



**INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC  
CONFERENCE  
CITIZENS AT THE FOREFRONT OF  
LAW, TERMINOLOGY AND  
TECHNOLOGY:  
NAVIGATING LEGAL  
INFORMATION  
IN THE DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT  
BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**

University of Rijeka,  
Faculty of Law

24 April 2025

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**Citizens at the Forefront of Law, Terminology and Technology:  
Navigating Legal Information in the Digital Environment**

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**

Rijeka, 2025

**International Scientific Conference**  
Citizens at the Forefront of Law, Terminology and Technology:  
Navigating Legal Information in the Digital Environment

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**

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## FOREWORD

The international scientific conference *Citizens at the Forefront of Law, Terminology and Technology: Navigating Legal Information in the Digital Environment* is organized as part of the research project Uniri 23-242 titled *Legal information for the citizens in the digital environment* financed by the University of Rijeka.

The conference brings together scholars and practitioners from multiple domains: (EU) law, (legal) information science, natural language processing, applied terminology and translation. Providing cutting-edge insights into the unique challenges of working with legal information and legal language in the digital environment, attempt is made to bridge the gap between academia and the industry by reshaping and recalibrating cross-disciplinary approaches along three main axes:

- accessing legal information in the digital environment;
- integrating terminology into digital and AI-based tools to enhance transparency, credibility and comprehensibility of legal information;
- building AI literacy and information literacy skills in the field of law.

In this way we hope to contribute to the trending discussion on the future of law, terminology and technology and set the scene for future collaborations.

We would like to thank the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law, the Institute for the Croatian Language and EUROPE DIRECT Rijeka for their invaluable support in organising this conference. Finally, special recognition is due to all members of the Organising and Scientific Committee. Their hard work, dedication and enthusiasm were instrumental in bringing this conference to life.

Martina Bajčić  
President of the Organising Committee

## PROJECT SUMMARY

### **Legal information for the citizens in the digital environment**

(Pravne informacije za građane u digitalnom okružju, uniri-iskusni-human-23-242)

Accessing legal information is a precondition for the realization of rights. Citizens should be aware of legal obligations and opportunities that can save them time and money, while unreliable, incomprehensible or unclear information may lead to wrong decisions and detrimental consequences. The comprehensibility of legal information and legal texts intended for consumers – citizens is essential to ensure their usability and fitness for the purpose of the community. However, easy access to digital legal content (e.g. via e-forms) by itself does not guarantee comprehensibility. In fact, dispersion and fragmentation of information can render unreliable information and terminological inconsistency. As the digitisation of legal content undoubtedly impacts the language of the law, it is all the more important to promote the comprehensibility of digital legal information on the one hand, and, legal information literacy of citizens on the other. Establishing an interdisciplinary team of experts will enable to triangulate methods from applied linguistics (corpus-based terminological approaches to legal language), law (EU law, legal hermeneutics, legal design) and information science (to understand the context, requirements and experience of individuals using legal information) so to ensure deep and sustainable insights into this multidimensional topic and set the grounds for future (multilingual) studies.

# PROGRAM

## OPENING SPEECHES

10:00 - 10:30

Prof. Dr. Dario Đerđa, Dean of the Faculty of Law in Rijeka

Andrea Čović Vidović, Deputy Head of the European Commission Representation in Croatia

Maria Rzewuska Waligora, Head of Data Management Unit in DG Translation, European Commission

Ana Jerković, Head of Europe Direct, Rijeka

Assoc. Prof. Martina Bajčić, Project leader (Legal information for the citizens in the digital environment)

**Moderator:** Dejana Golenko

## SESSION 1: LOOKING FOR INFORMATION (TRANSPARENCY) IN THE AI CONTEXT

10:30 - 12:15

### Right to Access Information in the Digital Environment

Anita Markić, Information Commissioner, Republic of Croatia

### Transparency in Online Shopping: Should I Pay or Should I Go

Emilia Mišćenić, Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka

### Exploring AI Legal Assistants

Ana Meštrović, Faculty of Informatics and Digital Technologies, University of Rijeka

