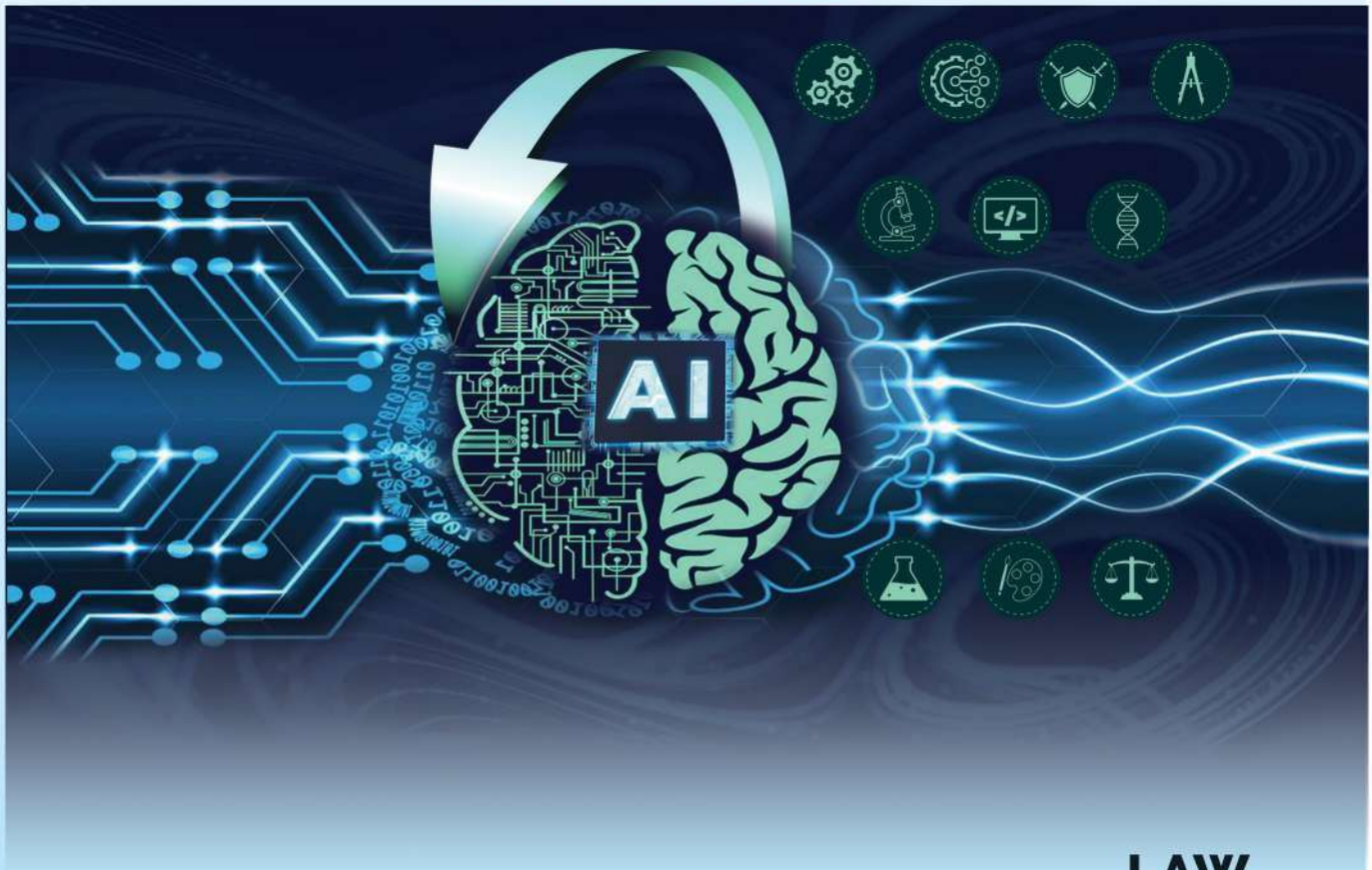




17th INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

*Unravelling the Paradigm Shift:
Revolutions in the Era of AI*

26th - 27th SEPTEMBER 2024



LAW

ABSTRACTS

General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University



17th INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

UNRAVELLING THE PARADIGM SHIFT: REVOLUTIONS IN THE ERA OF AI

LAW

ABSTRACTS



General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University
Ratmalana, Sri Lanka.

KDU PRESS

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Message from the Chief Guest



I am truly honoured to welcome all the distinguished participants to the 17th International Research Conference (IRC) at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU). This annually organized conference serves as a unique milestone showcasing the rich research culture deeply embedded within KDU. As a prestigious seat of learning, novelty and innovation remain at the heart of KDU's mission. Therefore, 'Unravelling the Paradigm Shift: Revolutions in the Era of AI' has been chosen as the key theme of IRC 2024.

Moving ahead with the momentum of modern-day research, we are set to uncover the extensive impacts of artificial intelligence, not just in defence but across every facet of national interest. Currently, AI has become a driving force, reforming our defence strategies, transforming healthcare, and restructuring our educational frameworks and infrastructure.

Investing in research is essential for national advancement, promoting innovation, formulating policies, and offering solutions that address our most pressing challenges. Hence, the IRC serves as a vital platform that fosters such great endeavours, contributing significantly to national development. Our responsibility as defenders of national security is profound, extending beyond traditional roles to include the ethical integration of advanced technologies that ensure our nation's safety and prosperity.

