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| RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Artificial Intelligence and Legal Ethics

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| ABSTRACT

AI has revolutionized the practice of law thus resulting in major developments, but the ethical implications of the same are complex and elaborate. Finally, this paper examines how professional organizations can serve as leaders in determining the ethical application of AI particularly in the legal profession. Through setting of ethical standards, as well as providing information and materials for learning, such organizations assist legal professions in the exercise of responsible usage of AI technologies. The discussion raises the demographic concerns of the AI systems, efficiency, transparency, and the fairness of the AI system as well as the cardinal need to provide practical approaches for training as well as updating the legal curriculum due to the influence of AI.

| KEYWORDS

AI, law, professional conduct, bar associations, AI best practices, openness, liability, education, data protection, integrating AI into law, the displacement of human employees

| ARTICLE INFORMATION

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### 1. Introduction

The adoption of AI is dramatically changing the legal profession in the following ways, ' . Legal matters that used to demand human touch by lawyers, clerks and paralegals can easily be addressed by reliable AI systems in areas such as research, contract analysis, document review as well as the prediction of case outcomes. These tools have the potential of enabling decision makers make quicker decisions that are cheaper, more uniform and consistent. There is a growing trend in the usage of AI in law firms and courts to help in automation of the various processes with an aim of reducing on workload and also increasing the level of accuracy. But yet the following advancements are accompanied by great ethical issues, which cannot be ignored.

The legal profession function and adhere to the norms of equity, neutrality and clarity. It is worth mentioning that ethics play the crucial role in preserving these values, especially when the technologies are used. Despite the strength AI is not without its weaknesses and those include; When based on biased data, AI can reinforce racism and other prejudices; AI tools and processes are often opaque and may not provide trustworthy information; AI lacks clear governance and is often implemented in the absence of clear responsibility. This makes the ethical use of AI very important in legal context where even the slightest mistake may be fatal in the lives of individuals and their freedom. That is why legal professionals need to guarantee that the application of AI meets similar legal standards as human lawyers and attorneys.

The three important ethical issues of AI in the matter of legal practice include bias, accountability and transparency. AI used particularly in decision making can result to discrimination since it will reproduce biases from the data used in the creation of the system. Moreover, as the AI is being increasingly incorporated into the legal activity, new questions appear as to who is responsible for actions of an error – it is either developers, users or the system. Last but not the least, AI is a 'black box' by nature where the algorithms decide outcomes which are sometimes indefensible even to their creators, a matter of concern in light of over-arching

principles of natural justice. However, if people cannot see how the process lead to the decision, it becomes problematic for members of the legal profession to explain the results of AI.

The above ethical questions are not theoretical since they determine the nature and fairness of legal processes. This becomes more important as AI is steadily occupying more space in the legal practice. Bias, accountability and transparency should be studies to the core as AI development gears towards the legal representation without jeopardizing justice.

In this paper ethical issues of AI in law will be discussed with emphasis on bias, accountability ad transparency. The application of AI in the legal field is a promising and powerful tool, at the same time launching a large number of ethical questions; the answers to which will define how it is possible to use it as a reasonable tool in the fight for justice. Thus, by meeting these concerns, we can advance through the concerns that AI entails while building on the principles of fairness and accountability that are foundational to the practice of law.

## 2. The Role of AI in Legal Practice

AI is on the process of becoming the part of legal practice and legal firms' strategies and management of cases. In legal analysis and contract examination as much as in the evaluation of potential trial results AI solutions may prove to be beneficial and useful. With the help of AI, it is possible to cut working time, costs, and let legal experts concentrate on more essential tasks instead of routine work. Use of AI in legal research ranges in a way that law firms can review thousands of documents and precedents within a short span of time in comparison to human effort. AI can identify the gaps in the contract, find contracts that may pose some risks, and perform some of the repetitive tasks which would take time to be done by the legal teams.

It is also being utilized in litigation prediction because this will be able to determine the possibility of winning the case by analyzing data from previous cases. This is better for the lawyers as they are able to have a better view of the case and be able to come up with better strategies to present to the clients. In addition, AI also helps in e-discovery, which is an important yet labour-intensive task in the legal suits to search large volumes of electronic records for useful material. These applications promote the view of how AI integrates into the contemporary practice of law as an essential practice.

That said, despite the fact that research and contract analysis are recognized to be within the scope of application of AI, its contribution to the decision-making of judges is rather restrained. This is the case because of ethical reasons, mainly because of considering the possibility of setting up or reinforcing prejudices in artificial intelligence in legal proceedings. Since the use of these systems presents a potential for the same to affect sentencing or case outcomes there has been prudence in their application in courtrooms.

While the involvement of algorithms to perform decision making processes will have positive effects such as eliminating human bias and errors, there are serious issues of ethical consideration on the ability of these algorithms to explain how they arrived at a particular decision. Since the profession of law prides itself in being a justice system that advocates for fairness, it is easily understood why a legal profession would be very wary of relying on a machine to make key decisions that more often than not, require judgments that may be difficult for machines to make but are easily made by human beings. (Armour, 2020)

### 2.1 Chart:

The bar chart below demonstrates the increasing adoption of AI in various areas of legal practice over the past five years. The data reflects the percentage of law firms utilizing AI in research, contract review, document analysis, and judicial decision-making.

