British Institute of International and Comparative Law

AI Regulation and Business and Human Rights

10 June 2026 17.00 - 18.30

Venue: BIICL, Charles Clore House, 17 Russell Square, London WC1B 5JP

Event Details

This roundtable examines the intersection between AI regulation and business and human rights. We will discuss how emerging AI governance frameworks are reshaping corporate responsibility and human rights and environmental due diligence. We will focus on growing regulatory fragmentation and normative tensions across jurisdictions, including the interaction between the EU AI Act, the CSDDD, the Digital Services Act (DSA), sector-specific regulation, and broader international business and human rights standards.

We will also explore AI's dual role within business and human rights frameworks. AI systems create complex and often opaque risks relating to explainability, discrimination, employee monitoring, data governance, intellectual property, accountability, and access to remedy. Yet, AI technologies are also being deployed by companies as tools to support compliance, governance, and HREDD processes, including risk identification, monitoring, and supply-chain mapping.

The roundtable will address:

1. Regulatory overlap, divergence, and conflict-of-laws challenges across AI and business and human rights regimes;
2. The operationalisation of risk-based AI governance frameworks, including impact assessments, explainability, and accountability mechanisms;
3. Litigation, enforcement, contractual allocation of risk, and liability for AI-related harms; and
4. The use of AI within corporate governance and HREDD processes, including employment, supply chains, and compliance systems.

Chair

Dr Irene Pietropaoli, BIICL
Senior Research Fellow in Business & Human Rights and Director of the Business and Human Rights Forum

Speakers

Harry Borovick, Luminance
Harry is the General Counsel at Luminance, where he oversees the global legal function. In addition to managing Luminance's own legal and compliance requirements, he also works alongside the product and technical teams to advise on development and user experience. Harry trained in private practice at Mishcon de Reya, before working in a range of regulated technology businesses with a particular focus on the US and UK markets. Harry is the author of 'AI and The Law' and is a keen user and advocate of AI. Harry has spoken at major industry conferences, including The Economist General Counsel Summit and Legal Geek. Harry is an external lecturer on Legal Technology and AI at Queen Mary University of London and at King's College London.

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Jacob Turner, Fountain Court Chambers
Jacob is a barrister at Fountain Court Chambers. He has been described in Legal 500 as "the leading barrister in the AI space". He has acted in some of the world's most significant AI-related cases, including an appeal on AI inventorship in the UK Supreme Court, and is currently representing the UK music industry in a copyright claim against an AI Deepfake company. He is the author of Robot Rules: Regulating Artificial Intelligence, published in 2018, and is a joint author of the UK Jurisdiction Taskforce Legal Statement on AI Harms, due to be published later in 2026.

Jessica Clay, Kingsley Napley
Jessica is a partner in the regulatory team at Kingsley Napley. Jessica has a substantial practice advising law firms, including US, magic circle, global and boutique law firms, as well as partners and others working within firms and lawyers working in-house. She also advises start-ups and alternative legal services providers. Jessica advises on a range of SRA regulatory matters, including compliance and risk management (with a recent focus on AI and its safe and effective use within firms), authorisation and business structures, reporting obligations and legal ethics, with a focus on counter-inclusive behaviours and how these impact law firm culture. Prior to joining Kingsley Napley, Jessica worked in senior legal policy advisory roles within the General Counsel teams at the Legal Services Board (LSB) and then at the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA). Jessica joined Kingsley Napley in July 2019. Jessica is Deputy Editor of Cordery on Legal Services and is the Co-Vice Chair of the Regulation of Lawyers Committee for the International Bar Association.

Roch Glowacki, Lewis Silkin
Roch is a Partner in the Digital, Creative and Commerce team at Lewis Silkin in London. Roch's practice focuses on advising companies on a wide range of projects involving digital media and new technologies, with particular focus on artificial intelligence. He has previously completed secondments with prominent media and tech industry companies, including Bauer Media, ITV and Amazon Web Services. He has recently worked with the Centre for AI and Digital Policy in Washington, contributing to their report on Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values, and with the International Association of Privacy Professional's (IAPP) on their AI Governance Professional Handbook. In 2024, he was also involved in drafting the UK Society for Computers & Law (SCL)'s EU AI Act Contractual Clauses.