KDU stands as a symbol of a rich and diverse research culture across many disciplines. It is also a hub for high-quality research, upholding international standards of academic excellence. This conference represents a critical meeting of minds where leading experts converge to define strategies for our future. Each discussion and presentation at this event is a step toward securing a thriving, prosperous future for our region.

I extend my best wishes to all for a successful and productive conference, eagerly anticipating the innovative ideas and transformative insights that will undoubtedly arise.

**GENERAL SHS KOTTEGODA (Retd) WWV RWP RSP
VSV USP ndc**
Chancellor General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

Message from the Keynote Speaker



Brain health is a holistic concept encompassing cognitive, sensory, social-emotional, behavioural, and motor functions, enabling individuals to achieve their full potential. With one in three people globally affected by a brain disorder, the urgency for preventive brain health initiatives is evident. Since the inception of World Brain Day in 2014, there has been a renewed global focus on this critical area. The World Federation of Neurology (WFN), in collaboration with key organizations such as the American Academy of Neurology (AAN), the European Academy of Neurology (EAN), and the Asian Regional Consortium of Headaches (ARCH), has led the charge to raise awareness and promote brain health worldwide.

This keynote address will outline the journey of World Brain Day and its impact on the global brain health movement, with a specific focus on prevention. It will explore the evolution of brain health concepts and the alarming prevalence of brain disorders, emphasizing the need for urgent, coordinated action. Central to this effort is the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in enhancing preventive brain health strategies. AI-driven technologies are increasingly being used to predict, diagnose, and monitor brain health conditions, enabling earlier interventions and more personalized approaches to prevention.

The address will highlight the author's pioneering work in community-based programs, public health campaigns, and international collaborations. It will underscore the critical role of prevention, early intervention, and AI-powered tools in improving quality of life and reducing the global burden of brain disorders. The ultimate goal is to advance comprehensive brain health initiatives that leverage cutting-edge technologies to ensure a healthier future for all.

Professor Tissa Wijeratne

DR OAM MD PhD FRACP FRCP(London) FRCP (Edin) FAAN (USA)
FEAN (EAN) Professor and Chair, Director, Senior Neurologist,
Department of Neurology, Western Health, Victoria, Australia Co-
Founder and Co-Chair, World Brain Day, World Federation of
Neurology

Message from the Vice-Chancellor



Greetings to all participants, speakers, and guests of the 17th International Research Conference (IRC) at KDU. This year's IRC is centered around a timely theme that has sparked diverse dialogues in the realms of research and innovation. The theme, 'Unravelling the Paradigm Shift: Revolutions in the Era of AI', serves as an eye-opener for both eminent and novice researchers across the globe. It also highlights the critical role that advanced technologies play in shaping our world.

At KDU, we take pride in being at the forefront of defence education in Asia, a distinction affirmed by our high rankings and our pivotal role in shaping global security dialogues. KDU claims to have a unique history of providing high-quality education for both military and civilian students. It also proudly stands as a thriving hub for cutting-edge research that addresses pressing global and national issues. We strongly believe in fostering a rich and diverse research culture among KDU's students and staff, aligned with international standards. Therefore, IRC is recognized as a key event in KDU's annual calendar, emphasizing its significance in the institution's academic and research endeavours.

This year, we aim to explore the revolutionary impacts of AI across diverse disciplines, reaffirming our commitment to leading these discussions on a global scale. The insights shared here will undoubtedly spark new research initiatives and strategic collaborations, enhancing Sri Lanka's stature as a leader in both academic and strategic domains.

I extend my sincere gratitude to all those whose collective efforts have brought this conference to a reality. Your contributions ensure that KDU plays a prominent role in the international arena, driving discussions that will shape the future of technology and strategy. I look forward to a successful event, characterized by insightful discussions and pioneering ideas.

**REAR ADMIRAL HGU DAMMIKA KUMARA, VSV,
USP, psc, MMaritimePol, BSc (DS)**
Vice Chancellor General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

Message from the Chairperson



It is my honour, as the Chairperson, to welcome you all to the 17th International Research Conference at KDU. This year, we explore how artificial intelligence has evolved from a technological innovation into a catalyst for transformative change across numerous sectors. With an impressive selection of 441 research papers, drawn from nearly 1000 submissions, our conference spans across 11 distinct tracks covering a wide range of disciplines. Our theme, “Unravelling the Paradigm Shift: Revolutions in the Era of AI,” highlights the profound and far-reaching transformations that AI is driving—from reshaping urban infrastructure to revolutionizing healthcare. The conference is designed to promote interdisciplinary dialogue, addressing not only technological advancements but also the ethical, social, and economic implications of these developments. One of our key objectives is to create a platform where researchers, professionals, and thought leaders can come together, exchange ideas, and foster collaborative initiatives that will push the boundaries of innovation. I am deeply grateful to all our keynote speaker and the plenary speakers, other presenters, , participants, and the entire organizing team for their tireless efforts and contributions. Your dedication to advancing knowledge is what brings this conference to life, positioning it as a critical forum in global research. Together, we are charting a path toward a future where technology and society grow hand in hand, reshaping the landscape of not just research but our daily lives. Let’s engage in meaningful discussions that will inspire new perspectives and drive impactful solutions. Here’s to a successful conference, rich in insight and collaboration. Finally, I would like to extend my best wishes to all the presenters, authors, and participants joining the KDU IRC 2024, whether on-site or online. I hope each of you finds this conference not only informative and enjoyable but also an encouraging opportunity to experience the warm hospitality of KDU throughout these two fruitful days.

