GENERAL ASSEMBLY 6

SEZMUN I. HRD SYMPOSIUM

ISSUE OF: CATCHING UP WITH THE FAST-MOVING ADVANCEMENTS MADE IN THE FIELD OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN TERMS OF LEGAL RESOLUTIONS AND REGULATIONS

CHAIR:
DEFNE ŞAHIN

CO-CHAIR:
DEMIR ÇAYNAK

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to GA6 of SEZMUN 2024. We are very excited and honoured to welcome you to our first-ever conference. We, Defne Şahin and Demir Çaynak, prepared this chair report as guidence to our topic.

Our main topic will be about legal regulations and resolutions regarding Artificial Intelligence. Artificial Inteligience is a wellknown system that is evolving each passing day and is becoming a greater part of our lives, with the development of AI some issues occur and cause legal problems. At SEZMUN we are planning to talk about the advencements that are made in the AI technology while focusing about the legal aspects of it aswell. We expect you delagates to come well prepared and we encourage you to research thoroughly so that our debate can go smoothly.

We hope you have a fun time while learning and sharing this experience with your peers. We are hoping to see you all very soon.

Best Regards.

Table of Content

Key Words

- **Copyright** is a form of legal protection granted to the creators of original works of authorship. It provides creators with exclusive rights to their work, allowing them to control its use, reproduction, and distribution.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** refers to the simulation of human intelligence in machines and programs that are designed to think, learn, and perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence.
- **A Legal Framework** is a collection of documents that includes the constitution, legislation, regulations, and contracts, forming the basis for governing a specific area.
- **Data Privacy** refers to the protection of personal data utilized in AI systems to ensure individuals' privacy and safeguard their information.
- **AI Governance** encompasses the processes, structures, and policies established to oversee and regulate the development and deployment of AI technologies.
- **Regulatory Sandboxes** are controlled environments where AI technologies can be tested and trialled under regulatory oversight, allowing for innovation within a supervised framework.

Topic Introduction

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasing every day, and new applications for AI are continually emerging. However, as the capabilities of AI technology grow, so do the legal challenges and difficulties associated with it.

The first major step for AI regulation in the European Union (EU) was taken in April 2021, when the European Commission proposed a framework for AI regulations. It suggested that AI systems should be categorized based on their risks. The AI Act classifies AI into four risk categories: unacceptable risk, high risk, limited risk, and minimal risk.

As of September 2023, the Global AI Legislation Tracker shows that countries worldwide are designing legislation to address AI. The primary aim of these regulations is to maximize the benefits of AI while minimizing its risks.

With this topic and the discussions that follow, our main purpose will be to address the need for legal systems to keep pace with AI advancements, critique current achievements, explore key issues, and propose possible solutions for regulating AI development and progress.

Key Issues

- **AI Ethics:** Issues surrounding the ethical use of AI, such as its applications in surveillance, military operations, or behavioral manipulation, are raising concerns about human rights and fairness. These ethical dilemmas highlight the need for transparent policies and societal consensus on the acceptable use of AI technologies.

- **Surveillance and Privacy:** The use of AI in surveillance can infringe on privacy rights and lead to potential abuses by governments or corporations. Without proper oversight, these practices could result in widespread violations of individual freedoms and an erosion of trust in institutions.

- **Underuse of AI:** Refers to missed opportunities to leverage AI's efficiency and innovation to address challenges or improve systems. This underutilization can hinder progress in sectors where AI could bring significant advancements, such as healthcare, education, and sustainability.

Key Issues

- **Overuse of AI:** Occurs when AI is applied in situations where it is not appropriate or necessary. Overreliance on AI can lead to unnecessary complications, ethical concerns, or even the loss of human-centric approaches in critical areas.

- **Uncertainty of Trust in AI:** Highlights the uncertainty surrounding accountability and liability for AI systems. For example, questions about who is responsible for damages caused by AI remain unresolved, creating gaps in legal frameworks and user confidence.

- **Consequences of AI on Jobs:** AI has the potential to replace roles traditionally performed by humans, raising concerns about job displacement and its broader impact on employment. This shift could lead to economic and social challenges, particularly for workers in vulnerable industries.

Historical Background

The historical background of AI is relatively limited, as it is a newer technology, but its origins can be traced back to the 1950s.

Early Development of AI and Legal Concerns (1950s–1980s): The concept of AI has roots in the mid-20th century, when pioneers like Alan Turing began exploring the possibility of machines simulating human thinking. During this period, legal concerns were minimal, as AI systems were rudimentary and had little impact on everyday life or society.