### The Right Terminology for Retrieval-Augmented Generation in Legal AI: Risks and Evaluation

Giorgio Maria Di Nunzio, Department of Information Engineering, University of Padova, Angela Condello, Department of Law, University of

Messina, Federica Vezzani, Department of Linguistic and Literary Study, University of Padova

### Making Justice Visible: Croatia's Technological Advancements in Case-Law Transparency

Paula Šamanić Matijević, Martina Tičić, Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka

**Moderator:** Ana Ostroški Anić

## LUNCH 12:15 - 13:15

## SESSION 2: AI, LAW AND LANGUAGE: APPLICATIONS AND CASE-STUDIES

13:15 - 15:00

### Legal and Terminological Challenges in AI-Generated Medical Reports: Insights from the HEREDITARY Project

Federica Vezzani, Department of Linguistic and Literary Study, University of Padova

### From Threat to Tool: Adapting to AI in Professional Translation for Maritime Law

Mirjana Borucinsky, Jana Kegelj, Faculty of Maritime Studies, University of Rijeka

### Terminology Simplified at the EC Influencer Hub: A Case-Study

Ana Ostroški Anić, Institute for the Croatian Language, Martina Bajčić, Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka

### Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education (ACRL): A Mechanism for Guiding the Development of IL Programs at Law Faculties in the Context of AI

Dejana Golenko, Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka

### The Power of Influence: Cognitive Authority in the Digital Age from the Perspective of the Youth

Alica Kolarić, Department of Information Sciences, University of Zadar

### Technology-Based Legal Terminology from a Teaching Perspective

Ivana Edmonds, Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka

**Moderator:** Laura Katarina Lukač

## PANEL DISCUSSION: TOWARDS RELIABLE LEGAL TECH TOOLS (IUS-INFO, ULPIAN, TRANSLEGAL)

15:00 - 16:00

**Moderators:** Martina Bajčić, Dejana Golenko



# ABSTRACTS

# SESSION I





# The Right to Access Information in the Digital Environment

## Anita Markić

Information Commissioner, Republic of Croatia

The right to access information is guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia and regulated by the Law on the Right to Access Information. It enables all natural and legal persons, both domestic and foreign, to access information held by public authorities, by complying with the conditions prescribed by law and with limitations that must be proportionate and necessary in a democratic society. Public authorities facilitate the right to access information both proactively and reactively. Proactive disclosure involves the continuous and timely publication of information on the websites of public authorities in an easily searchable and machine-readable format, while reactively this right is ensured through providing information by request. Proactive disclosure simplifies user access to information, saves time and reduces costs, and encourages participation in social, political, and economic processes, thereby strengthening trust in the institutions. Simultaneously, increased proactive disclosure reduces the number of requests for access to information, easing the workload of public authorities. Proactive disclosure also includes the publication of information for reuse, allowing the utilization of public authority information for commercial or non-commercial purposes. By proactively publishing on websites, easy and quick access to information held by public authorities is ensured, facilitating interaction between users and public authorities in the digital environment.

**Keywords:** *access to information, proactive disclosure of information, reuse of information*

## References

- Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, Official Gazette Nos. 56/90, 135/97, 08/98, 113/00, 124/00, 28/01, 41/01, 55/01, 76/10, 85/10, 05/14
- Law on the Right to Access Information, Official Gazette Nos. 25/13, 85/15, 69/22

