

## EDITORIAL

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### **The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Law and Legal and Forensic Sciences: Transformation and Challenges**

It is a pleasure to present to the educational community a new issue of our journal *Cathedra*, a publication of the Metropolitan University of Education, Science and Technology (UMECIT), which for several years has maintained regularity in its editions, being included in indexes such as Latindex and recently in Panindex. In this issue, we address a topic of growing relevance: the incidence of artificial intelligence (AI) in law.

In an increasingly dynamic and sophisticated legal and technological environment, artificial intelligence has become a disruptive agent of change and progress. Law, criminalistics, forensic science and political science are no strangers to the dizzying changes that the internet of things, AI and technological progress have brought about. This new paradigm has opened a new vision for all professions, generating new roles for them.

The first impact that artificial intelligence has on law and these sciences is in the automation of legal tasks. Intelligent software is used to simplify the performance of repetitive tasks such as document review and legal research, allowing lawyers and other professionals to focus on more critical and complex aspects of their work.

In addition to task automation, artificial intelligence has demonstrated its potential in judicial decision-making. Machine learning algorithms are used to analyze patterns in past judicial decisions, which could help predict future outcomes. However, this raises serious ethical and legal questions.

One of the most intriguing and controversial areas of the impact of artificial intelligence on law relates to the protection of fundamental rights. As AI evolves, critical questions are being asked about how individual rights, such as privacy and freedom of expression, can be protected in this era.

Despite the obvious benefits that this technological innovation offers and that it can contribute

in the legal field, in criminalistics, etc., there are important challenges that we must face. From the university, our main challenge began with the updating and construction of our curricula with the necessary relevance to ensure that our graduates assume these roles with great harmony, in UMECIT we have accepted this challenge and from the academy we will continue to train the best professionals to serve the country and the region.

These challenges, in their essence, also reveal new opportunities that await our teachers, students, researchers and collaborators. They invite us to immerse ourselves with urgency and fervor in multiple perspectives, with the aim of discovering more accurate and enlightening answers. We continue to encourage our scholarly community to delve deeper into research, to express their findings and reflections through writing, and to contribute their articles to this journal. Our aspiration is that *Cathedra* will continue to be an indispensable resource for consultation and study.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the contributors to this issue. Their valuable contribution is essential to maintain the rigor and relevance of our content. I sincerely hope that this new issue of *Cathedra* will be of great value to all and that it will stimulate dialogue and reflection on the impacts and challenges of smart technology in law and other related disciplines.