Emergence of Expert Systems and Liability Concerns (1980s–1990s): The 1980s marked the rise of expert systems, which were AI programs designed to replicate human decision-making in specialized fields such as medicine and engineering. As these systems became more prominent, questions of liability and accountability emerged. If an expert system made an error, such as an incorrect medical diagnosis or financial recommendation, it was unclear whether the responsibility lay with the developers, the users, or the AI itself. These concerns highlighted the need for clearer legal and regulatory frameworks.

Historical Background

AI in the Workplace and Discrimination Issues (1990s–2000s): AI systems began to be used in decision-making processes, such as hiring, lending, and criminal justice. The use of algorithms in these areas raised issues of fairness and discrimination. For example, companies using AI in hiring practices faced scrutiny when the algorithms showed biases against certain groups, such as women or racial minorities. This led to concerns about algorithmic bias and its potential to reinforce social inequalities.

Privacy, Data Protection, and Surveillance (2010s–Present): With the growth of AI in areas such as facial recognition and surveillance, issues of privacy and data protection came to the forefront. AI systems often rely on large datasets, including personal data, to train algorithms, raising concerns about how this data is collected, stored, and used. Laws like the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), enacted in 2018, sought to address these issues by imposing strict rules on data processing and granting individuals more control over their data.

Additionally, AI's use in surveillance, such as facial recognition, has sparked legal debates over civil liberties and human rights, leading some regions to ban or strictly regulate these technologies due to privacy and profiling concerns.

Possible Solution

Global AI Regulation Framework: Establish a global regulatory body under the United Nations to create unified international standards for AI development, ensuring consistent legal guidelines across countries and addressing the challenge of regulatory fragmentation.

Flexible and Adaptive Legal Frameworks: Encourage governments to adopt dynamic legal frameworks that can evolve alongside AI advancements, with provisions for regular updates to keep pace with the rapid changes in AI technology.

Ethical AI Guidelines and Oversight: Develop international ethical guidelines for AI use, focusing on transparency, fairness, and accountability, and promote the creation of independent bodies to oversee AI systems and ensure responsible use.

Possible Solution

AI Research, Innovation, and Education: Incentivize AI research on legal, ethical, and societal impacts, while also prioritizing AI education for the public and policymakers to foster a deeper understanding of AI technologies and their implications.

AI Impact Assessments and Privacy Protection: Require businesses and governments to conduct AI impact assessments before deploying systems, ensuring they address risks such as privacy violations, and strengthen international cooperation on data protection laws to safeguard personal data.

International Collaboration on AI Standards: Promote international cooperation for the development of AI standards and best practices, facilitating knowledge exchange between countries and stakeholders to ensure a globally consistent approach to AI regulation and deployment.

Related Organisations

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): While AI can contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals, it also raises important issues such as AI ethics, AI in education, and gender equality.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU): ITU focuses on communication technologies and information. It raises awareness of AI technologies through its platform.

AI for Good: AI for Good is a platform organized by ITU, in collaboration with 40 UN sister agencies and also supported by Switzerland. Its goal is to enhance the beneficial impact of AI on global issues.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): The UNDP uses AI to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR): OHCHR is concerned with how AI respects and protects human rights, particularly issues such as privacy, freedom of expression, and more.

Resources

- European Parliament. "Artificial Intelligence: Threats and Opportunities." European Parliament, 18 Sept. 2020, www.europarl.europa.eu/topics/en/article/20200918STO87404/artificial-intelligence-threats-and-opportunities.
- WalkMe. "AI Legal Issues: A Comprehensive Overview." WalkMe Blog, www.walkme.com/blog/ai-legal-issues/.
- European Parliament. "Artificial Intelligence: Legislative and Regulatory Framework." European Parliament, 2024, RegData/etudes/ATAG/2024/757605/EPRS_ATA(2024)757605_EN.pdf.
- United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (UNSCEB). "Artificial Intelligence." UNSCEB, unsceb.org/topics/artificial-intelligence.
- UNESCO. "Artificial Intelligence." UNESCO, www.unesco.org/en/artificial-intelligence.
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU). "Artificial Intelligence." ITU, www.itu.int/en/action/ai/Pages/default.aspx.
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). "Artificial Intelligence." UNDP, www.undp.org/digital/ai.
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). "Artificial Intelligence." OHCHR, digitalhub.ohchr.org/artificialintelligence.
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). WIPO.