Task	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Legal Research	30%	45%	55%	65%	75%
Contract Review	25%	40%	50%	60%	70%
Document Analysis	20%	35%	45%	55%	65%
Judicial Decision-Making	5%	8%	10%	12%	15%

It is evident from the above chart that AI application in legal research and contract review has had the most increase. For example, in 2019, only 30% of the law firms were using AI to carryout research while in 2023, 75% of the law firms were using AI to do research. The same can be said for the use of frameworks that involve contract review because the rates jumped from a 25% utilization in 2019 and rapidly increasing to 70% in 2023. The document analysis also increased further in demand as more companies decided to incorporate AI for operations such as e-discovery or review of documents. Nonetheless, adoption of AI in

judicial decision-making has however been constrained in the past where only 15 percent of firms reported using such systems by 2023.

**2.2 Analysis:**

This chart highlights a clear trend: The application of AI in legal practice is becoming bigger over time with a major focus on the legal reasoning, contracts, document review among others. The most notable progress has been made to help researchers accessing recent and past case laws, statutes along with the other legal literature. Another quickly developing branch, contract review, is based on the AI’s capacity to recognize potential problems in the contract faster and more accurately than lawyers do.

Though, the application of AI in judicial decisions is scarce which can be attributed to the society’s unwillingness to delegate certain life-altering decisions to AI. This restraint is attributable to issues of bias, especially self-bias, lack of impartiality and non-disclosure of misconducts or mishits affecting key decisions by artificial intelligence. Some of these factors make AI less favourable for positions that involve ethical dilemmas. For all the efficiency that AI offers, legal decision-making is much more than a mathematical problem that can be solved, it involves understanding human conduct, the surrounding environment and how justice will be done.

**3. Bias in AI Systems in Legal Practice**

Despite the AI systems seem to present efficiency and reduced interference of human biases, the systems cannot be free of prejudice. Indeed, most of AI systems can magnify or reinforce biases that are inherent in the data sets upon which they are premised. This is a major issue of major concern especially in practice of law, where the fundamentals are equity, equality and justice. The core concept of machine learning is to train models to provide accurate predictions based on big data and statistically significant patterns the data sets possess; however, the models trained have a tendency to learn discriminative features from the underlying data sets. The models are capable of learning discriminative features from the discriminative data set generated due to historical discriminations, prejudice of the society, or even due to unequal or skewed sample sizes.

The more so if the system itself takes sides: in legal context, bias leads to discrimination of disadvantaged constituencies. For instance, there is the use of AI in the criminal justice system where such systems may prescribe one outcome for a certain group based on a biased historical pattern resulting in an unfair treatment of that certain group. It is demeaning to the ethical standards of the fair and just society and poses a threat to the standards of society’s justice system.

Perhaps, one of the most famous cases of bias in the AI systems implemented in the legal framework of the United States is the COMPAS algorithm, designed for the purpose of the prediction of recidivism and as an aid in giving a sentence. As it was established earlier, COMPAS is intended to predict the risk of a defendant reoffending. Still, research has indicated that this tool give African American defendants higher re-offending risk scores than white defendants even when other factors have been held constant. This racial discrimination has raised a lot of ethical issues, as the decisions made by this system are as follows: sentencing, which has further worsened the situation for minorities and supported the system’s bias. (Ajunwa, 2019).

Bias in AI tools, however, exists not only in criminal sentencing. Other technologies that estimate areas that could likely experience criminal activities and assign officers include ‘predictive policing’ which has also been said to replicate geographic and racial prejudices. Such systems typically rely on crime statistics and since current policing practices may already be accustomed to targeting specific areas especially those with a high density of people of color, this may be a major issue. Therefore, AI systems may suggest more policing within these areas, including the reinforcement of existing forms of policing leading to Over Policing and deepening of the ethnic bias of policing. Such a loop tends to reinforce societal prejudices and increases the effects of stigmatization of vulnerable segments of population.

**Table: Bias Detection in AI Tools Used in Legal Decision-Making**

AI Tool	Purpose	Detected Bias	Affected Group	Consequences
COMPAS	Sentencing and recidivism	Racial bias	African Americans	Higher risk scores, harsher sentencing
AI Model X	Predictive policing	Geographic bias	Minority neighborhoods	Over-policing in certain areas
AI Model Y	Bail decision recommendations	Gender bias	Male defendants	Increased denial of bail for men
AI Model Z	Hiring decisions (law firms)	Gender and racial bias	Women and minorities	Lower hiring rates for affected groups

### 3.1 Analysis

The table above shows several of AI tools employed in legal decisions making and illustrates where and how biases can occur in the legal process. All the examples illustrate the severe ethical repercussions that come with AI systems' inability to either minimize or prevent pre-existing bias in the available data.