Dr. Nirosha Wedasinghe

Ph.D(KDU-SL), MIT(CStud-Aus),B.Sc in Comp IS (London Met-UK), SMIEEE(US), MBSC(UK), MCS(SL), FISDS(Japan) Senior Lecturer cum Director -Centre for Gender Equity and Equality General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University Conference Chair-IRC 2024

Message from the Secretary

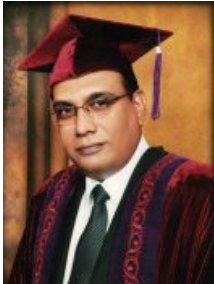


As we gather for the 17th International Research Conference at KDU, I extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to all participants, researchers, and thought leaders. This year, we proudly present 441 research papers selected from nearly 1,000 submissions, spanning across 11 tracks in diverse fields such as Defence and Strategic Studies, Medicine, Health Sciences, Engineering, Technology and Computing, Basic sciences, Law, Social Sciences and Humanities, and the Built Environment and Spatial Sciences. Our theme, “Unravelling the Paradigm Shift: Revolutions in the Era of AI,” reflects the profound ways that AI is transforming our world, becoming integral to our lives and work. The discussions here aim to explore how AI can address global challenges, drive innovation, and foster interdisciplinary collaborations that will shape the future. Looking ahead, the future of IRC lies in broadening its horizons. We aim to increase international participation, diversify the scope of research, and establish global research consortia to tackle real-world problems that extend beyond the borders of Sri Lanka. The insights gained here must lead to actionable outcomes, particularly in formulating policy recommendations in areas such as AI in defence, public health, and education. This conference is more than just a forum for discussion; it is a platform where the brightest minds collaborate to drive change. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our speakers and participants for their dedication and contributions. Together, we are not only shaping the future of research but also crafting solutions that will impact society on a global scale. Here’s to a successful and inspiring conference that drives innovation, shapes policy, and sparks meaningful collaboration.

Dr. HM Prasanna Herath

Ph.D. (USJ), RN(SLNC), B.Sc(Nursing) Hons (UPSL), CTHE Senior Lecturer Faculty of Allied Health Sciences Erasmus coordinator General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University Conference Secretary- IRC 2024

Message from the Dean



It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I extend this message to the participants of the Plenary and Technical Sessions in Law at the KDU International Research Conference 2024. The legal landscape in almost all the countries in the world is undergoing continuous transformation in response to the rapid advancements in technology. The theme of the Plenary Session in Law “*Conquering Traditional Frontiers: Challenges Presented to Law by New Technologies,*” encapsulates the crucial need for a discourse on the symbiosis of law and technology.

While confronting these challenges, the dual responsibility of the legal field needs to be acknowledged regulating the use of emerging new technologies and evolving simultaneously to address their impact. Upholding the principles of fairness, transparency, and accountability, while safeguarding individual rights and societal values, remains paramount to navigating the ever-expanding digital future.

As the Dean of the Faculty of Law of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU), I take immense pride in the Faculty’s dedication to promoting an interdisciplinary dialogue and advancing the frontiers of legal research. The Faculty of Law of KDU has consistently recognized the critical importance of equipping future legal professionals to address the ethical, regulatory, and practical challenges posed by artificial intelligence and emerging new technologies.

On behalf of the Faculty of Law, I extend my sincere appreciation to the esteemed speakers, presenters, participants, and contributors for their invaluable efforts in making this Research Conference a success. I encourage all to actively engage in the sessions by contributing insights, ideas, and experiences to explore the new frontiers of law in a climate of shared responsibility.

I wish you all a productive and inspiring academic engagement. May this event foster innovative solutions and meaningful collaborations that will help navigate the challenges and opportunities presented by the digital age!

Mr. Mangala Wijesinghe

Dean, Faculty of Law, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

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ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Judgement Day 2.0: Can AI Judges Turn Sri Lanka's Legal Leap into a Futuristic Fairytale of High-Tech Justice?

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Judgement Day 2.0. delves into the revolutionary integration of artificial Intelligence (AI) within the Sri Lankan judiciary to create a judicial officer powered by AI i.e. AI judge. This paper examines the transformative potential and inherent challenges of embedding AI technologies in this legal leap, advocating for stringent ethical standards and the necessity of human oversight. The study employed a methodological framework, encompassing normative legal analysis and adapting a conceptual examination of AI's expanding role in legal contexts. It further investigated AI's capabilities, such as machine learning and deep learning, underscoring the critical need to navigate the ethical state of AI development conscientiously. Additionally, the paper spotlights the ongoing efforts to modernize Sri Lanka's judicial system through technological advancements, while emphasizing the crucial equilibrium between innovation and the preservation of time-honoured judicial principles. This encapsulates the exploration of the intricate interplay between AI and Sri Lanka's legal system, highlighting the myriads of opportunities and the intricate complexities this integration presents.

