



The AI future is here: how can firms best prepare for its implementation?

AI evangelist Zack Kass warns that law firms not adopting AI risk getting left behind, writes Méganne Tillay

Society is on the verge of the “most profound human revolution in history” as the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) gathers pace, according to former OpenAI head of go-to-market Zack Kass.

Indeed, AI has been a topic that has kept many lawyers up at night over the past year. With the IBA having recently set up a task force to help the industry navigate the risks and opportunities its adoption presents, it was only fitting that AI expert Kass offered further guidance to the legal community in Tuesday’s keynote address.

He said: “Most people are aware of this technology but don’t use, and I cannot comprehend why. By not training people and encouraging access to AI, we are creating a digital divide that will cause inadequacy and disparity in the world if we are not careful. For this revolution to work, we need to bring everyone into it.”

Kass believes that attorneys tend to be “disinclined” to technological change because of the risks and the uncertainty it poses. But law firms should get prepared to understand and use AI now, focusing primarily on what products to use rather than when to adopt the technology, he said.

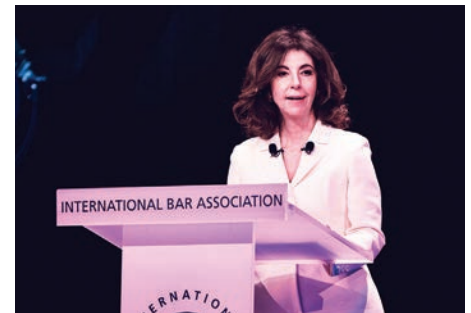
For firms which have not yet adopted an AI system, he urged them to speak to their technology vendors to find the right product for their needs, and to avoid building their own models or using models that were not built by a research body or nation state.

Kass cautiously warned that law firms not adopting this technology “will be left behind”, but that they should adopt the technology “safely and responsibly” rather than rushing into it.

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Mean machines – how AI isn't free from unconscious bias

PREVIEW

Artificial intelligence has been touted as a bias-free solution from recruitment to performance assessment. However, is this the full story?
By Frances Anderson



In 1952, Alan Turing, the person who played a crucial role in Nazi code breaking at Bletchley Park during World War II and who is considered to be the father of theoretical computer science and artificial intelligence, said: "It seems probable that once the machine thinking method had started, it would not take long to outstrip our feeble powers... They would be able to converse with each other to sharpen their wits. At some stage therefore, we should have to expect the machines to take control."

Are these comments far-fetched or remarkably prescient? After all, the rise of AI has been breath-taking – it took the telephone 75 years to reach 100 million users and only two months for ChatGPT to reach 100 million users.

AI is predicted to profoundly disrupt all work and organisations, including workplace-related matters from hiring to firing – some in the AI field call this "the most radical transformation of our lives". While AI has the potential to turbocharge productivity, AI presents several challenges including bias in algorithms as AI can learn and propagate existing human biases if not carefully managed and monitored.

This leads to whether AI presents "existential risks" requiring government regulation. The potential impact and associated risks of AI are huge and involve decision making about

who gets opportunities in life – this is a critical human rights topic with considerable implications for diversity and equality in the workplace.

Join us for a thought-provoking session on AI and algorithmic bias presented by the IBA's diversity and equality law committee.

Key topics for discussion include:

- Brave new workplace or just hype – comments from the frontline on the implications and opportunities of AI
- For better or worse – how algorithmic bias works and is this a problem?
- Liability for algorithmic bias – who is being sued and for what?
- To regulate or not to regulate – can/should the law regulate emerging technologies?
- Ethics and AI – why it matters?

Frances Anderson, who will chair the session, is assistant Victorian government solicitor, workplace relations and occupational safety, co-vice chair, forum for government and public lawyers.

SESSION: Mean machines – how AI isn't free from unconscious bias

TIME: Thursday 2nd November 14:30 – 15:45

LOCATION: Rooms 212-213, Level 2

Law firms need to address the moral and ethical questions of AI

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Kass also believes that job displacement because of AI is not a "real risk". He stressed however that the bigger challenge companies may face is the "identity displacement crisis" AI creates, as certain skills or jobs may become obsolete. To avoid that crisis in the legal industry, he said that law firms should train their people for AI.