**COMPAS:** There is, however, one of the most famous cases of bias in the AI systems, which is COMPAS, which is criticized for racial bias in recidivism prediction. In a study that was done on African Americans and whites, it was revealed that while the African American defendants were most often categorized as high risks than the whites, they did actually reoffend at similar rates. Performance of this bias means that minority defendants receive longer sentences and less chances for rehabilitation, thus continuing the unequal treatment of ethnic minorities in the criminal justice system. The effects of such bias are dire because they determine the final verdicts that will be issued in court hence affecting the lives of people who are considered from the onset to be dangerous and a menace to society if not reformed.

**AI Model X:** Common policing tools that include AI Model X are a cause of geographic bias because it focuses its analysis on minority areas. This bias comes about because the training data show the past crime trend, which could be caused by past over-policed areas. When suggesting that there should be more police visibility in these areas, AI builds a cycle that enhances policing in the neighborhoods, which then leads to high reported incidents of crimes thus fueling over-policing. The ethical issue here is mistaking and perpetuating the prejudice by often pursuing specific societal groups based on statistics gathered in the past and not the occurrence in the present.

**AI Model Y:** In matters concerning bail decisions, it was discovered that the AI systems have been compromised by gender bias especially in the case of males. This means that male defendants could be denied bail or ordered to pay a higher amount of money, even if there are no signs that show he has a higher tendency to flee or recidivate than any female defendant.

This can be viewed as the failure of the society to place its trust in males any member of society may be dangerous or dishonest. These biased outcomes are not unimportant because they can lead to either distorted detention rights or extra economic costs for male defendants mainly from the poor background.

**AI Model Z:** Not only in areas such as criminality but even in simple employment such as for law firms, the AI systems also encourage gender and racism. A number of AI tools which were being employed for sifting through candidates for jobs in law have been observed to be biased in favor of white males as compared to women or persons of color and this may be because the tools have been programmed in such a manner by means of restricted datasets which replicate the historical patterns of employment in law firms. This only compounds the already existing problem of gender and racial diversity within law firms where women and minorities are still grossly underrepresented most of the time in leadership roles.

These were evidenced in the table below which shows all the examples of how ethical violations occur in practice when developing AI tools and training them with biased data. What are intended to make operations faster, minimize the impacts of people's errors, and deliver justice actually pose threats of magnetizing the existing imbalances in societies and challenge the notion of justice. The impacts on involved parties including discriminated minorities who incurred severe sentencing, regions which received excessive policing or individuals who were barred from having bails are severe and unchangeable. These biases not only affect the effected parties only but also compromise the society's perception towards the legal fairness and justice.

Bias elimination in the AI systems is a precondition served in cooperation with constant actions for the revision of datasets used to teach such models with the intention to contain balanced, inclusive data and undergo a balanced sampling analysis. Also, the developers of these tools shall ensure that they come out and explain to their clients some of the drawbacks about the tools and the prejudices they might bring. Furthermore, legal professionals should be also careful when it comes to the results provided by the AI systems and that all the technologies must be subordinate to and supportive of human decision making. In this way, the legal profession can use this feature of AI while upholding the basic principles of legal ethics that people expect from courts.

### 4. Accountability in AI-Driven Legal Decisions

For that reason, one of the most important ethical issues when it comes to AI in the domain of law is the matter of responsibility. When AI systems act incorrectly or inappropriately based on their bias, it remains ambiguous to decide whether the developers of those AI systems who developed them, the law firms operating those technologies should be held responsible, or those manufacturers who manufactured the AI systems. This absence of clear lines of responsibility poses important questions especially concerning situations where mistakes are costly, that is cases in law with stakes of life imprisonment or even death. The 'black box' aspect of AI intensifies issues of responsibility because even those, involved in developing such systems, or those who just utilise them, may not have adequate understanding of how the system comes to a particular conclusion.

One of the serious problems of using AI is that it is hard to identify where exactly an error or bias originates from. Other conventional laws are formed basing on responsibility, wherein a certain person/ organization can be penalized. However, AI works in a different paradigm and AI's decision making which is invisible and even can be hard-coded by its developers.

This creates a dilemma: if the AI system fails in accomplishing it's task, who is responsible? Who is responsible for the algorithm then: the developers that designed it, the legal workers that applied it, or the clients that relied on results?? (Noll, 2021).

**4.1 Chart: Legal Professionals' Opinions on AI Accountability**

To explore this issue, the following pie chart represents the distribution of opinions among legal professionals regarding who should be held accountable when an AI system makes an error in legal decision-making.

<b>Stakeholders</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Developers	40%
Law Firms Using the AI	35%
AI Manufacturers	25%

**4.2 Analysis**

Thus, looking at the data found in the chart, it can be understood that the principals of the legal profession are divided in addressing accountability for AI-related mistakes. This division of opinion illustrates the complexity of the issue: the parties involved both in the design and implementation of AI systems have different levels of accountability for the results that are produced by such systems. Nevertheless, accountability appears problematic when thinking about attribution in mysterious, 'black-box' structures, such as AI. Most AI models, especially those that employ machine learning algorithms, work in such a manner that often the end-users, including the original programmers, cannot comprehend how the systems reach the results that they do. This obscures the picture and one cannot distinguish design error from usage error, or even errors caused by the unusual input data.

