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the legal profession®

IBA & AI:

Artificial intelligence, the law and the legal profession

PROJECT SUMMARY





IBA & AI: artificial intelligence, the law, and the legal profession

During the IBA 2023 Annual Conference in Paris, the IBA President announced the formation of an artificial intelligence (AI) project task force as a presidential initiative encompassing all parts of the Association.

Purpose

The purpose of this initiative is to:

- provide IBA members and more broadly, the legal profession, with relevant and credible guidance on AI-related issues from a legal perspective or for the legal profession;
- position the IBA as a significant player in addressing such legal issues and enhancing its profile;
- comply with the IBA Strategic Plan in terms of safeguarding the core values of the profession, improving member offerings and educating on developments affecting legal practice; and
- engage with members of the Association.

Scope

The AI project task force has been assigned the responsibility of examining and generating a written outcome focusing on three key areas relating to:

1. regulating AI;
2. assessing its impact on the legal profession; and
3. advocating for best practices among bar associations.

These three work strands are being led by working groups from one of three areas of the IBA – LPD, SPPI and BIC – with the aim of presenting the outcome in a final report at the IBA 2024 Annual Conference in Mexico City.

The project also encompasses:

1. education; and
2. a review of the AI impact on human rights.



The three working groups

1. **AI regulation working group – led by the Legal Practice Division (LPD).** This working group will examine and recommend high level principles on AI for the consideration of regulators and law makers. This includes engaging will all IBA committees and regional fora via questionnaire.
2. **AI effects on the legal profession working group – led by the Section on Public and Professional Interest (SPPI).** This working group will address the AI effects in the legal profession, with an initial focus on private practice. This includes conducting focus group interviews with key law firms followed by a literature review exercise.
3. **Guidelines on best practice for bars working group – led by the Bar Issues Commission (BIC).** This working group will discuss whether the current rules of professional conduct are sufficient or need fine-tuning and provide a resource for member bar associations and law societies to identify key issues and provide best practices/guidance for how they should address them.

Project management structure

Leadership

Almudena Arpón de Mendivil Aldama *President, International Bar Association*

Claudio Visco *Vice-President, International Bar Association*

AI Task Force

Lawrence Teh (LPD) *Immediate past Legal Practice Division representative, IBA Management Board*

Sönke Lund (SPPI) *Council Member, Section on Public and Professional Interest; Immediate past Co-Chair, IBA Alternative and New Law Business Structures Committee; Member, ANLBSC Advisory Board*

Myra Garrett (SPPI) *Chair, IBA Section on Public and Professional Interest*

Steven Richman (BIC) *Chair, IBA Bar Issues Commission Policy Committee*

Mark Stephens (HRI) *Co-Chair, IBA Human Rights Institute*

Steven Cohen (LPD) *Immediate past Co-Chair, IBA Corporate and M&A Committee*

Sara Carnegie (LPRU) *Director, IBA Legal Policy & Research Unit*

Ian McDougall *General Council, Lexis Nexis (Expert Advisor to the AI Task Force)*

Wajiha Ahmed *Co-Chair, IBA Human Rights Law Committee*

Shirley Pouget *Co-Chair, IBA Human Rights Law Committee*

Director of the Project

Marc Rotenberg *Executive Director, Center for AI and Digital Policy (CAIDP)*



Deliverable

An IBA Report encompassing the outcome of the three strands of work.

Launch Date

Report launch at the IBA 2024 Annual Conference in Mexico City.