He shared that some human qualities – such as vision, wisdom, courage, curiosity, empathy – cannot be replaced by AI and that lawyers' social skills should be core to finding ways to work with the technology.

He added: "For any profession using young people doing difficult intellectual work, you'll need to figure out what your associates can do, and what AI can or should do. This will raise ethical questions around how much of the work we can redistribute, when it is appropriate and ethical to do so."

But he added that, while worldwide regulation is still unclear, there are steps law firms can take to address the moral and ethical questions that are unique to the profession regarding the use of AI.

The right training combined with the right use of AI could also boost job satisfaction and work productivity. He said: "We are overworked and dissatisfied, the things that root us aren't usually related to our jobs. AI will strip people of the grunt work to focus on more important things, and companies will be able to do new things with new profit margins."

Kass also suggested that courts worldwide should consider whether to adopt AI in the future, stating: "I don't want to be found guilty of a crime by AI being represented by AI. That said, I want my attorney to use AI. I think we should probably outsource most small claims, of less than \$1,000, to AI to ease the burden

on courts and trial times, and to let attorneys and judges focus on more important cases."

In response to a question on regulation of AI, Kass advised law firms to be very transparent about which technology they are using and in what capacity while regulation is being drafted to ensure trust with clients, regulators, employees and other stakeholders.

But one thing is for sure: while AI is not without its risks and challenges, it is the future and it will "unfold faster than the past", according to Kass.

He concluded: "If you were surprised by ChatGPT, hold on because we will see a whole lot more progress in a much shorter amount of time. And as new models gain more function, older ones get smaller and cheaper to the point where AI will become a common utility the same way we treat our current infrastructure."

'Should jurisdiction for the most grievous of crimes be universal?'

Human rights showcase asks whether there are novel routes to justice and hears case for an international anti-corruption tribunal. By Ben Rigby



Left to right: Sir Howard Morrison KC, Baroness Helena Kennedy KC, Justice Richard Joseph Goldstone and Victoria Prentis KC

How successful are our systems and principles for securing justice both nationally and internationally, in peace and in conflict? Are the outcomes just? Are there novel routes to justice?

These were questions posed by the moderator, Baroness Helena Kennedy KC, at the IBAHRI showcase panel with speakers Victoria Prentis KC, the Attorney General of England and Wales, and two senior former judges.

The two judges took centre stage in the first part of the afternoon session: Sir Howard Morrison KC, an independent adviser to the Ukrainian Prosecutor in The Hague, alongside South Africa's Justice Richard Joseph Goldstone, a former co-chair of the Human Rights Institute.

Having been involved with training Ukrainian judges, he acknowledged the hard work done within the sound of gunfire, noting "running a fair trial in those circumstances is not the easiest task in the world".

Morrison highlighted the unusual nature of his office, saying he wasn't aware of "a situation where you're trying war crimes in the midst of an actual conflict", praising the Ukrainian judiciary's "extraordinary commitment" and for being "very keen on running unequivocally fair trials".

Morrison said the nature of current events emphasised the need for international law, saying people needed to realise "without the rule of law, that we're just living in a lawless and incredibly dangerous society".

The regulation of international society through law, he said, is vital; but there are limits to international law. It is for domestic courts to play their part in upholding human rights, notwithstanding an increasing demand for the expansion of universal jurisdiction for war crimes and the like, which he noted was being adopted in Germany, Sweden, Belgium and Spain – and should follow suit in the UK.

Goldstone, a distinguished former international criminal prosecutor and judge, spoke about a project to establish an international anti-corruption court, noting that "corruption at the highest level has a long and enduring history in many countries".

Goldstone was unapologetic about the effect of corruption, saying "the money stolen through corruption every year is enough to feed the

world's hungry" many times over, and has also contributed to climate change and is a significant impediment to ameliorating it.