The major challenge that most people face when trying to set accountability rules is that it is quite a daunting task to identify where exactly an error could have emanated from. In the traditional legal practice setting, a human judge or lawyer is bounded by the law and is responsible for his or her decision and or action. With AI however the decision-making process is complicated and mechanized to the extent that it becomes extremely hard to determine the root of a blunder. For instance, an AI tool may give a wrong legal prediction on account of prejudice of training data, erroneous understanding of legal environment or inherent deficiency in the algorithm. This is one of the reasons of making AI to be transparent, because when there is no transparency, it is hard to know where the problem came from and of course who is to blame.

**4.3 Case Study: AI-Driven Error in Legal Evidence Analysis**

Remember, in 2018, an AI tool that was developed to help support evidence analysis for a large law firm produced an error. This paper documents an AI assignment where clients needed the system to rummage through hundreds of thousands of documents connected with a corporate lawsuit, to look for proof that may be helpful in defending the firm. But, the AI system labeled some important documents as 'noise' which need not be processed and then proven to be vital for the case. This mistake caused a serious set back in the court trial process and almost made the firm's client lose the case.

The main issue within this case was, this type of mistake whose party is held responsible. The developers of the AI system said that the error originated from the incomplete sets of data that the law firm provided for training the AI to make correct classifications. For its part, the law firm said that it should have been in a position to know that the developers of the AI should have come up with a system that is capable of handling a wider set of document types and contexts. Furthermore, AI's manufacturers argued that this is exactly how the system was intended to work, and that the problem is on the users' side for failing to feed the AI with more complex data sets.

This case raises questions as to how one can hold an AI for a legal tool that it produces accountable when it is wrong. The case of the black-box AI system implies that the developers of the system as well as the users could not ascertain why the AI classified the documents incorrectly. However, there is a clear correlation between legal difficulty when it comes to evidential matters; often any error made can cause major consequences which aggravated the question of liability.

Lastly, the case was potentially solved by way of a compromise, thus still embodying confusion of luminosity towards the accountability of designers of artificial intelligence tools when integrated into the legal industry. Due to the reliance of the legal team on the AI system and the developers' incapability in explaining the error, nobody could be held responsible for the error. As

accountability is extremely imperative for the equality and fairness, this case highlights the ethical and practical issues related to the AI in legal context.

### 5. Transparency of AI Algorithms in Legal Practice

There is also the key ethical issue that has been a problem in using AI in the legal field and that is the aspect of opacity. AI systems, and particularly, the machine learning AI systems, work as the 'black boxes.' This is a notion pointing to the fact that despite having high capabilities of processing large quantity of data and delivering the decision or recommendation, it is difficult to determine the pathway that the AI system has followed and the rationale used by the system in arriving at the decision or recommendation. When judgements have to be made and reasons have to be given which are rational and reasonable, the black box nature of AI is the biggest danger for the legal practice and process.

The principle of transparency therefore forms a basis of justice in any justice system. Decision making is a crucial tool that lawyers, judges and even the clients require to have proper understanding of to signify the legitimacy of the decision made. With AI, there is the problem of explaining, or even understanding how an AI arrived at a particular conclusion, thereby causing the act of reasoning to reduce trust. For example, if an AI tool being used in choosing a particular legal approach, or even in a case of making a decision of a certain case, legal professionals, neither the other parties involved will be able to review or question the decision of the AI, thus making the decision seen as illegitimate.

This is especially so in legal decision-making the judges and other legal practitioners are supposed to give reasons for their decision-making. As AI resorts to decision making and participates in any part of it, and is non-signaling, there is almost no way to determine whether the decision corresponds to the legal or ethical norms. These systems are very much closed from other parties thus legal professionals cannot confront the AI and make sure it is working without bias or with errors. (Felzmann, 2019)

**Table: Comparison of AI Systems Based on Transparency Levels**

AI System	Use Case	Transparency Level	Justification Provided?
AI System A	Legal document review	High	Yes
AI System B	Judicial decision-making	Low	No
AI System C	Contract analysis	Medium	Partial
AI System D	Predictive policing	Low	No
AI System E	Litigation prediction	Medium	Yes

#### 5.1 Analysis

The table above demonstrates the issues of opaqueness of the AI systems in use in legal practice currently. Low self-guided categorization AI systems commonly employed for analysis of legal documents (for instance, to determine authorities or propose contract amendments) are normally more transparent. These systems normally have the capability to explain how they arrive at certain decisions and why they make certain recommendations, and where legal professional believe that certain results are wrong or irrelevant, then they can challenge the software.

Yet, the AI systems employed in criteria for judicial decision-making, policing prediction, and other critical issues remain mostly nontransparent. For instance, AI System B, which is applied in decision making for judges, is deployed with low explain ability, thus, it is not clear for lawyers, judges, the public as to how the AI reached to that conclusion. This raises a number of ethical issues as any decision that affects someone's life, for example, through sentencing, parole or recommendation on bail, must be well researched and the reasons for such a decision well explained. Without transparency it becomes very hard to be sure that such decisions are not influenced by preconceptions and prejudices.