# Transparency in Online Shopping: Should I Pay or Should I Go?

**Emilia Mišćenić**

University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law

People and citizens living in the digital age enjoy many of the benefits that digitalisation has brought to them. A wide range of services and goods are available online and can be easily purchased with a few ticks and clicks. However, by accepting cookies, privacy policies and terms and conditions, buyers expose themselves to a variety of risks that come with the digital benefits (BEUC 2021). CJEU cases such as *Content Services*, *Messner*, *Tiketa*, *Victorinox*, *Fuhrmann-2*, *Conny* and many others illustrate the various ways in which traders abuse their position in digital marketplaces. By using unfair digital practices, traders often manipulate mandatory information obligations under EU consumer law and contribute to the significant imbalance in the rights and obligations of parties (European Commission, 2016). By hiding or manipulating essential information, such as the right to repair or return of goods or the obligation to pay under Article 8(2) of the Consumer Rights Directive, traders violate the information and transparency requirements of the EU consumer *acquis* (Mišćenić, 2024). As confirmed by case-law, they often evade the obligation to inform consumers in a clear and prominent manner and to use language that is unambiguous for consumers. Can the average consumer, who is reasonably well informed and reasonably observant and circumspect, really understand that the words on the order buttons can have serious financial consequences for him? This depends on the wording on the button or similar feature. Accordingly, the paper addresses transparency issues and, in line with the European Commission's Digital Fairness Fitness Check (Mišćenić and Tereszkiewicz, 2024) provides guidance on how to contribute to digital fairness and transparency in B2C online transactions.

**Keywords:** *transparency, digital environment, digital vulnerability, order buttons, withdrawal button*

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# Exploring AI Legal Assistants

**Ana Meštrović**

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University of Rijeka, Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity

The development of AI legal assistants may have a significant impact to the legal domain, enabling more efficient and accessible solutions for both legal professionals and citizens. Over the past decade, advancements in generative artificial intelligence, particularly in natural language processing (NLP), have allowed AI systems to better understand and process complex legal terminology. Through the integration of terminological databases, corpora, and legal databases, AI legal assistants can provide valuable support in areas such as legal research, contract analysis, and document drafting. Additionally, they enhance transparency by simplifying legal language and improving access to legal information. This way, AI legal assistants facilitate the automation of routine legal tasks, saving time and reducing costs, while offering solutions for credible information evaluation and legal literacy. Despite these advancements, significant challenges remain. AI systems often struggle with the contextual nuances of legal language. Ethical concerns are especially critical in this domain, as issues related to data privacy, algorithmic bias, and the accountability of AI systems raise questions about their broader implications. These challenges highlight the importance of developing transparent, fair, and trustworthy AI tools that align with legal and societal values.

**Keywords:** *artificial intelligence, large language models, legal AI assistants*

## References

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# The Right Terminology for Retrieval-Augmented Generation in Legal AI: Risks and Evaluation

**Giorgio Maria Di Nunzio**

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**Angela Condello**

University of Messina, Department of Law

**Federica Vezzani**

University of Padova, Department of Linguistic and Literary Study

Generative AI is transforming information access, shifting from Information Retrieval - finding relevant documents based on a query - to Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) - generating the answer by combining general knowledge with specific information retrieved on the fly (White & Shah, 2025). By consulting up-to-date databases before generating a response, RAG aims to reduce hallucinations (makeup things) and improve accuracy in specialized fields like law and medicine (Guha et al., 2023; Nasir et al., 2024; Pipitone & Alami, 2024; Wiratunga et al., 2024). Nevertheless, there are plenty of pitfalls in RAG, such as i) include outdated or biased sources (hence replicating discriminatory logic e.g., among genders and in case of vulnerable subjects) and generate wrong answers (a very dangerous outcome in the case of legal data, for instance in the case of predictive justice software); ii) misinterpret user intent and create a query that does not reflect the original question (hence blurring the boundaries between powers especially as far as judiciary procedures are concerned); iii) decide to use certain sources over others, leading to bias in legal, medical, or policy-related responses and amplify misinformation from non-authoritative content (hence perpetrating phenomena like post-truth, with clear political consequences on a global scale). In this proposal, we will explore two key issues: (1) the role of standardized legal terminology in mitigating RAG's risks - ensuring clarity, reducing ambiguity, and aligning AI outputs with authoritative sources (we shall discuss whether some legal areas, like those concerning fundamental rights, should be excluded from similar practices) - and (2) experimental methods to evaluate improvements in these models. As terminology ensures clarity and consistency, we believe that it will help AI systems to reduce (but not eliminate) ambiguity in legal communication. We will focus on the advantages and risks of using a RAG tool for a specific case study: the term "informed consent".