Keywords: *artificial intelligence, AI Judges, justice system, judiciary, Sri Lanka*

Breaking the Code; The Role of Legal Reforms in Addressing the Influence of Digital Media on the Juvenile Delinquency in Sri Lanka

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In the modern context, digital media is inundating each aspect of life, and its effect on youth behavior remains a crucial concern globally. Based on this background, the present study carried out a thorough analysis of the relationship that exists between digital media and juvenile offenses, with a special reference to Sri Lanka, bringing relative insight from the USA and India. The study used qualitative research methodologies by way of doctrinal analysis and comparative legal studies to show that exposure to violent content, incidents of cyberbullying, and engaging in online deviant communities can seriously influence adolescent behavior in a way that will move them toward delinquency. The study reveals gaps in the present legal framework of Sri Lanka, which does not address the fast pace and pervasiveness of the impact of digital media on its youth. This points to the need of highly innovative reforms tailored towards the protection of children and adolescents against the excess of risks occasioned by online environments, recommendations for changes in laws, educational programs towards digital literacy and responsible online conduct, as well as community-based interventions aimed at supporting environments and rehabilitation among juveniles affected by digital media-related delinquency. The main highlight of this study is a clarion call for an all-inclusive approach that will bring legal reforms, strategies for educational programs, and community programs together. This can safeguard the youth while enabling them to negotiate digital landscapes by cultivating safety and responsibility. Finally, the paper provides practical implications that should foster wellbeing and healthy development of youth within the pervasive presence of digital media and facilitate their full integration into society

Keywords: *digital media influence, juvenile delinquency, legal reforms, psychological impact*

Comparative Legal Analysis of Liability Frameworks in Autonomous Vehicle-Accidents in California and Japan

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The rise of self-driving cars marks a significant change in how we travel, offering improved safety, productivity, and ease of usage. Nonetheless, this technological progress poses fresh obstacles in establishing responsibility for crashes and questioning conventional legal structures. This study examined the legal systems for AV accidents in California and Japan, both top regions in autonomous vehicle technology but with unique legal backgrounds. The study compared the liability structures in these areas, focusing on how, each deals with responsibility, safety, and legal obligations. Using comparative, analytical, and qualitative techniques, the study analysed legislative documents, case precedents, and regulatory structures in both areas. It assesses fault determination, allocation of liability, and compensation processes, while also examining how socioeconomic and cultural factors affect legal systems. The results show notable distinctions: California focuses on product liability due to its technology-focused regulatory strategy, whereas Japan leans towards strict regulatory supervision and driver accountability, stemming from its civil law heritage. Both areas encounter similar obstacles, such as requiring more precise definitions of liability and dealing with ethical issues in autonomous driving. The study concludes that California and Japan are both making progress in regulating autonomous vehicles, but they need to align their standards and improve transparency. Suggestions consist of better data recording and sharing, clearer liability frameworks, increased cybersecurity, public education, and flexible legal mechanisms. These measures are crucial for guaranteeing safety and accountability as AV technology progresses, directing future policy and international harmonization endeavors.

Keywords: *Autonomous Vehicles (AVs), legal framework, California and Japan*

Harnessing AI Tools for Predictive Analytics in Litigation: Transforming Legal Strategies and Outcomes

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This study explored the transformative potential of AI-driven predictive analytics in litigation, focusing on its adoption, effectiveness, and impact on legal strategies. The study aimed to assess the extent to which AI tools are being integrated into legal practices, evaluate their accuracy compared to traditional methods, and examine their influence on decision-making processes. Additionally, it investigated the ethical, legal, and practical challenges posed by AI in the legal field. Employing a mixed-methods approach, the study combined qualitative and quantitative data to provide a comprehensive analysis. The findings highlight the growing adoption of AI tools, their superior accuracy in predicting litigation outcomes, and their significant impact on legal strategies, including improved case management and data-driven insights. However, the study also identified challenges such as algorithmic bias, transparency, and accountability, offering recommendations to mitigate these issues. The study concludes that while AI tools hold immense potential to enhance legal practices, their responsible and ethical use is crucial to ensuring fairness and justice. This study contributes to the ongoing discourse on AI in the legal domain, providing actionable guidelines for legal professionals to effectively harness AI for improved litigation outcomes.

Keywords: *predictive analytics, AI in litigation, legal strategies, algorithmic bias, legal technology*

Liability or Liberty: An Assessment of Air Carrier’s Liability under the Montreal Convention to Passengers in Case of an Accident

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This study investigated whether the international legal framework established by the Montreal Convention of 1999 (MC) achieved its intended purpose of establishing air carrier liability for passenger death or injury caused by an accident during international air transport. In addition, the study evaluated the legal lacunae that exists in the present legal regime in establishing strict liability of the air carrier in case of an accident during air carriage. To reach the objective of the study, it adopted a qualitative research method that includes a library-based black letter approach. The study chronologically evaluated the MC Article 17 governing the air carrier liability concept which covers elements of terms such as accident, embarking or disembarking, and bodily injury. The study also extensively analysed significant jurisdictional approaches made in many jurisdictions when establishing carrier liability for tort accidents, including those that resulted in innovative mechanisms, refinements, and reforms involving passengers in air carriage. Further analysis covered the salient aspects of a two-tier liability system for compensation on a liability claim in the MC. Based on the findings, the paper argues that the liberal jurisprudence articulation effort on carriers’ strict liability concept under MC led to certain judicial activism and resulted in creating legal lacunae due to deviating from the strict liability expected from the carrier established in Article 17. Finally, the paper proposes recommendations such as updating air carrier liability legislation to address identified legal issues and gaps in the future.