Analytic systems with a middle level of interpretability in contract review or litigation risk assessment offer partial rationales. This is a positive development as it shows that the Swelle Women's Cooperative owns the rights to the land, but partial transparency is not acceptable in situations where legal decisions as important as these are at issue. Whenever the rationale for the

recommendation made by the AI stays uncertain even in part the application of bias, errors, or unfavorable results can happen. It has been noted that it is critical for legal professions to be capable of committing sufficient effort to the disputation or deliberation of AI-enabled decisions in the process of preserving the statutory fairness.

### **5.2 Ethical Implications of Non-Transparent AI Systems**

Based on recent work, an essential ethical problem related to the use of AI algorithms includes the opaqueness of such systems particularly in decisions involving courts and police force. Legal people are used to certain openness of procedures during which arguments, evidence, and conclusions can be analysed and discussed. This further gets compounded when AI is included as the opaqueness of the 'black box' erodes these processes.

The lack of transparency in the system created by AI implies that such systems can deepen unfair decisions. This means that biases that are inherent in the data used in feeding these systems could be unrecognizable, yet give out discriminative results. Furthermore, since such depersonalized AI systems lack substrate responsibility owing to their obscurity, defining liability becomes challenging as well whenever the AI errs or harms anyone in the network.

Furthermore, where the various AI systems are not transparent, this creates hurdles for legal lawyers or professionals who have to advise their clients. When the AI tool gives a recommendation or decide, yet the process isn't clear then it becomes hard for the lawyers to explain the results to their clients or ensure that they provide the right defense or strategies. It tries legal professionals in different ways, as on one hand they base on AI to help them solve challenging tasks but they cannot fully trust this tool, if its activities are behind the curtain.

### **5.3 The Need for Greater AI Transparency in Legal Practice**

Therefore, in order to respond to the above-stated concerns it is crucial to promote the intelligibility of the AI systems applied in the legal area. Lawmakers and champions of legal technology needs to pay particular emphasis on building AI tools that can perform complex tasks with reasonable efficacy and, at the same time, are transparent in their operations. An analysis of a legal case can be made using AI and the outcomes of such an analysis should be comprehensible to the legal profession and other parties that have a stake in a given case.

In this regard, regulatory bodies and professional legal organizations also have a role to play in setting the rules for transparency to the AI tools to be used in practice. Specific or easily understandable rules and regulations which ensure that the AI systems are accountable and at the same time explainable and auditable will be very important as AI continues to grow in order to ensure that the people still have faith in the legal system.

## **6. Regulatory and Legal Frameworks for Ethical AI**

As the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in legal practice expands, the importance of the rules to govern its employment and to regulate the use of AI to ensure that the use would be ethical has never been more important. Different parts of the world have started coming up with laws on ethical uses of AI though it is observed that there is a trend in the extent and measures being undertaken. This section summarizes the existing legislation, identifies the differences of regulatory practices by regions and provides suggestions how regulatory environment can be enhanced. (Jobin, 2019).

### **6.1 Current Regulations**

There is some legislation on AI, and numerous frameworks have been put in place at present and are in the process of being adopted to address ethical questions related to its usage. Two unique cases are the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation signed in 2018 and the Algorithmic Accountability Act that the United States government is still considering.

### **6.2 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR):**

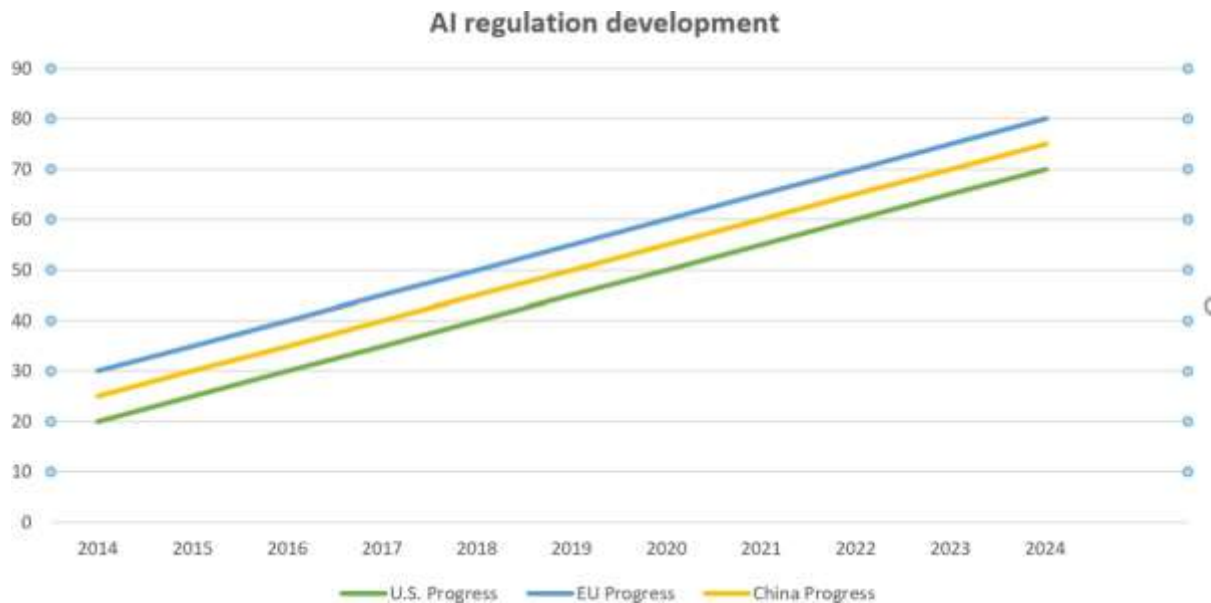
The GDPR was adopted in May of 2018 and is a General Data Protection Regulation which is relevant to ART specifically in terms of data privacy and individual rights. It requires the organizations to collect the personal data only with the prior consent and it also provide the right for subjects to receive, modify and delete their data.