Grand corruption is a human rights issue, said Goldstone, and discouraged private investment from being made in countries that need it most, thus contributing to the people flows that has seen migration patterns change. Indeed, he added, it is "a fundamental cause of forced migration".

Referring to the series of investigations such as the Panama Papers and the Pandora Papers, covered by IBA Global Insight and others, he highlighted how secret financing had benefited their lavish lifestyles and more than 300 politicians.

Some of the states that had passed anti-corruption legislation acted with impunity, he said, because the kleptocrats controlled the institutions of justice. Enablers, including law firms, protected others, while not all states could conduct complex criminal investigations or try complex cases.

His solution is the creation of an international anti-corruption court along the lines of the ICC, which he said would require jurisdiction only in cases where the appropriate domestic authorities are unable or unwilling to investigate or prosecute.

Funded by a share of the illicit assets that it could seize and supported by expert investigators and prosecutors, who could be called upon to assist leaders of a developing state, he proposed it as part of "a powerful anti-corruption tapestry that strips kleptocrats of their impunity".

Kennedy, referring to Lord Bingham's works on the rule of law, said that inherent in the modern world is an understanding of the rule of law, which also embraces the protection of human rights. She called for an extension of universal jurisdiction "for the most grievous of crimes", which is "long overdue".

Kennedy, musing, said that if members of a recognised terrorist organisation were to come through an airport in London "I would like to see us being able to arrest them".

However, the extension of such a jurisdiction was a question politely deferred by Prentis, noting her responsibilities as the UK government's chief legal adviser, which prevented her from commenting while taking part in a lively Q&A session that followed.

‘Change the rules, change the culture, change the lived experience’



Dame Janet Gaymer

On role models, mentors and allies

Rachel Chan,
barrister, 42 Bedford Row

There were a few teachers at school who were really supportive, and they pointed me in the right direction, because I had no idea and no connections. Then, at university, the people who set up the debating society recommended that I should join an Inn if I was serious about being a barrister, so I joined Lincoln's Inn where I got lots of support and advice. I would encourage those who are doubting themselves to reach out; there is so much help available now that wasn't available when I was starting out. It's very easy to doubt yourself and very easy to just say, "well, I won't bother then", so you do need to be determined.

Dame Janet Gaymer,
former Simmons & Simmons senior partner and board member, Business Banking Resolution Service

I was the first female senior partner of an international top 10 law firm... People would come up and say, you realise you're a role model – but I didn't see myself like that. I found that quite difficult because I knew that to an extent I was paving the way, and that's quite a responsibility – you don't want to put a foot wrong. The lesson for me from the experience was don't be afraid to move out of your comfort zone. Women are not good at pushing themselves forward if it is out of their comfort zone. I wouldn't have stood for election as senior partner had it not been for my predecessor coming into my office and physically writing my application for election on the computer and asking me to send it.

Alessandra Almeida Jones,
global chief marketing officer,
Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner

I worked extra hard and for a long time I was trying to over-compensate for being different as if that was a disadvantage. For me, that is why inclusion is so important; diversity is one thing but being diverse and inclusive is what makes a real difference. To get better at inclusion law firms need to acknowledge that certain groups within their workforce may need more sponsorship and mentorship.

I was the first female senior partner of an international top 10 law firm... People would come up and say, you realise you're a role model – but I didn't see myself like that.

On the need for structural change within the profession

Dana Denis-Smith,
CEO of Obelisk Support and founder of the First 100 Years campaign

Structurally the profession needs a reset if it is really going to welcome people from very different backgrounds. The partnership route, for example, requires the rainmaking ability that comes with having a network. If you don't have that, it can be a struggle to get to the top. So there still needs to be more done to help people progress, irrespective of background. It's not working right now, but it isn't impossible to look at the way you run a law firm to make it more inclusive, whether that's by introducing more flexible working, focusing on monitoring outputs rather than inputs or rethinking billable hours targets.



