SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, NAGPUR
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Event Report: Lecture on "AI Risk Categorisation from an EU Law Perspective." By Prof. Giorgi Puralava, Addressing first year student

On July 25, 2024, the International Cell of Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur, organized an informative lecture by Prof. Giorgi Puralava, focusing on "AI Risk Categorisation from an EU Law Perspective."

Prof. Giorgi Puralava's lecture on Artificial Intelligence (AI) delved into its origins and evolving nature. AI, a term born from the 1954 Dartmouth seminar, envisions machines with human-like thinking capabilities. Over time, AI has significantly progressed, employing powerful systems across sectors. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), AI encompasses machine learning, knowledge-based methods, and applications like computer vision, natural language processing, and intelligent decision support systems. AI's journey from basic algorithms to sophisticated systems capable of mimicking human behavior was presented in an engaging manner, illustrating the rapid progress and potential of AI technologies.

Prof. Puralava outlined primary regulatory approaches for AI:

1. Hard Law Approach: The EU has adopted a comprehensive regulatory framework that is binding on all member states. This approach ensures uniformity and strict adherence to safety and ethical standards across the region.

2. Soft Law Approach: In contrast, some regions prefer non-binding guidelines and recommendations. While these are more flexible, they may lack the enforceability required to manage the complex risks associated with AI.

3. Risk-Based Approach: The EU's regulatory strategy includes a risk-based approach, treating AI as a product that must undergo rigorous risk assessment before market introduction. This proactive approach aims to identify and mitigate potential risks, ensuring that AI applications are safe for consumers

A significant portion of the lecture was dedicated to patient safety in AI-driven healthcare. Prof. Puralava emphasized that as AI becomes integral to medical diagnostics and treatment, ensuring its safe use is paramount. He highlighted the efforts of global healthcare organizations to establish norms and standards that safeguard patient health and well-being. The integration of AI in healthcare must prioritize accuracy, reliability, and ethical considerations to prevent adverse outcomes.

He also mentioned how the AI Act defines high-risk AI systems, requiring strict obligations like risk assessment, data quality, human oversight, and robust documentation. Providers must establish risk management, ensure data governance, and achieve accuracy and security.
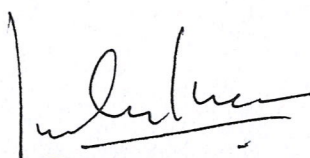
Prof. Puralava identified several potential legal challenges associated with AI regulation, such as balancing risk with fundamental rights, the absence of risk-benefit analysis, limited reliance on empirical evidence, abstract risk categories, regulation of General-Purpose AI (GPAI) models, an overly broad AI definition, and the double regulatory burdens due to horizontal approaches and overlapping enforcement tools.

The lecture by Prof. Giorgi Puralava provided first-year students with a thorough understanding of AI risk categorization from an EU law perspective. By covering AI fundamentals, patient safety, regulatory approaches, and potential legal challenges, Prof. Puralava offered valuable insights into the legal and ethical dimensions of AI. The event was well-received, equipping students with a solid foundation to navigate the complex landscape of AI regulation and its implications for various sectors, particularly healthcare. The lecture underscored the importance of developing robust legal frameworks to manage the risks associated with AI, ensuring its safe and ethical deployment.

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Prof. Giorgi Puralava's interaction with first year student

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