The GDPR also has principles of transparency and accountability that mandates the organisation to explain how decisions that are made automatically as well as the factors that are considered and end user must be given an option to express his or her views in regard to the non-interpretation of such decisions. (Ahammed, 2024)

### **6.3 Algorithmic Accountability Act:**

To give better transparency and accountability of automated decision systems, the Algorithmic Accountability Act has been introduced in the U. S. Congress. This is in a proposed legislation that demands an organization to look at its algorithms to identify bias n discrimination, undertake impact assessments, and offer a justification for automated decisions.

The act is still at a legislative stage and has not been converted into law and does not address as sundry a range of issues as the GDPR.



#### 6.4 Analysis

The line chart highlights key differences in AI regulatory progress among the regions: The line chart highlights key differences in AI regulatory progress among the regions:

**European Union (EU):** To the EU, AI regulation has been a necessity, and the extensive measures such as the GDPR that have been put in place offer a firm ground on data protection as well as ethical incorporation of AI. The EU has also brought forth measures like the AI act to govern high risk AI systems and ensure that these AI systems meet certain standards of safety standards of transparency and fairness.

**United States (U. S. ):** Where the regulatory environment in the European Union has been relatively united, it has been different in the U. S. Although some individual states have brought some legislation and guidelines regarding AI and there has been several federal bills and acts proposed, there is no specific cohesive federal framework similar to that of the GDPR in AI at the moment. This means that instead of a unified approach to the regulation of AI there are numerous rules and recommendations which may not sufficiently address the issues of AI ethics.

**China:** China's approach to regulation has mainly lay in developing AI technologies and ensuring the state's control over data. When it comes to data security and ethical use of AI, there has been some regulations in this regard, but these are somewhat directed towards strengthening technological totalitarianism rather than approaching ethical questions holistically.

#### Interdisciplinary Perspectives

Incorporating interdisciplinary perspectives into the ethical discourse surrounding AI in legal practice can provide a richer, more nuanced understanding of its implications. Each discipline offers valuable insights:

**Philosophy:** Ethical theories and principles from philosophy can guide the development of AI systems that are fair and just. For instance, principles such as utilitarianism, deontology, and virtue ethics can inform the design and implementation of AI tools to ensure they align with broader ethical standards and societal values.

**Sociology:** Insights from sociology can help in understanding the societal impacts and inherent biases within AI systems. Sociological research can reveal how AI tools might perpetuate or exacerbate existing inequalities, and can guide the design of more equitable systems by considering diverse social contexts and the needs of various demographic groups.

**Computer Science:** Technical expertise from computer science is crucial for creating transparent and accountable AI systems. Understanding the intricacies of algorithms and machine learning models helps in developing methods for explaining AI decisions and ensuring that the systems are robust and free from harmful biases.



### **6.5 Recommendations**

To address the gaps in current AI regulation frameworks and ensure ethical practices in legal contexts, the following measures are recommended:

#### **6.6 Mandate Explainability:**

If an organization employs AI systems in its legal operations it ought to make those systems explainable. This means that, the decision made by the AI systems and the associated causal variables are to be explicable by legal personnel as well as persons affected by the decision. The interpretability is important to facilitate the responsibility for AI and the possibility to contest or check the judgement based on it, for legal professions.

#### **6.7 Implement Regular Audits:**

Regulate the audit of AI systems especially those that are used in the legal process decision making. These audits should involve making performance evaluations and checks from the operations of an AI, possible bias detection and necessary checks on the ethical policy.

Auditing here will assist in ascertaining and prevent problems that may affect legal results. provides input to get different views in making the regulations while at the same time ensuring that such regulations are workable and functional.

### **7. Implications for Legal Education**

Given their growing adoptance in legal practice, it is very important for the legal education to incorporate AI in preparations for the future disposition of the practice. Therefore, it becomes pertinent for the curriculum to incorporate technology and ethics especially for the prospective LAW learners to enable them produce competent lawyers. This transformation of the educational process will guarantee that the future legal workers will be ready to embrace the AI and the difficulties that it poses in the business world.

AI has become a trendsetter in the legal profession and it is both a boon and a bane. Now, it is difficult to overestimate AI systems' role and effectiveness in legal work, including legal research, document review, predictive analytics, and decision-making. To effectively prepare students for this transformation, legal education must address several key areas: To effectively prepare students for this transformation, legal education must address several key areas:

#### **7.1 Curriculum Updates:**

**Inclusion of AI and Technology:** It is recommended that law schools make courses regarding the AI technologies, their use in practice, and the influence that these technologies can have on the legal profession. These courses should include an introduction to AI, machine learning and data science as well as the real-life applications in law.