Nina Goswami

Examples of practical steps people and businesses can take

Nina Goswami,
head of inclusion UK, Clifford Chance

Our internal mantra here is change the rules, change the culture, change the lived experience. And that parallels something that we came up with in 50:50 (An equality project Goswami headed in her previous role at the BBC), which is count, share, change. Counting to understand where you are right now. Or changing the rules by understanding where you are. Sharing with others, so that you can change the culture. And then you do the change, so you change that lived experience. For me, I'm not going for all out change or something revolutionary, I tend to look for how we can make small incremental changes. It's those little iterations and those tiny changes that can have a massive butterfly effect. It's evolution not revolution.

For more information about the awards, which will take place in London on 13 March 2024, go to:
womenanddiversityinlawawards.com.

A game changer for gender equality?

Some of the world's largest law firms are now being led by women – could this finally reverse the profession's long-standing gender imbalance at senior levels? By Ben Edwards

When Dame Janet Gaymer was elected senior partner of the leading UK law firm Simmons & Simmons in 2001, she became the first ever female senior partner at a major international law firm (see page four).

While progress in the two decades since then has been disappointingly slow, the last couple of years has finally seen a notable uptick in female lawyers being appointed to senior leadership positions at some of the world's largest law firms.

In 2020, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer named Georgia Dawson as its senior partner, becoming the first woman to lead a UK Magic Circle law firm. Others have also followed suit. In 2021, Linklaters elected Aedamar Comiskey as its first female senior partner. Then last year Deborah Finkler became the first female leader of Slaughter and May in a newly created managing partner role.

Comiskey will be among the speakers at today's IBA showcase: the new female leadership of law firms: a game changer?, alongside Farmida Bi, who was elected Norton Rose Fulbright's chair for Europe, Middle East and Africa in 2018, and Marie-Aimée de Dampierre, who was appointed Hogan Lovells' global chair in 2021.

The session – which will be chaired by IBA president Almudena Arpón de Mendivil Aldama; Myra Garrett, chair of the IBA's section on Public and Professional Interests; Carola Van den Bruinhorst, chair of the IBA's Legal Practice Division; and INSEAD leadership professor Dr Franklin Vrede – will discuss this recent wave of female leadership appointments and assess the qualities female leaders bring to the management table.

The panel will also explore the so-called Athena Doctrine – a name researchers gave to leadership traits that are considered more feminine, such as selflessness, empathy, collaboration, flexibility and patience. The research found that those traits were also considered most suitable for the current operating environment, which is characterised by rapid change and uncertainty.

The panellists will consider how the Athena Doctrine translates to law firm leadership and how they relate to it personally. Other senior female leaders on the panel include Maria-Pia Hope, managing partner and CEO of Swedish firm Vinge; Paula Surerus, managing partner of Brazilian firm Veirano Advogados; and Linda Yang, executive chair of China's Yingke Law Firm.

Top tier US firms have also been stepping up their appointment of female senior leaders. In 2021, Gibson Dunn & Crutcher elected Barbara Becker as its first female managing partner. Then a month later, Sidley Austin named Yvette Ostolaza as chair of its management committee, becoming the first woman to lead the firm in its more than 150-year history and the first Latina to lead a top 10 US law firm.

More recently, White & Case appointed Heather McDevitt as chair, the first woman to ever lead the firm.

International firms including Ashurst, Clyde & Co, Herbert Smith Freehills and Pinsent Masons are also among an increasing number of firms that have recently elected female leaders.

Some top firms, it should be recognised, have been well ahead of the curve on this trend. For example, Jami McKeon has been chair of Morgan Lewis & Bockius since 2014, being re-elected for a second term that started in 2019.



IBA President Almudena Arpón de Mendivil Aldama, addressing the annual conference's opening ceremony in Paris

Penelope Warne has also been senior partner of CMS since 2014, having been elected for a second term in 2020.

But more work needs to be done to increase the broader gender imbalance at many firms. A report published in July by UK campaign group Next 100 Years found that less than half of woman lawyers surveyed believe that measures being taken by firms to reduce gender inequality are effective.

To help move the needle, the IBA published a toolkit last year which sets out to provide law firms with "an action plan to embed the core principles of diversity and inclusion into their organisations".

It provides guidance on the steps law firms should take to build a diversity and inclusion (D&I) action plan and comes with a template for the setting out of the plan and monitoring of progress.