Keywords: *carrier liability, Montreal Convention, accident, bodily injury, embarking, disembarking*

Developing Trends in International Intellectual Property Laws; with regard to Copyright Infringement in Generative AI, and Training of Artificial Intelligence

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The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) recognizes ‘Intellectual Property (IP)’ to be the creations of the mind. For example, literary, and artistic works such as design and symbols and names and images. Of that, Copyright is a more specific right given to such creators. Recently the emergence of various forms of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has resulted in its widespread availability in the public domain. Due to that certain issues have arisen in which copyright laws overlap with some instances of AI usage. One such instance is the allegations which state that certain literary and artistic works were used to ‘train’ the AI, without the creators’ informed consent. Furthermore, it is said that certain AI tools allow a user to generate new content via AI by giving it a command to ‘mimic’ a certain author’s or an artist’s existing creative work. This presents an issue as it is possible that the author/ artist whose work is being simulated has not given their consent to such work. Therefore, a need has arisen to amend the existing copyright laws to prevent a creator’s work from being copied by AI by using allowances in the fair use doctrine. This paper discusses the emerging trends in copyright law and AI in terms of potential copyright infringements by the actions of training AI and in the usage of Generative AI. It refers to certain ongoing case laws, and how the developing legal precedences in the International IP law can affect our domestic laws.

Keywords: *Artificial Intelligence, Intellectual Property Law, Fair Use Doctrine, Informed Consent, Copyright Law, Copyright Infringement, AI Training, Generative AI*

Financial Fraud to Human Trafficking: Legal Reclassification and Enforcement Strategies in Deceptive Recruitment and Abandonment

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Human trafficking is a major global issue, when individuals are enticed by deceitful individuals with varying motives. In Sri Lanka, traffickers lure individuals with promises of lucrative employment opportunities abroad, but instead exploit them by charging fees and transporting them to foreign countries without any actual job prospects. The Sri Lankan law enforcement authorities identify many cases as instances of money fraud rather than human trafficking. This paper highlights the current approach to addressing such situations and the importance of comprehending the existing legislation, particularly Section 360C of the Sri Lankan Penal Code, in order to accurately classify and investigate such cases as human trafficking. This study utilised a qualitative analysis method to examine legal documents, guidelines, case files, and reports to highlight the absence of specialised training among law enforcement personnel, the inadequate collaboration between agencies, and the insufficient support measures for victims, all within the context of human trafficking.

Keywords: *human trafficking, legal framework, deceptive recruitment*

Corporate Fraudsters and Victimized Sri Lankan Companies: Lessons from the Indian Company Law

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Corporate fraud is a prominent and widely acknowledged offense by both corporate and legal communities. Based on cross-country research, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners in their Report to the Nations 2022 revealed that companies lose 5 percent of their annual revenue due to occupational fraud. Moreover, the elevated levels of occupational fraud has led to the collapse of companies. In occupational fraud, the fraudster is the occupant or officer of a corporation. The corporate criminal liability is the liability imposed upon a corporation for any criminal acts committed by any natural persons who are legally authorized to function as the company's corporate legal personality. Nevertheless, due to loopholes in the existing Sri Lankan anti-fraud legal framework, the fraud committed by an individual or group of individuals in collusion, employed in a corporation, for their self-enrichment can be tainted, They can assign that their fraudulent acts were committed by the corporate legal personality based on the principle of corporate legal personality. Thus, despite corporations being the actual victims, they become the fraudsters under the prevailing Sri Lankan anti-fraud legal framework. This paper addresses the said gap in the existing Sri Lankan anti-fraud legal system. This study aimed to find legal measures to prevent and detect occupational fraud in Sri Lanka. This is a qualitative doctrinal socio-legal study. The findings of the study affirmed that the conviction of occupational fraudsters is hard due to the absence of necessary provisions in the Sri Lankan anti-fraud legal system. Hence, the said gap in the law paved the way for occupational fraudsters to commit corporate scandals in the name of corporate fraud. Therefore, steps taken to prevent the occupational fraud play a pivotal forerunner role in preventing corporate fraud.

Keywords: *occupational-fraud, corporate-fraud, scandals, Sri Lanka, India*

Improving Corporate Governance Law in Sri Lanka: A Comparative Analysis with South Africa

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Fostering investor trust, accountability, and transparency depend on effective corporate governance. The Companies Act No. 07 of 2007 and the Code of Best Practice, which serve as the foundation of Sri Lanka's existing framework, expose serious flaws in board independence, integrated reporting, and regulatory enforcement, endangering the country's capacity to practice effective governance and maintain economic stability. Conversely, the governance framework of South Africa, as delineated by the Companies Act 71 of 2008 and the King IV Report, epitomizes optimal methodologies through its obligatory independence of the board, all-encompassing integrated reporting, and resilient enforcement measures. According to this analysis, implementing South Africa's norms could help with Sri Lanka's governance problems. A majority of independent directors should be required, financial and non-financial reporting should be integrated, ethical standards should be strengthened, mandatory Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives should be put in place, and regulatory enforcement should be improved, among other suggested changes. The study plays a crucial role in directing legislative and regulatory reforms in Sri Lanka that seek to strengthen governance effectiveness and economic stability, which in turn promotes sustainable growth and increases investor confidence.

Keywords: *Corporate Governance, Companies Act No. 7 of 2007 of Sri Lanka, Code of Best Practice on Corporate Governance on 2017, Companies Act 71 of 2008 of South Africa, King IV Report.*

