

Session Outcome Document

(2 pages max)

The future of AI in the Judiciary: Launch of the UNESCO Survey on the Use of AI by Judicial Operators

UNESCO

Wednesday 29 May 2024, 16:00- 16:45 (UTC+02:00)

[Session 363](#)

Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

- Even with the increase in adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) tools by judicial operators growing, there is minimal to no formal guidance on adequately using these tools for individuals or organizations in the justice sector.
- The session thus aimed to discuss the challenges and opportunities for the use of AI in the Judiciary as well as the human rights implications of AI that the judiciary must be prepared to address.
- In addition, the results of the UNESCO Survey on the Use of AI by Judicial Operators were launched and discussed with a look to gather contributions from the audience and panelists in shaping the Guidelines for the Use of AI Systems in Courts and Tribunals.

Towards WSIS+20 and WSIS beyond 2025, please share your views on the emerging trends, challenges, achievements, and opportunities in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines to date (5-8 bullets)

- The session was concerned with WSIS Action Line C4 (Capacity Building) and C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs). The discussion looked at the ways that the judiciary can use AI tools within their functions in a responsible and ethical manner, with the objective of shaping the UNESCO Guidelines for the Use AI Systems in Courts and Tribunals.
- There have been positive steps through organizing such sessions to build trust of judicial officials in emerging technology such as AI and to be confident in the use of such technologies, where available, in their functions.

- Furthermore, with the increasing deployment of AI in judicial contexts in recent years, there is a growing need for capacity building of judicial officers to be aware of relevant use cases of AI in their work. In addition, it is essential for both individual and institutional capacity building initiatives to be carried out for such judicial officials to be aware of responsible and ethical use of AI tools, and of the benefits and risks to human rights presented by these systems.
- However, these capacity building initiatives are still limited in their reach with the trainings being capped to a select number of judicial officials. For instance, such initiatives have financial restraints where some countries may be able to organize national trainings on AI for judiciary, but this may not be the case where countries experience resource constraints.

Tangible outcomes (such as key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, commitments, figures, and success stories (3-5 bullet points))

- In this session, UNESCO successfully launched the results of its [Global Judges' Initiative Survey on the Use of AI Systems by Judicial Operators](#). The survey received responses from over 500 judicial operators from 96 countries concerning their use of generative AI, with a majority of the respondents indicating the need for guidelines for judges and their respective institutions on the use of AI within judicial contexts.

Actionable plan and key recommendations (2-5 points)

- The discussion was insightful with comments being received from the diverse panelists and stakeholders attending the session, which contributions are expected to assist in shaping the UNESCO Guidelines for the Use of AI Systems in Courts and Tribunals, currently under development.

Suggestions for thematic aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2025 (one paragraph)

- The WSIS Forum 2025 may consider topics specific to the global collaboration on governance of AI, and specifically on regulatory requirements of LLMs and generative AI. Furthermore, we recommend that the judiciary should also be more involved in AI Governance.