

G7 Bars' Statement on Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The representatives of the Bar Associations and Law Societies in the G7 countries (the "G7 Bars") met on 30 October 2023 in Paris, where they discussed issuing a statement on artificial intelligence (AI), and particularly generative AI, in relation to justice and the practice of law. The G7 Bars are aware of AI developments since the 2019 adoption of its statement on the opportunities offered by digitalization and artificial intelligence.

Generative AI is a potentially disruptive technology that could profoundly change the legal profession and access to legal services. The G7 Bars are aware of the need to assess its implications for the practice of the legal profession, the operation of judicial systems more generally, ethical and professional rules that might be affected, and training to help lawyers understand both the benefits and limitations of AI. Transparency and controllability of the use of AI must be ensured.

In light of the possible profound impacts of AI, the Bars and Law Societies should cooperate with each other to watch and assess these developments carefully, both in terms of positive and negative implications. This will include attention to professional codes of conduct and other applicable rights.

In 2024, the G7 Bars will continue to assess the opportunities and risks associated with the use of AI. They will follow with interest international initiatives, such as the G7 Hiroshima Process (International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems, and International Guiding Principles for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems) and the new UN AI Advisory Body, that address risks, opportunities, and international governance of artificial intelligence.

The purpose of this statement is to underscore that the G7 Bars are committed to participating in relevant national and international bodies and initiatives in order to draw attention to the core values of the legal profession, proper administration of and access to justice, and the right to a fair trial.

Signed on 21 March 2024

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