Beyond Section 365: Navigating LGBTQ+ Rights in Sri Lanka's Legal Landscape

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The historical and legal background of LGBTQ+ rights in Sri Lanka is firmly anchored in a synthesis of colonial, religious, and cultural factors. With Tamil and Moor minority and a mostly Sinhalese population, Sri Lanka has long struggled with issues of gender nonconformity and sexual orientation. This study explored the development of LGBTQ+ rights in Sri Lanka, emphasizing the intricate relationship between historical tolerance and colonial-era laws that continues to influence modern legal systems. Even though there were early signs of acceptance, non-heteronormative sexual activities were made illegal by British colonial laws, a legacy that is still present in the legal system today. This study highlights the persistent social and legal obstacles that Sri Lanka's LGBTQ+ population faces, including Penal Code Sections 365 and 365A, which prohibit same-sex partnerships and uphold systematic discrimination. By comparing the legal systems of Sri Lanka, India, and the UK, the study provides a comparative viewpoint on how colonial inheritances have influenced contemporary legislation. This study employed a qualitative approach to examine national laws, rulings from international courts, and pertinent scholarly literature in order to present a thorough picture of LGBTQ+ rights in Sri Lanka. This subject is significant since it discusses how the LGBTQ+ population in Sri Lanka continues to endure criminality and discrimination despite constitutional assurances of equality. Finally, it concluded that, despite the progress that has been accomplished, considerable cultural and legal changes are required in order to attain full equality and safeguard the rights of LGBTQ+ people in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: *LGBT+ community, Rights of the LGBT+ people, Section 365, existing legal regime*

Deepfakes in Warfare: A Novel Challenge to International Humanitarian Law

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Disinformation has always been part and parcel of warfare. However, sophisticated artificial intelligence techniques such as machine learning, have now made the process of manipulation of information much easier and more convincing than ever before. ‘Deepfakes’, the highly realistic yet fabricated images, videos and audio are increasingly being used as a war tactic to spread disinformation in both International Armed Conflicts (IACs) and Non-International Armed Conflicts (NIACs). Deepfakes can easily deceive and mislead people by making it appear that someone has said or done something that they have never said or done in reality. It can falsify commands, create confusion during conflicts and spread false rumours about adversaries. Moreover, when the public becomes aware of the possibility of an image, audio or video being a deepfake, establishing the authenticity of original information also becomes challenging. This study used a qualitative approach to analyse the threats posed by deepfakes to both combatants and civilians affected by modern warfare, through sowing confusion, impersonating political and military leaders, eroding public trust, influencing public opinions and also fabricating evidence in post-war trials. Deepfakes can cause unfathomable damage to war-torn countries further jeopardizing their democracy and national security. Hence, the use of deepfakes extends beyond the traditional bounds of permissible ruses of war under International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Accordingly, the objective of this paper is to analyze the adequacy and possible improvements of existing IHL principles in addressing the deepfake-driven threats in warfare.

Keywords: *deepfakes, artificial intelligence, disinformation, armed conflicts, International Humanitarian Law*

Use of UN Treaty Bodies Comments and Recommendations in Judicial Decision Making: A Critical Review of the Sri Lankan Experience

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This study critically examines the evolving judicial practice in Sri Lanka of incorporating United Nations (UN) Treaty Bodies' comments and recommendations into domestic legal interpretations, despite their non-binding nature under Sri Lankan law. Sri Lanka's dualist legal framework necessitates enabling legislation for direct treaty incorporation, posing challenges for integrating international human rights norms into domestic jurisprudence. Through a qualitative analysis of primary legal sources, including international treaties, national legislation, and judicial decisions, this study explored how the judiciary has navigated these challenges. It assessed the extent to which courts have creatively interpreted and applied treaty body outputs, such as general comments and recommendations, to enhance human rights protections domestically. The findings highlight a trend of judicial activism where Sri Lankan courts utilize treaty body pronouncements as persuasive authorities, influencing legal interpretations and shaping outcomes. However, this practice prompts debates on its legitimacy vis-à-vis democratic principles and separation of powers. By evaluating the merits and pitfalls of judicial engagement with international law, this study contributes to a nuanced understanding of how global human rights standards intersect with and potentially transform domestic legal frameworks in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: *Sri Lanka, judicial activism, UN Treaty Bodies, international human rights law, dualist legal framework*

From Nuclear Weapons to Artificial Intelligence (AI) Based Weapons in Armed Conflicts:-A Comparative Analysis of Development of Laws on Nuclear Weapons and AI-Based Weapons in Armed Conflicts

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AI-based weapons are now becoming a challenge for international humanitarian law. Various states and non-state actors are trying to improve international humanitarian law to address these challenges. Therefore, this study attempted to consider this issue from a different point of view by comparatively analyzing how laws regarding nuclear weapons have developed, and what challenges states and non-state actors had faced during that time and thereby using that knowledge to provide suggestions for required regulatory measures for AI-based weapons. Overall, this study provides a holistic view of both existing laws on AWS and nuclear weapons. The absence of an agreed list of weapons that are indiscriminate, and harmful to civilians or civilian properties due to decreasing human control was a major issue identified in this study and the author suggests that making such a list will lay a foundation for the development of future legal instruments.

Keywords: *nuclear weapons, artificial intelligence, IHL, armed conflicts, peace*

Artificial Intelligence and International Arbitration: The Necessity of Human Oversight to Ensure Fairness and Efficiency

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The world is experiencing a technological evolution that will surpass the industrial revolution and change nearly every area of our professional and personal lives, including how disputes occur and are handled. Artificial intelligence (AI) will transform international arbitration by increasing the efficiency and accuracy of decision-making procedures. AI will aid with case management, data analysis, and decision-making. However, in complicated and high-stakes environments such as international arbitration, human monitoring is required to ensure fairness and justice. Human arbitrators may bring to the table not only ethical judgment and cultural sensitivity but also interpretive nuance in the use of legal reasons, which is required to make fair and fully informed verdicts. The study focused on legal issues and conducted an analysis of countries that have either deployed or limited AI. Case studies and legal frameworks demonstrate the need for human arbitrators to maintain the integrity of the arbitration process. The suggestion is also found on the fact that when AI is integrated, human oversight is applied in a way that strikes a balance between justice and due process.