**Keywords:** *Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG), legal terminology, bias, misinformation, experimental evaluation*

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# Making Justice Visible: Croatia's Technological Advancements in Case-Law Transparency

**Paula Šamanić Matijević**

University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law

**Martina Tičić**

University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law

In today's day and age, technology plays an essential role in almost every aspect of our lives. One area where it has a significant impact is in making legal information more accessible to the public. A recent example can be found in Croatia, where amendments to the Courts Act aim to leverage technology to enhance access to legal information by mandating the publication of all court judgments. This significant step toward transparency is designed to make case-law more accessible to the Croatian citizens. Despite the importance of transparent legal information, it is also important to balance the requirement of transparency and the right to privacy that is inherent to all parties in a procedure. To address this, Croatia has introduced artificial intelligence, in the form of the new system 'ANON', which removes personal data from published judgments. This system is expected to not only simplify the work of legal personnel, but also to provide quicker and easier access to settled case-law for the public. This research explores the delicate balance between transparency and privacy by analyzing the recent changes to the Croatian Courts Act. It examines how the legal framework and the 'ANON' system work together to provide greater visibility and accessibility of legal information while upholding individuals' privacy in the digital era.

**Keywords:** *anonymisation, Croatia, online publication of judgments, right to privacy, transparency*

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# SESSION II

# Navigating Legal and Terminological Challenges in AI-Generated Medical Reports: Insights from the HEREDITARY Project

**Federica Vezzani**

University of Padova, Department of Linguistic and Literary Studies

The use of generative AI in healthcare has made significant steps, particularly in the automatic generation of medical reports. This technology promises to improve efficiency in the production of documentation, enhance accuracy, and provide timely insights into patient conditions (Zhang and Kamel Boulos, 2023; Singh, 2023). However, the automatic creation of medical reports introduces several challenges, especially when it comes to the correct use of medical terminology. The complexity and precision required in medical language demand that AI systems produce reports that are not only linguistically correct but also semantically accurate. In fact, misinterpretations or inconsistencies in terminology could lead to clinical errors, potentially endangering patient safety (Vezzani and Di Nunzio, 2020). Terminology Augmented Generation (TAG) plays a key role in this, embedding controlled vocabularies and structured terminologies into the AI system to ensure clarity, precision, and compliance with both legal standards and medical best practices. From a legal and ethical standpoint, the use of generative AI in medical documentation raises concerns about liability, patient consent, and data protection. Legal frameworks, such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), mandate strict control over personal health data, which is particularly challenging when AI systems are involved (Mohammad Amini, 2023). In this presentation, we will explore how these challenges are addressed within the “HetERogeneous sEmantic Data integratIon for the guT-bRain interplay” (HEREDITARY) project (<https://hereditary-project.eu>). By focusing on the integration of robust terminological frameworks and AI-driven report generation, we will discuss how terminology science contributes to the responsible use of AI in medical documentation, ensuring both clinical accuracy and legal compliance.

**Keywords:** *medical terminology, generative AI, data protection*

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## From Threat to Tool: Adapting to AI in Professional Translation for Maritime Law

**Mirjana Borucinsky**

University of Rijeka, Faculty of Maritime Studies

**Jana Kegalj**

University of Rijeka, Faculty of Maritime Studies

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has undeniably transformed the work of professional translators. As AI continues to evolve, human translators will need to adapt and future-proof their profession. Today translators frequently use AI tools to enhance productivity, for example by automating the identification of specialized terms (i.e. in terminology extraction). However, the question remains whether AI should be seen as a potential threat or a useful tool, as it produces fluent texts riddled with errors. AI-generated translations seem flawless at first glance, but when examined in detail, it is revealed that such translations suffer from terminological inconsistencies. Although AI is increasingly utilized, there is a lack of empirical research concerning its application to legal translation (cf. Bajčić and Golenko, 2024). This study evaluates the applicability of AI in extracting terminology from two maritime institutionalized texts in English and Croatian: the ILO Maritime Labour Convention and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). To evaluate how well large language models (LLMs) deal with terminology extraction, we use iterative prompting with ChatGPT and Perplexity.AI, and compare the obtained results against the results obtained from corpus-based terminology extraction. The results indicate that AI, unlike corpus-based terminology extraction, outputs fewer terms, and faces challenges of reliability and reproducibility of results. Another challenge is prompting, i.e. formulating instructions for the LLM, which requires a certain amount of time and learning. This study may have implications on future legal translation in the area of maritime law concerning terminology work as one of the key aspects of legal translation. Additionally, it also shows the way translators consider and use AI tools for legal translation as understanding, comparing and critically viewing those tools could be considered as basic AI literacy skills.