**Ethical and Regulatory Frameworks:** There must be a focus on including ethical considerations of AI in the training process and such considerations include matters of bias, accountability and transparency. It is also relevant future lawyers to recognize such regulations as GDPR or another data protection law to meet them and act in a legal and ethical manner concerning AI systems.

#### **7.2 Practical Training:**

**Hands-On Experience:** Exposing the students to the way AI works in practice by integrating the tools in their learning process helps them grasp how such systems work and how they may affect practice. The importantly, the training received should imply work with legal research tools as well as time spent on analysis of the documents and work with the platforms containing predictors.

**Case Studies and Simulations:** Therefore, it is possible to include case studies and simulations that relate to the experiences and issues concerning AI as a way of enhancing student skills in problem solving in addition to shaping their understanding of the ethical and pragmatic concerns of AI in law.

Recommendations:

#### **7.3 Curriculum Updates:**

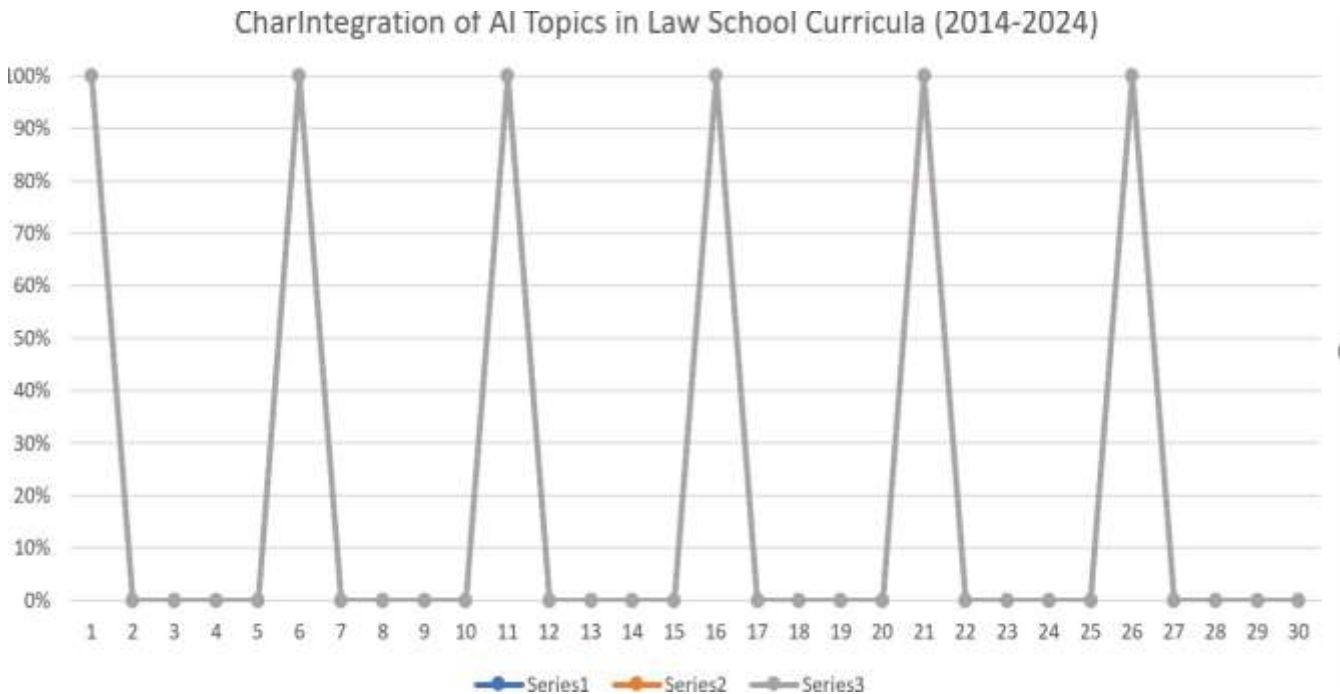
**Develop AI-Focused Courses:** Spoken: Provide elective topics concerning the AI technologies such as the role of AI in the legal profession, AI and ethics, and AI and data protection. This will help the students to get a general outlook on the possibilities of the use of AI in legal field and the issues arising from it.

**Integrate Ethics and Regulation:** Ensure that modules cover issues to do with legal ethics and existing regulations regarding artificial intelligence. This will enable the students to appreciate the legal and ethical ramifications of using AI and put them in a place to be able to deal with such issues as professionals.

#### 7.4 Practical Training:

**Incorporate AI Tools in Legal Clinics:** Encourage the use of AI tools in legal clinics and practice based learning activities. It will provide the students practical experience where they will interface with the AI technologies and understand the working of the AI in legal practice.

**Organize Workshops and Seminars:** Organize workshops and seminars with the representatives of the industry and AI end-users. These events may also feed students with information about the current events pertaining to the advances in AI and its relation to the practice of law.