Keywords: *artificial intelligence, international arbitration, human oversight*

The Impact of the Right to Be Forgotten on AI-driven Data Retention Practices in Sri Lankan Context: A Comparative Study of Regulatory Approaches and Compliance

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This study investigated the impact of the Right to Be Forgotten (RTBF) on AI-driven data retention practices, with a particular emphasis on the legal background and implications in Sri Lanka. The study investigated how the RTBF has influenced AI data retention policies, the legal context around RTBF and AI in Sri Lanka, and the benefits and drawbacks of RTBF in the AI area. The aim was to develop thorough knowledge of the relationship between RTBF and AI, as well as to identify the difficulties and potential for developing effective regulatory frameworks in Sri Lanka. The data was gathered through a comprehensive review of various documents, followed by thematic and comparative analyses to identify key themes, similarities and differences relevant to AI data retention and the RTBF. The study found that there is currently no effective mechanism to remove data from AI systems, raising serious concerns about the possibility of establishing the right to be forgotten in AI. Furthermore, it was determined that Sri Lanka lacks suitable laws to handle the RTBF and data privacy concerns associated with AI, revealing a serious regulatory gap. Furthermore, the study identified both the benefits and drawbacks of implementing RTBF in AI. The paper concludes by emphasizing the importance of balanced legislation that protects privacy while promoting innovation.

Keywords: *Right to be forgotten, AI, Data retention practices, Sri Lanka*

A Comparative Analysis of Legal Frameworks for Ensuring Quality and Accuracy of AI-Generated Data: A Study of the USA and Sri Lanka

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The study focused on the legislative frameworks that control the reliability and quality of AI generated data in Sri Lanka and the United States of America (USA). As artificial intelligence is progressively included in diverse industries, it is imperative to guarantee the dependability and equity of outputs produced by AI. The paper compared the regulatory frameworks in the two nations, highlighting existing laws, enforcement strategies and the lacuna of an established law governing AI generated data. The National Defence Authorization Act, National AI Initiative Act of 2020 of USA, White House Executive Order and Colorado Act of USA were examined signifying how such laws have influenced the algorithmic responsibility and use of AI in decisionmaking processes. Similarly, in Sri Lanka, the examination was concentrated on the laws and regulations that control technology governance and data protection. The study examined the effects of the National AI Strategy, Intellectual property laws, and other pertinent laws on guaranteeing the accuracy and dependability of data generated by artificial intelligence. The study identifies the lacuna of an established legal framework governing the accuracy and quality of AI-generated data in Sri Lanka compared to the regulatory framework in the USA. By using a qualitative research approach, the researcher aimed to uncover underlying patterns, contrasts and implications with legislative landscapes of both jurisdictions. In conclusion, the paper attempts to identify opportunities and provide suggestions to improve existing frameworks to handle new problems about the accuracy and quality of AI-generated data.

Keywords: *artificial intelligence, accuracy, quality*

An Analysis of the Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Future Legal Education

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The growth in AI systems has an unprecedented rate of development that is already in the process of redefining legal education. This paper tries to explore the role of AI for the future of legal education with its pros and cons. Machine learning algorithms, natural language processing and predictive analysis enable the legal profession to encourage social reform, and comparative analysis of legal cases and administration. These advancements call for the development of new legal curricula that will enable future lawyers to have an understanding of AI to enable them to effectively practice using these tools. Further, with the introduction of AI-based customized learning systems claim to enrich the students' learning by catering to their specific requirements and preferences. However, the incorporation of AI also possesses essential dilemmas over the solution's ethics, data protection, and prejudices. Therefore, this paper expects to strike a proper balance in utilizing AI in the legal education sector as this region requires improvements in the context of legal education through the incorporation of inter-disciplinary approaches, instrumentality of law and technology, and legal ethics. A careful consideration of available sources on this area and the need for legal education providers to adopt to an active role in adopting AI in their education to equip future lawyers for the AI revolution are underlined while stressing the need for the delivery of effective solutions using newly introduced technologies striking a balance between its negative impacts.

Keywords: *Artificial Intelligence, legal, education*

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Pragmatic Approaches Towards Fundamental Rights Litigation Procedure in Sri Lanka: Challenges and Opportunities

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Fundamental rights litigation in Sri Lanka plays a vital role in upholding constitutional rights and maintaining the rule of law. This study aimed to analyze the current landscape of fundamental rights litigation in Sri Lanka, identify key challenges faced by litigants and the judiciary, and explore opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of legal protections. By examining these factors, the study sought to provide practical recommendations for improving the legal processes that safeguard these rights. Using a qualitative approach, the study incorporated a comprehensive review of case law and legal documents to provide context and depth to the qualitative data. The study identified several significant challenges that hinder the effectiveness of fundamental rights litigation. These include issues related to locus standi, where restrictions on who can bring a case limit access to justice, and the stringent "one-month rule," which imposes a narrow timeframe for filing fundamental rights petitions. These procedural hurdles often result in cases being dismissed on technical grounds rather than their substantive merit, thereby undermining the protection of constitutional rights. However, the study also highlights opportunities, such as the expansion of public interest litigation, increased involvement of non governmental organizations in the legal arena, and the potential for a more pragmatic interpretation of the "one-month rule" to allow greater flexibility in its application. The study concludes with practical recommendations for legal and policy reforms aimed at strengthening the enforcement of fundamental rights, ensuring that the legal system remains a robust defender of constitutional protections.