The toolkit was the subject of a session yesterday that was led by the European regional forum with the assistance of the IBA diversity & inclusion council, the IBA legal policy & research unit, the LGBTQI+ law committee and the women lawyers' committee.

Among the speakers was Ama Ocansey, UK head of diversity and inclusion at BNP Paribas.

"As a business you want to instruct law firms that can field diverse teams equipped to help you solve your global challenges," she said. "The world is becoming more global, but it is also becoming more nuanced. If law firms are going to continue to thrive they will need to provide holistic advice that helps their clients solve cultural problems, and only diverse teams can do that."

The flurry of appointments by top firms of women to senior leadership positions suggests that message is starting to get through.

SESSION: IBA Showcase: The new female leadership of law firms: a game changer?

TIME: Wednesday 1 November 11:15 – 12:30

LOCATION: The Salle Maillot, Level 2



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Delegate Views Why is the IBA important to attend?

Yvon Martinet

Partner, DS Avocats,
France



As a lawyer based in Paris, the IBA is a 'must attend' for my firm. Where else can you get lawyers from every continent in the same room, especially Asia and America. Even when I served as vice-chair of the Paris Bar a decade ago, it was not possible to meet people from all these areas of the world.

Davinia Cutajar

Partner, WH Partners,
Malta



This is my second IBA, and as head of litigation at my firm, I value the networking and the shared knowledge. For example, I was glad to be proved right at Monday's session on how to track and recover cryptocurrency when it concluded that there is no way to find your crypto assets once you lose your key.

Bernadete de Figueiredo

Partner, CGM,
Brazil



Although I have attended the IBA life sciences events, it is my first time at the global conference. It is essential to know what happens in other markets and make connections. It is good to understand the views of other people and how their systems work.

Ana Lucia Marra

Partner, Machado
Associados,
Brazil



It's my first time at the IBA. As a tax lawyer, I work a lot with corporate lawyers and it's a chance to connect with these and practitioners in other areas. I was also interested to find out that the IBA has a task force on AI having attended a fascinating session on the reality of AI.

Adam Cooke

CEO, Multilaw,
UK



As CEO of an international law firm network, it's essential for me to attend this event. I want to learn how to make my organisation more inclusive and diverse. I am also interested in ESG. Indeed this is the only place where the whole world gathers – making it a unique place to learn and do business.

Francis Boyer

Managing Attorney,
Boyer Law Firm,
US



The IBA is important for my practice. I specialise in international litigation and the enforcement of foreign judgments. I need to pre-know people before I need them and the IBA is a great place to do this. I also have a lot of French clients so the Paris event is a great opportunity to connect with them.

John Kettle

Head of International
and Energy, Gadens,
Australia



As one of the directors of the Australian Clean Energy Regulator, I have a deep interest in the issues relating to global decarbonisation. The IBA provides a forum for conversations on this important debate and allows for a clash of ideas. The conference is also pivotal for the development of our international practice at Gadens.

Alison Green, Partner

Mackrell.Solicitors,
UK



The IBA is invaluable to make new connections and hear the latest on areas of interest. On a practice level, I am a member of the family law committee which is looking at two key issues – what consent means around the world and how to protect children who are victims of war and disaster.

Jeffrey Elkinson

Director, Conyers Dill
& Pearman,
Bermuda



As an old hand at the IBA and a specialist in commercial litigation and arbitration, I value it for the many friends and connections I have made over the years. I have particularly enjoyed some of the keynote talks. The talk by Lech Wałęsa was particularly inspiring. He is a most extraordinary man, one who changed the world.

Jaideep Gupta

Vice-President,
Bar Association of India



As vice-president of the Bar Association of India, I am representing India's many diverse bar associations at the IBA. The IBA is unique in how it works through committees. I have never seen this in other associations I have been involved with. I am also interested in international arbitration connections.

Jan Backhaus

Partner, Corvel,
Germany



I am a member of two committees, construction and the maritime and transport law committee. We look at many of the issues which arise and how people are dealing with them. In construction there are major legal challenges from the disruption of supply chains and how to deal with this in major contracts, to the increasing steel prices and other materials.