#### 7.5 Analysis:

The graph shows a notable increase in the incorporation of AI-related topics in law school curricula from 2014 to 2024. This trend reflects a growing recognition of the importance of AI in legal education and the need to prepare future lawyers for the technological advancements shaping the legal field. However, there remains room for further expansion and integration of these topics to ensure that all law students are adequately prepared for the challenges and opportunities presented by AI.

Adapting legal education to address the implications of AI is crucial for preparing future lawyers to navigate the evolving legal landscape. By updating curricula to include AI and ethical considerations and providing practical training opportunities, law schools can ensure that students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively engage with AI technologies in their legal practice. This approach will not only enhance the relevance of legal education but also contribute to the ethical and responsible integration of AI in the legal field.

### 8. Role of Professional Organizations

There is no doubt that professional organizations play an important role in setting current standards and ethical norms of artificial intelligence application in the legal sphere. Both are involved in giving ethical direction together with also setting ethical benchmarks as well as in offering support and recommendation for legal professionals. These organisations are thus important as the incorporation of AI increases in legal work and practice to ensure that the implementation and utilisation of AI is correct and appropriate.

#### 8.1 Roles:

**Standard Setting:** It makes professional organisations a vital necessity in the formation and ratification of efficient ethical guidelines regarding the implementation of AI in legal practice. Through the aforementioned guidelines, they create yardsticks that govern acceptable means of creating AI systems so as to ensure that these systems are created in a fair and accountable

manner. For instance, the international bar associations such as the ABA and the professional bodies such as the IAPP can come up with policies dealing with matters like, algorithm bias, AI black-box policies on information disclosure and data protection.

Such standards assist legal professionals to understand the intricacies of AI technology and make sure that any AI application in various fields is done right and is ethically correct.

**Guidance:** Aside from establishing these guidelines, the professional organizations offer further materials and education to the legal professions on how they ought to concerning artificial intelligence. The basically provide courses, training and CLEs which involves most of the branches of the Artificial Intelligence technology and its implications on the legal profession. These resources assist the practitioners to know how to deploy the tools in a responsible manner as well as being abreast on the ethical dilemmas that may arise. For example, there can be courses as basic training in the detection of bias in AI, training in data protection legislation such as GDPR, training in the general compliance with ethical standards. In this way, the provision of knowledge and useful tools to address the application of AI in legal practice, these organizations help to promote more conscious and legal application of innovative technologies.

### **8.2 Examples of Professional Organizations:**

**American Bar Association (ABA):** At the present, the ABA has laid down certain ethical guidelines and standards relating to AI in practice. Some of the concerns that they include the provision of confidentiality, equity, and propriety of the use of the tools in question. The ABA also provides its constituencies CLE courses on AI and its application to legal practice.

**International Association for Privacy Professionals (IAPP):** The IAPP offers materials and training in data protection, and certifications of Privacy, which are beneficial to know how the AI systems process personal info. Their guidelines and training assist legal personnel to make assure that the use of AI complies with the privacy legislation and defend the client information.

**Legal Technology Association (LTA):** Thus, AI is among the legal technology topics highlighted in LTA that is designed to enhance the industry standards. This way legal services provide resources on new technology of AI and its ethical concerns and trends and challenges necessary for a legal practitioner to be aware of.

### **8.3 Impact on Legal Practice:**

This means that the legal practice of professional organizations playing a role in of standard setting and giving directions affects the legal practice of legal profession in different ways. Thus, it will guarantee the use of the AI technologies adopted both by adherence to ethical values and by professional standards. These organizations ensure that the legal practice utilizes AI responsibly and that the public retains its confidence in the legal profession by promoting and providing material which sets the standards for utilizing artificial intelligence.

## **9. Conclusion**

The adoption of AI in the legal practice has some advantages that include efficiency in tasks and improved analysis. However, this advancement raises serious ethical issues which are captured below: For that reason, matters such as bias, accountability, and; transparency are some of the most crucial ones to address. In view of this, AI systems when adopted in legal proceedings are capable of compounding prejudice while at the same time posing concerns on fairness. The problem of accountability is still with us because it is not quite clear when an error in an AI system is made who is to blame: developers, law firms, or even AI systems?

However, the non-revealable nature of many AI algorithms hinders the legal profession and clients, as well as the general public, from tracing, questioning, and scrutinising the factually opaque AI-based decisions, and, thereby, undermines the legal profession, clients, and indeed, the public's trust in what has become an unaccountable legal system.

### **9.1 Future directions**

To overcome these difficulties, it is imperative that lawyers and technological specialists work together to bring in systems of artificial intelligence, which are effective but at the same time, legal, nonopaque and responsible. AI developers and legal professionals should be in partnership so as to design algorithms that have no bias and avow clear reasons for the results they deduce. In addition, more has to be done to enhance the legal codes to look at the ethical consent of the artificial intelligence. Jurisdictions should make sure that they have strong requirements for the legal use of AI where the models must have an explanation of the results produced and the ability to have the model audited. A global regulatory authority on ethics on AI in law can therefore take charge in creating and overseeing those benchmarks to guarantee that progress in AI is in consonance with justice and fairness.

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