Keywords: *Pragmatic approach, Fundamental rights Procedure, Article 126, judicial interpretation*

Unveiling Sri Lanka's Legal Landscape: Combating Cybersex Trafficking using Existing Online Harassment Laws

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The study aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of Sri Lanka's existing legal frameworks in addressing cybersex trafficking, specifically analysing how well current laws on online harassment can be applied to combat this issue. The objective was to identify strengths and weaknesses in the legal framework, assess the adequacy of specific laws, and highlight the need for more targeted legislative measures. This doctrinal research was based on its capacity to conduct a thorough analysis of legal texts, legislation, and court opinions. The study indicated that while Sri Lanka has a variety of regulations that deal with online harassment and associated crimes, these laws do not expressly focus on cybersex trafficking. Legislation such as the Online Safety Act No. 9 of 2024, Penal Code 1883, Computer Crime Act of 2007, and the Obscene Publications Ordinance 1927, provide specific rules that may be used to address aspects of cybersex trafficking. Nevertheless, they do not provide thorough and specialised coverage to adequately tackle the problem. The main findings reveal that the existing legal regulations primarily address dishonesty, fraud, and unauthorised access, rather than the wider issues of coercion and exploitation that are inherent in cybersex trafficking. The study highlights that in order to successfully fight cybersex trafficking, it is imperative to combine current laws with more rigorous and precise legislative measures, while also providing more resources, training, and technological expertise to law enforcement. Comprehensive victim support services are essential for effectively dealing with this complex problem.

Keywords: *cybersex trafficking, legal framework, Sri Lanka*

Enhancing Industrial Design Protection: A Comparative Legal Analysis of Sri Lanka, India, and Japan

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Industrial Design is the professional method of creating products, devices, objects, and services utilized worldwide. In Sri Lanka, Part III of the Intellectual Property Act No 36 of 2003 safeguards industrial designs. However, there are some loopholes for industrial design protection in Sri Lanka. The main objective of this study was to find out the drawbacks of industrial design protection in Sri Lanka by comparing it with India and Japan. The study examined the definitions, registration processes, and infringement rights using the comparative analysis methodology. The study was based on a qualitative research method. The current laws and practices were examined using comparative and doctrinal methodologies. The results show that significant differences exist in industrial design protection between the three countries although all three countries emphasize the visual appeal and novelty of industrial designs. Sri Lanka's legal system offers partial recognition of industrial designs and lacks some provisions in the registration process. Furthermore, the Sri Lanka IP Act has no specific provision for infringement. On the other hand, India provides a robust framework with precise definitions, a clear registration process, and strong protection against design infringement. Japan has detailed legal protections, including a sophisticated registration process and comprehensive remedies for infringement rights. According to the analysis, it can be recommended that Sri Lanka should strengthen its enforcement mechanisms, raise public awareness, enhance infringement rights with clear definitions, and introduce a separate industrial design act. These improvements are essential for promoting innovation, creativity, and economic growth in the global market.

Keywords: *Industrial Designs, Intellectual Property, Infringement Rights*

A Study on the Eradication of Corporate Impunity on Environmental Degradation Through the Doctrine of ‘Ultra Vires’

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The domain of company law aims to produce an effective and a reliable corporate space for businesses. In the journey of a better corporate realm, possible negative impacts were omitted by the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007. The environmental degradation caused by corporate impunity has been hidden under the veil of ignorance in the context of Sri Lanka. The main aim of this study was to introduce and share a demised doctrine by illustrating its values to fill the gaps that have been created by the ignorance of emerging environmental concerns. The methodology of this study was based on black letter approach. The judicial decisions and legislations were used as primary sources and as secondary sources were the journal articles, books and theses. The criteria that were evaluated in the study were the existence of ultra vires doctrine in modern law and hidden values of the concept which is possible to eradicate the corporate impunity in environmental pollution. The findings of the study led to realize that there would be a promising future without any corporate misconduct in violating environmental rights by re-implementing the doctrine of ultra vires with certain amendments to the concept. The desperate need of protecting on the environment from corporate impunity is a current concern in the world and the amended doctrine of Ultra vires would be a recommendation to protect the environment.

Keywords: *ultra vires, environment degradation, company law*

Challenges and Risks in Protecting Children's Rights in the Digital Environment

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In the digital age, children are increasingly engaged with technology, which presents both opportunities and significant risks to their rights and wellbeing. This study analysed the challenges and dangers of protecting children's rights in the digital environment, with a particular focus on the effectiveness of legal frameworks such as Sri Lanka's Online Safety Act 2024. The study aimed to identify specific threats, including exposure to harmful content, privacy violations, cyberbullying, and sexual exploitation, while evaluating existing measures and proposing improvements. Using a mixed-methods approach, quantitative data were gathered through surveys of parents, educators, and children, while qualitative insights were obtained from interviews with key stakeholders. The analysis revealed a significant prevalence of online risks, alongside critical gaps in legal protection and challenges in enforcing existing laws. The findings highlight the need for stronger legal frameworks, targeted educational programs, and more effective enforcement mechanisms to safeguard children's rights online. Policy implications include recommendations for cross-sector collaboration and the prioritization of child-centered technology design. This study contributes to a deeper understanding of the complexities surrounding children's digital safety and advocates for a multifaceted approach to protect this vulnerable population in a rapidly evolving technological landscape.

Keywords: *children's rights, digital environment, Online Safety Act 2024, cyberbullying, legal frameworks, digital literacy, policy recommendations, technology*

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