Gerardo Guajardo

Partner, Santos-Elizondo,
Mexico



It's my second year at the IBA and I am interested in management issues. I am a member of the management and talent committee at my firm. It's challenging to sustain growth and to attract and retain talent. It's interesting to hear about flexible working at other firms.

Challenging the negative narratives surrounding the profession

Méganne Tillay previews Thursday's SPPI showcase: law as a lifelong and rewarding profession



Attracting and retaining talent has been at the forefront of management teams' minds in the legal industry for a number of years, especially amid an ongoing war for talent, times of Great Resignation and quiet quitting, and wider societal movements pushing for a fairer work-life balance.

On Thursday morning, the IBA's Section on Public and Professional Interest (SPPI) will host a showcase session tackling just that: law as a lifelong and rewarding profession

One of the session's co-chairs is Babatunde Ajibade, managing partner of Nigerian firm SPA Ajibade & Co and vice chair and treasurer of the SPPI.

He says the SPPI "hopes to attract as many people" as possible to this showcase, which will aim to discuss what the legal profession should be doing to enhance its value proposition to those in or contemplating

"We hope that the audience will leave the session, with a renewed conviction that law is a lifelong and rewarding profession and one of the best, if not the best, profession in the world."

joining the profession, and will draw from the experiences and considerations of lawyers in private practice, in-house and those who engage the services of the profession.

The showcase will be split into two panels: the first one will discuss the challenge of attracting talent into the profession, while the second panel will deal with the problem of retaining talent.

The panels will be made up of members from various committees including Professor Paul D Paton KC, vice chair of the alternative and new law business structures committee; Stephen Bowman, co-chair of the IBA's future of legal services commission; Jennifer Bishop, senior vice chair at the women lawyers' committee; and Steven Richman, co-chair at the bar issues commission policy committee, among others.

Abijade will co-moderate the showcase alongside William Fry partner and SPPI co-chair Myra Garrett. The showcase will review the findings and conclusions reached at several SPPI sessions taking place throughout the conference week that touch on topics related to the question of whether law is a lifelong and rewarding profession.

Attendees should expect the session to be interactive as the audience will have opportunities to ask panellists questions and to use Slido, a live Q&A and polling platform,

to share their opinions and find out what the general consensus is on various issues. Panellists will also share anecdotes, real-life examples and data illustrating their points throughout the session, according to Ajibade.

He adds that after a description of what young lawyers want from their workplace, the panel and the audience will be able to discuss what law firms are doing about mental wellbeing in the profession, possible changes to law school curricula for future generations of lawyers, and what clients want from law firms in terms of service, diversity, equity and inclusion and ESG.

Delegates will also have opportunities to debate: the role of lawyers in protecting the rule of law; the impact of AI on the practice of law and its structures; ethical considerations for lawyers regarding the work they and their firm's undertake; and the role of male champions in promoting gender equity in the legal profession. The session will also discuss an update report from the future of legal services commission.

This showcase should be of particular interest to those involved in law practice management, especially if they are keen to find creative solutions to the challenge of retaining and attracting talent. Clients and business development professionals are also encouraged to attend, given the need to share knowledge and experience across the profession.

Young lawyers seeking to further their careers and shape the profession's future will also be welcomed.

Ajibade hopes a positive note will be struck. He said: "There is a need to push back against the negative narratives surrounding the legal profession and restate and re-emphasise the important role that the legal profession plays in the maintenance of civilised society, whilst acknowledging the challenges the profession faces.

"We hope that the audience will leave the session with a renewed conviction that law is a lifelong and rewarding profession and one of the best, if not the best, profession in the world."

SESSION: SPPI showcase: law as a lifelong and rewarding profession

TIME: Thursday 2 November from 11:00-12:30

LOCATION: The Salle Maillot, Level 2

PREVIEW



Paris chic



The IBA pulled out all the stops for the opening ceremony on Sunday evening with a glittering show at the Carrousel du Louvre which also afforded delegates a private viewing of the world's most famous painting, the Mona Lisa.