**Keywords:** *legal translation, maritime law, AI, corpora, terminology*

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## Terminology Simplified at the EC Influencer Legal Hub: A Case Study

**Ana Ostroški Anić**

Institute for the Croatian Language

**Martina Bajčić**

University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law

The Influencer Legal Hub is a free online collection of introductory resources on the European consumer protection standards prepared specifically for influencers, agencies, brands, and their consumers. Video trainings and written legal briefs are developed by the European Commission in collaboration with academic legal experts and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) in order to familiarize influencers with the EU standards “that need to be applied in advertising, selling goods, and providing services” ([https://commission.europa.eu/live-work-travel-eu/consumer-rights-and-complaints/influencer-legal-hub\\_en#part-2-influencers-as-advertisers](https://commission.europa.eu/live-work-travel-eu/consumer-rights-and-complaints/influencer-legal-hub_en#part-2-influencers-as-advertisers)). The collection also includes overviews of important European laws and cases decided by the Court of Justice of the EU, as well as links to relevant national authorities. Covering four major areas – consumer protection law, advertising, selling, and intellectual property – these materials summarize the most pertinent provisions of the relevant directives and regulations, and explain complex legal concepts in a manner that is simple to understand for people who are not necessarily familiar with EU legislation and its terminology. Analyzing the legal terminology presented in both video and written materials in the Influencer Legal Hub, this presentation focuses on strategies used to simplify the content of legal concepts and highlights the difference in the presentation of key terms and concepts in video as opposed to written materials. While underscoring the need for novel methodological approaches to describe terms and terminological growth (Kaguera, 2022) in the digital environment, the case study provides not only an inventory of terms related to digital marketing, but also a list of different strategies used for terminology and content simplification.

**Keywords:** *legal terms, digital environment, content simplification*

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# Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education (ACRL): A Mechanism for Guiding the Development of IL Programs at Law Faculties in the Context of AI

**Dejana Golenko**

University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law

The rapidly changing landscape of higher education, a dynamic and often unpredictable information ecosystem, the continuous development of ICT, and AI tools, as well as the vast number of legal sources and the advancement of legal technology, have placed new demands on legal scholars, professionals, and students in interpreting, understanding, and applying legal information (Callister, 2025). In such an environment, law students' learning and research may foster trust in technology, leading to the belief that the information they receive through legal technology and AI-based tools is authoritative and accurate. This, in turn, may result in uncertainty, confusion, and challenges in evaluating and applying credible legal information (Callister, 2025). The importance of strengthening students' information skills and integrating the concept of information literacy (IL) into law school curricula is more crucial than ever (Bajčić & Golenko, 2025). Over the years, numerous models and standards have been developed to provide a framework for interpreting IL and its practical application in higher education. One of the most influential frameworks applicable in higher education, which can help understand the relationship between IL in a given academic discipline and the development of necessary student information skills, is the Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education (ACRL, 2016). Through a case study of the Faculty of Law in Rijeka, the presentation will provide examples of knowledge practices, i.e., ways in which students can deepen their understanding of IL in the field of law in the context of AI, based on the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education.

