LLM
AI in Legal Practice and Its Regulation

2026/2027

Curricular unit

AI for Judges and Arbitrators

Responsible Academic staff and respective workload in the curricular unit

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Syllabus

AI applications:
To expedite document review by using computer-assisted coding
To support judges and arbitrators in performing legal research
To support judges and arbitrators in sentencing
To ensure a better predictability of court decision
To support registries' work and court administration
To inform and advise citizens

Teaching methodologies (including evaluation)

By seminars and tutorials; evaluation by project/essay

Main Bibliography

DOCUMENTS
COUNCIL OF EUROPE

- European Ethical Charter on the use of AI in the judicial systems and their environment (Strasbourg, 3-4 December 2018) and its Four Appendices
- European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) – 2022-2025 Action plan: "Digitalisation for a better justice"
- European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) – Revised roadmap for ensuring an appropriate follow-up of the CEPEJ Ethical Charter on the use of Artificial Intelligence in judicial systems and their environment (Strasbourg, 8-9 December 2021)

EUROPEAN UNION

- Simplification of the implementation of harmonised rules on artificial intelligence – Digital Omnibus on AI (Omnibus VII), 2026 (awaiting Parliament's position in 1st reading).
- Digital Omnibus Regulation Proposal, 2025.
- Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (Artificial Intelligence Act).
- European Parliament Resolution of 6 October 2021 on Artificial Intelligence in Criminal Law and Its Use by the Police and Judicial Authorities in Criminal Matters, 2020/2016(INI).

- European Commission, Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI, High-Level Expert Group on Artificial Intelligence, 2019.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- National Science and Technology Council, The National Artificial Intelligence Research and Development Strategic Plan, October 2016.
- The Sedona Conference, TAR Case Law Primer, latest available edition.
- The Sedona Conference, Commentary on Achieving Quality in the E-Discovery Process, latest available edition.

LITERATURE:

- M. LOPES ROCHA / R. SOARES PEREIRA (eds.), *Inteligência Artificial & Direito*, Coimbra: Almedina, 2020.
- P. DE SOUSA MENDES, "Representation of legal knowledge and expert systems in law", in: Carlos Caleiro *et al.* (eds.), *Logic and Computation – Essays in Honour of Amílcar Sernadas*, London: College Publications, 2017, pp. 23-35.
- T. BENCH-CAPON, M. ARASZKIEWICZ, K. ASHLEY, K. ATKINSON, F. BEX, F. BORGES, D. BOURCIER, P. BOURGINE, J. CONRAD, E. FRANCESCONI, T. GORDON, G. GOVERNATORI, J. LEIDNER, D. LEWIS, R. LOUI, L. MCCARTY, H. PRAKKEN, F. SCHILDER, E. SCHWEIGHOFER, P. THOMPSON, A. TYRRELL, B. VERHEIJ, D. WALTON, AND A. WYNER, "History of AI and Law in 50 papers: 25 years of the international conference on AI and Law", *Artificial Intelligence and Law*, 20 (2012): 215-319.
- K. D. ASHLEY, *Artificial Intelligence and Legal Analytics: New Tools for Law Practice in the Digital Age*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017.
- H. SURDEN, "Artificial Intelligence and Law: An Overview", *Georgia State University Law Review*, 35(4) (2019), pp. 1305–1337.
- R. SUSSKIND, *Online Courts and the Future of Justice*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019.
- F. PASQUALE, *New Laws of Robotics: Defending Human Expertise in the Age of AI*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2020.