Delegates were greeted with a giant IBA sign bedecked with entertainers dressed as 16th century aristocrats. There was a string quartet, a harp player, some musketeers as well as performers in stilts.

Another room recreated the Montmartre district, with cafes and artists from the Place du Tertre, drawing, painting or cutting silhouettes for delegates. There was a guinguette band and dancers performed traditional French songs. A cabaret performance took place next to a miniature Moulin Rouge.

Delegates were brought up to date in the next room where a band rocked the stage the entire night performing 1980s covers, including the B-52's 'Love Shack'. The last room was all about consumer France, with stands highlighting French savoir-faire for wine, fashion, fragrance, and more.

Art lovers, meanwhile, were given exclusive access to parts of the French and Italian paintings collection, including the Mona Lisa, the European sculptures collection, and the Galerie d'Apollon, which houses the French crown jewels.



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IBA Paris 2023 guide

What to look out for on Wednesday

07:45 – 09:15

IBA Bar Breakfast hosted by the Ukrainian Bar Association – reopen Ukraine 2023

Neuilly 1, Palais des Congrès

09:30 – 10:45

Morning Keynote Address: Christopher Stephens, senior vice president and general counsel, the World Bank Group

Amphitheatre Havane, Level 3

Learn about the World Bank's current initiatives and its approach to corporate governance, ESG compliance, in-house legal team management and hiring of external advisors. What are the legal challenges the bank faces when implementing its projects and how do its interests align with the IBA's?

11:15 – 12:30

IBA Showcase: The new female leadership of law firms: a game changer?

Salle Maillot, Level 2

There has been a welcome flurry of appointments of female leaders at many of the world's largest law firms. This showcase will take the form of a conversation between some of those top female leaders, the IBA female leadership and a leadership expert from INSEAD business school.

Session chairs: Almudena Arpón de Mendivil, Gomez-Acebo & Pombo, Spain, IBA president; Myra Garrett, William Fry, Ireland, SPPI chair; Carola Van den Bruinhorst, Loyens & Loeff, Netherlands, LPD Chair; Dr Franklin Vrede, Propontis BV, Netherlands

13:15-14:15

A conversation with... Prosecutor Karim A A Khan KC

Amphitheatre Havane, Level 3

Karim A A Khan KC was elected as Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in 2021. He was an assistant secretary-general of the United Nations and served as the first special adviser and head of the United Nations investigative team to promote accountability for crimes committed by Da'esh/ISIL in Iraq.

14:30 – 17:30

BIC Showcase: if the client wants it and it's legal, what's the problem?

Salle Maillot, Level 2

Is it the responsibility of the lawyer to provide the client with what the client wants, provided it is legal and the lawyer is not aiding or abetting any fraudulent conduct? Or should the lawyer act not only as the representative of a client, but also consider the public interest in advising the client and in determining whether to represent the client?

Chaired by Ken Murphy, Law Society of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland and chair IBA Bar Issues Commission

16:15 – 17:30

Legal risk of technological incompetence for lawyers – understanding ability and obligation

Room 353, Level 3

Based on key findings of the 2021-2022 legal policy and research unit tech competency survey report, the session will discuss tech competency as a core legal skill and the need for developing a sustainable concept for the IBA's existing code of principles.

Chaired, by Anurag Bana, IBA, UK, and Christopher Howard, BARBRI Global, UK, co-chair, academic and professional development committee

18:30 – 21:30

Host Committee Reception

Tribunal de Commerce, 1 quai de la Corse, 75004 Paris

Annual Conference delegate badges are required for admittance. Pre-registration is not required.



