

International Conference

IDL [ideel]: Artificial Intelligence, Law and Languages: AI and European Legal Multilingualism

Faculty of Law, Catholic University of Lille

C3RD - Research Centre on the Relationship between Risk and Law

This conference aims at building and consolidating an interdisciplinary conversation at the crossroads of law, social sciences, language sciences and computer science. It focuses on the effects of artificial intelligence on the practice of law, its writing, and its normative effects and questions more specifically the impact of AI applications on the revaluation of linguistic diversity in writing and automatic translation devices.

Recent studies, particularly under the European Research project Artificial Intelligence for European integration¹, have shown that algorithmic mechanisms can create a risk of flattening linguistic variations, for example gender (Savoldi et al. 2021) or diatopic variations, and suggest discriminatory interpretations (Bartoletti 2020). Automatic writing and translation contribute to the transformation of the modes of legal practices and representations that they produce. These devices cannot be seen as mere tools, but as “prostheses” of language and communication (Perera, Wagener 2020, 6) that help to shape and perpetuate the reality they construct. However, as Cardon (2018, 67) puts it, these “computational artefacts do not have semantic access to the information they manipulate - that is, they do not have a symbolic understanding of it”. Digital technologies thus necessarily propose new forms of representation of the world.

The improvement of algorithmic procedures therefore requires a rethinking of the learning data and the architecture that governs them as well as modes of understanding of their effects. The conference invites therefore to question the structuring of the mechanisms of operation of artificial intelligence to spur debate and nurture the culture of critical thinking in response to the deployment of digital technology in all sectors of society.

We welcome submissions from all relevant fields – such as law, social sciences, language sciences or computer science – and research methods, e.g., theoretical models, empirical research, comparative, and interdisciplinary studies. We encourage contributions from researchers, doctoral students, but also from language engineers and computer scientists. The themes below offer a few themes that may inspire and instruct the proposals:

¹ This project, funded by the European Commission, is part of the activities of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence. More information at the following link: <http://www.jmcoe.unito.it/home>

- Natural language processing, computing languages and translation
- Digital representations and forms of law
- Legal data and computer languages
- Legal data analysis tools in legaltech and “predictive justice”
- Digital applications in the judicial system, defense and security, and regulation and fundamental rights
- Discrimination, bias.
- Fundamental rights and technical standardization
- Non-neutrality of data and algorithms on which artificial intelligence is trained
- Impact of digital technology on linguistic variation (diatopic, diastratic, gender) and on legal and socio-political terminology
- Prejudice and stereotypes in machine and neural translation
- Tones and emotions in automatic devices
- Consequences of machine translation on multilingual communication

Practical information for participants:

The abstracts should be no longer than 500 words. The submissions may be in French or English, and should include: the paper’s title, name of the author, academic affiliation, e-mail address and abstract, which will explain the relevance of the proposed topic to one of the conference’s themes.

Contributions should be submitted via the following [form](#).

The languages of the conference are English and French.

Publication of the proceedings is planned in a Special Issue 2023 of the journal De Europa.

We expect papers of between 5000 and 8000 words (including spaces, notes and bibliography) by July 2023. Authors can find the editorial standards at the following link:

http://www.deeuropa.unito.it/sites/www.deeuropa.unito.it/files/Author_Guidelines_Updated2022.pdf

Timetable and practical information

15 March 2023: deadline for submission of proposals

5 April 2023: reply to authors

25-26 May 2023: dates of the Conference

Host institution – Location of the conference

Faculty of Law, Université catholique de Lille, Paris-Issy Campus

35 rue Gabriel Peri 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux

Scientific Directors:

Francesca Bisiani, Lecturer and Researcher in Language Sciences, Faculty of Law.

francesca.bisiani@univ-catholille.fr

Delphine Dogot, Ph.D in law, Associate Professor in Law and Digital Technologies, Faculty of Law.

delphine.dogot@univ-catholille.fr

Scientific Committee

Francesca Bisiani, Université Catholique de Lille

Delphine Dogot, Université Catholique de Lille

Rachele Raus, Università di Bologna

Giovanni Sileno, University of Amsterdam

Bibliographic references

Bartoletti, I. (2020). *An Artificial Revolution: On Power, Politics and AI*. The Indigo Press : London.

Cardon, D. (2018). « Le pouvoir des algorithmes », *Pouvoirs*, vol. 164, n° 1, pp. 63-73.

Perea, F. et Wagener, A. (2020). « 'Envisagez de retirer ce terme sensible'. Correction et prescription automatique du langage non discriminant », *Communication & langages*, vol. 206, n° 4, pp. 3-21.

Savoldi, B., Gaido M., Bentivogli L., Negri M., Turchi M. (2021). « Gender biais in Machine Translation », *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics* n°9, pp. 845–874