**Keywords:** *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education, information literacy programme, law faculties, AI*

## References

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# The Power of Influence: Cognitive Authority in the Digital Age from the Perspective of the Youth

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It is not new that today's complex digital landscape is flooded with information of uncertain quality. The increasingly widespread use of artificial intelligence tools makes navigating this environment even more challenging, particularly for young people. The information youth acquire shapes their attitudes, decisions, and behaviours, and reliance on non-credible information can lead to poor choices with serious consequences. The selection of information sources used to help with decisions and problematic situations is primarily influenced by one's perception of the source's reliability and trustworthiness (Savolainen, 2007, 2008). Sources regarded as trustworthy are seen as cognitive authorities (Wilson, 1983; Savolainen, 2008; Rieh, 2010), with competence and trustworthiness being the two main dimensions of authority (Wilson, 1983). The efficiency of one's judgments on whether a source can be trusted to provide quality information depends on an individual's prior knowledge, beliefs, and experiences. However, some psychological reasons that drive the belief that generative AI produces trustful information can hinder analytical judgments. Such reasons include trust in technology, the use of language and anthropomorphism, and cognitive ease (Callister, 2025). Previous studies have revealed that young people may trust information sources for misguided reasons, such as ease of access, motivating and friendly interactions, or the quality of their relationships with personal information sources (Kolarić, Juric & Peša Pavlović, 2022; Kolarić, 2023; Peša Pavlović, Juric & Kolarić 2023). Given this context, significant attention should be directed towards researching the construction of cognitive authority in relation to AI among young people. The presentation will offer an overview of three recent studies on how young people construct cognitive authority and examine them in the current context of AI technologies to outline future research directions.

**Keywords:** *youth, cognitive authority, trust, credibility, information behaviour*

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# Technology-Based Legal Terminology from a Teaching Perspective

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This research focuses on teaching approaches that facilitate terminology learning in a Legal English classroom while using technology as a transformative tool. The main goal is to bring legal terminology closer to university freshmen students who have not been exposed to the English legal language through direct instruction and technology enhanced terminology learning. The impact of technology on students' learning outcomes is significant, particularly in legal terminology and reading comprehension of legal excerpts (Yousef et al., 2023). It offers various tools that enhance English language learning through interaction and personalized instruction for students (Chapelle & Jamieson, 2013; Wang & Li, 2023). A background survey was given to students at the beginning of the semester to gather additional information about their learning experiences, preferences, and expectations. To cater to the learners' English language comprehension input, a didactic approach to terminology learning is offered in combination with technology, by teaching students directly to present and clarify the meaning of professional terms (Entwistle, 1997). To practice new terms and improve pronunciation, students are encouraged to use AI tools like Forvo or YouGlish to hear correct pronunciation. They can also use speech-to-text tools like wisprflow.ai to analyze their speech. Additionally, students enhance listening skills by watching video clips tied to case studies. Afterward, they use ChatGPT to create short-answer and fill-in-the-blank exercises based on the video content, which they complete and share with their peers. At the end of the semester, a survey was given to students to gather their perceptions on learning terminology through technology. Findings from the survey reveal positive reactions from students regarding technology in learning legal English and feeling more comfortable in sharing ideas. This research stimulates a continuing interest to implement additional technology tools that would amplify writing and reading skills for students and explore effective technology-enhanced teaching strategies.

**Keywords:** *legal terminology, didactic approach, AI pronunciation tool, online voice recording*

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# PANEL DISCUSSION



# TransLegal®



**Michael Lindner**

TransLegal's World Law Dictionary project together with over 30 universities worldwide connects the world's legal languages by coordinating the translation of national legal terminology into English in a single database. TransLegal is developing a system that facilitates the international practise of law and the development of innovative language products, solutions and resources that provide deeper insight into jurisdictional differences, improve automated translation solutions and leverage the power of artificial intelligence. Our vision is to develop a global, recognised and trusted system for the translation of legal terminology.

Michael Lindner is an American lawyer based in Stockholm and the founder of TransLegal.

The logo for Ulpian, featuring the word "Ulpian" in a bold, black, serif font, centered on a solid orange rectangular background.

**Sandra Čatović Stučić**

Ulpian is an innovative AI-powered research tool that helps navigate EU and national regulations and delivers credible answers to legal questions.

Sandra Čatović Stučić is the co-founder of Ulpian AI, a startup that leverages artificial intelligence to provide reliable answers to legal questions and assists in navigating the complexities of legal regulations. Before founding Ulpian, she worked as a legal associate specializing in ESG, labor, and commercial law. Her work bridges the fields of law and artificial intelligence, aiming to develop innovative solutions that ensure easier access to legal regulations





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