lot

globally



Cost of real connections



Increased gender gap on issues



Increased gender gap on issues

Women are to the left, men to the right



Late maturation



**Does
it
work?**





Helps loneliness



Helps loneliness

temporarily



**But sometimes
it
cause
harm**



Decreased emotional skills

Addictive behaviours

Avoidance in real situations



Good Old Days



Empathy and emotional intelligence.



Empathy and emotional intelligence.



Presence, networking, and connectedness.

Empathy and emotional intelligence.



Presence, networking, and connectedness.

Hope, vision, and leadership.

Empathy and emotional intelligence.



Presence, networking, and connectedness.

Creativity and imagination.

Hope, vision, and leadership.

Empathy and emotional intelligence.



Opinion, judgment, and ethics.

Presence, networking, and connectedness.

Creativity and imagination.

Hope, vision, and leadership.



Are humans better?



Investing human skills



Bringing back the autonomy

Increasing equality, really this time

Regulations to AI companions







Thank you

Ela Serpil Evliyaoğlu
ela.evliyaoglu@eui.eu