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EVENT CALENDAR 23/24



13 March 2024
LONDON

With 400 attendees in 2023, the Women and Diversity in Law Awards set out to say a big, collective 'thank you' to those who are dedicating their professional careers to moving the DE&I needle or using their positions of influence to help facilitate change.

womenanddiversity
inlawawards.com



8 October 2024
LONDON

Now in its ninth year, the Law Firm Marketing Summit has established itself as the leading forum in Europe that addresses the challenges that those responsible for law firm marketing strategy are facing.

lawfirmmarketing
summit.com



11 June 2024
LONDON

The summit provides general counsel and their teams with a unique opportunity to discuss the challenges facing the sector, sharing insights on the latest trends and challenges while also hearing from leading figures within the world of luxury.

luxurylawsummit.com/
london



12 June 2024
LONDON

The Anti-Counterfeiting World Law Summit convenes the globe's most well-known counsel in a one-day programme with policymakers, government agencies, law enforcement and technology innovators to address the industry's most pressing issues and emerging trends.

anticounterfeitingworld
lawsummit.com



November 12 2024
NEW YORK

The Luxury Law Summit New York is a unique opportunity for general counsel and in house legal teams to discuss experiences and share insights on these latest trends and challenges. Bringing together the leading luxury brands, leaders and thinkers in luxury enjoy unrivalled access to this high-end legal marketplace.

luxurylawsummit.com/
new-york

PARIS, FRANCE

WEDNESDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2023 15



IBA Paris 2023 guide

What to look out for on Thursday and Friday

Thursday

09:30 – 10:45

Morning Keynote Address: Helle Thorning-Schmidt, former prime minister of Denmark and co-chair of Facebook's Oversight Board

Amphitheatre Havane, Level 3

This session will focus on social media's impact on democracy and the rule of law. It will explore how the dissemination of fake news and misinformation can be countered and the role lawyers can play in effectively controlling this powerful force.

11:00 – 12:30

SPPI Showcase: law as a lifelong and rewarding profession

Salle Maillot, Level 2

This interactive session will explore what the legal profession should be doing to enhance its value proposition to those in the profession, those contemplating joining the profession, and those who engage the services of the profession by developing and expanding the legal and non-legal skillsets of lawyers. It is billed as a 'must attend' for those involved in law practice management, especially if they are focused on retaining talent in these times of the Great Resignation.

Chaired by Babatunde Ajibade, SPA Ajibade & Co, Lagos, Nigeria; SPPI vice chair and treasurer; and Myra Garrett, William Fry, Dublin, Ireland; SPPI chair

14:30 – 15:45

Mean machines – how AI isn't free from unconscious bias

Rooms 212-213, Level 2

Artificial intelligence has been touted as a bias-free solution from recruitment to performance assessment. However, is this the full story? This session unpacks the incredible advances in and contributions of AI, but at the same time, exposes the dark side to reliance on machines.

Chaired by Frances Anderson, Victorian Government Solicitor's Office, Australia and co-vice chair, forum for government and public lawyers.

16:00 – 18:00

IBA Football Match

UrbanSoccer - Porte d'Aubervilliers, 111 Av. Victor Hugo, 93300 Aubervilliers

Register your interest in playing prior to (or during) the conference week by emailing Leonie Stevens (lstevens@petersandpeters.com) or Keith Oliver (keoliver@petersandpeters.com).

19:30 – late

Law Rocks! Paris

Backstage by the Mill, O'Sullivans, 92 Bd de Clichy, 75018 Paris

The latest in an ongoing series of 'battle of the bands' style rock concerts in which law professionals battle it out on stage for charity at legendary music venues around the world. Tickets can be purchased at: lawrocks.org/iba-paris

Friday

09:30 – 11:00

Rule of law symposium: accountability and justice

Salle Maillot, Level 2

This panel will draw from the expertise and insight of experts in the frontlines of international justice to provide perspectives and lessons learned from around the world. The panel will also discuss the role organisations such as the IBA can play in contributing to global stability and peace through the administration of justice.

Chaired by Federica D'Alessandra, Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict, co-chair, forum for government and public lawyers

Please note that this meeting is open to those not attending the annual meeting who can attend for free if they register online at ibanet.org.

19:30 – 22:30

Closing party

Hôtel de Ville, 75004 Paris

Tickets must be purchased at the registration desk.

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Walid Azzam
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"All partners are leaders and experts in their own fields and work seamlessly together to give a clear and concise legal route forward."

Chambers Global, 2023

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