Rowena Rodrigues, Trilateral Research
Rowena is Head of Innovation & Research - Strategic Partnerships at Trilateral Research. Rowena develops and nurtures strategic global partnerships to promote responsible AI, drive innovation and research and support sustainable business growth. Rowena's prior experience includes co-leading the oversight and operational management of a multi-disciplinary research and innovation team. Rowena has expertise and a keen interest in the impact, governance, and policy dimensions of new and emerging technologies, with a strong focus on artificial intelligence. She has over 10 years of experience with EU funding programmes and has led or contributed to a wide range of research initiatives over the past 15 years. She has deep expertise in impact assessment (covering privacy, legal, ethical, socio-economic dimensions), comparative legal analysis, privacy and data protection (law, policy and practice). Rowena has a PhD in law and an LLM in Innovation, Technology & Law from the University of Edinburgh. Rowena is the co-author of Ethics of Artificial Intelligence: Case Studies and Options for Addressing Ethical Challenges and co-editor of Privacy and Data Protection Seals.

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Jack Eastwood, Cooley LLP

Jack is an Associate at Cooley LLP. Jack's practice spans the intersection of UK and European Union sustainability, environmental, social and governance (ESG) and product regulatory regimes. Drawing on strong cross-border regulatory insight and deep integration with Cooley's US practice, he advises global companies on emerging international compliance expectations and their implications for artificial intelligence, product design, value chain governance, risk management and corporate accountability. Jack advises UK and US public and private companies on sustainability reporting requirements, climate-related disclosures, supply chain and human rights due diligence, and product compliance across the product life cycle. He also supports clients on ESG-related crisis matters, including recalls, investigations and litigation-adjacent risk.

Guiding questions for roundtable discussion

1. **Corporate AI governance, legal risks and compliance systems**

- As AI systems become embedded in corporate decision-making, what internal governance structures are companies building, and are legal and compliance teams integrated, or still playing catch-up?
- Where do you see legal liability gaps when an AI-driven compliance system produces a flawed assessment, who bears responsibility, and does current corporate law adequately assign it?
- Does AI-powered compliance tools risk creating a false sense of rigour that substitutes documentation for substantive accountability?

2. **AI liability, regulation and dispute resolution**

- Existing liability frameworks like tort, contract, and product liability were not designed with opaque, adaptive AI systems in mind. Where do you see the most urgent doctrinal gaps when it comes to assigning accountability for AI?
- If someone affected by an AI-driven decision seeks a remedy, what practical barriers do they face - in terms of explainability, standing, evidential burden, and access - and does the current regulatory landscape do anything meaningful to lower those barriers?
- Should AI liability in the human rights context be channelled primarily through corporate law mechanisms, human rights due diligence legislation, or bespoke AI regulation - and are those channels currently capable of delivering effective remedy?

3. **AI governance in legal services and Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) compliance**

- The UK Government has outlined its approach to AI regulation and sectors like legal services are following suit around AI use in legal practice – what are the key elements of these approaches and how aligned are they?
- Where AI is used in legal research or contract review, what professional duties of competence and explanation apply, and are current SRA standards fit for purpose?
- How can law firms mitigate the risk of using AI?

4. **Workplace AI, employee monitoring and employment risk assessments**

- The use of AI for employee monitoring, performance management and workforce planning is expanding rapidly. What is this expansion about and is employment law frameworks keeping pace?

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- Many workplace AI tools are procured from third-party vendors rather than built in-house. How should companies approach contractual and due diligence obligations toward employees when the algorithmic system sits outside their direct control?
- How enforceable are rights like workers' rights to explanation, to contest automated decisions, and to collective representation in AI governance in practice with the rise of these new tools? What role should trade unions and works councils be playing in corporate AI governance?

5. AI governance and integration into human rights impact assessments (HRIAs)

- When an AI system flags or fails to flag a human rights risk in an impact assessment, what does meaningful human oversight look like in practice, and how should that be documented for legal due diligence purposes?
- As AI-assisted HRIAs become more common, is there a risk that the process becomes an audit exercise driven by what the algorithm can measure, rather than a genuine engagement with affected rightsholders and harder-to-quantify harms?
- How does current regulation address these issues and how could future regulation further improve this approach?

6. Interaction between the EU AI Act, Digital Services Act (DSA) and Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD)

- These three instruments were developed largely in parallel with different regulatory logics. Where in practice do you see the most significant overlaps or outright conflicts, and which creates the greatest compliance burden for companies operating across sectors?
- What has been you experience working with AI companies and talking to them about mandatory human rights due diligence (HREDD) regulation like the CSDDD?
- Given regulatory fragmentation across the EU, UK, US and emerging Global South frameworks, is there any realistic prospect of coherent international alignment in responsible governance in AI?