



SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, NAGPUR

Constituent of Symbiosis International (DEEMED UNIVERSITY), Pune

Established under Section 3 of the UGC Act 1956

Re-accredited by NAAC with A++ | Awarded Category – I by UGC

Event Report: Lecture on AI-Based Decision-Making and the EU AI Act

-By Dr. Henricus Verhagen and Prof. Claes Granmar

On 14-16 October 2024, the International Cell at Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur, organized a thought-provoking International Scholar in Residence Programme followed by a lecture on "**AI-Based Decision-Making and the EU AI Act**". Dr. Henricus Verhagen, Associate Professor at Stockholm University and a renowned expert in computer science and artificial intelligence, delivered the session. This event aimed to provide students and faculty with an in-depth understanding of the socio-technical implications of AI and its regulatory frameworks, particularly in the context of the **European Union AI Act**.

Dr. Verhagen traced the origins of AI back to the 1950s, providing an overview of its evolution as a system designed to process inputs and outputs. He highlighted the transformative role of AI in advancing human development, noting that the field's contributions have even been recognized with two Nobel Prizes. However, he emphasized the critical need for **ethical frameworks and regulations** to guide AI development and ensure its safe and responsible use.

Dr. Verhagen underscored that law is fundamentally human-centric, designed to uphold human dignity and create social order. He elaborated on how the development and deployment of AI systems must account for their societal impact, ensuring they align with ethical and legal principles. Dr. Verhagen explained the **non-neutrality of technology**, asserting that AI systems are shaped by the biases and decisions of their developers. He advocated for collaborative efforts to guide AI development responsibly, ensuring that technology serves humanity rather than undermining it. To illustrate the socio-technical implications of AI, Dr. Verhagen presented several case studies, sparking vibrant discussions among the audience.

AI in Criminal Justice: Students voiced concerns about potential biases in AI-powered criminal justice systems, arguing that algorithms trained on skewed data could perpetuate discrimination.

Ethics of Self-Driving Cars: Ethical dilemmas posed by self-driving cars were debated, including trade-offs between saving lives and avoiding accidents. Dr. Verhagen explained how societal values influence responses to such dilemmas, varying across cultures.

Liability of AI Systems: The discussion also delved into the legal responsibility of AI systems, exploring questions about accountability in cases involving autonomous systems, such as smart devices like Apple Watches. The audience debated whether liability should rest with human developers, users, or AI.

Dr. Verhagen provided an overview of the **EU AI Act**, a pioneering legislative framework aimed at regulating AI in a way that balances innovation with accountability. He emphasized its global significance, noting that such regulatory measures serve as models for other jurisdictions to ensure AI is used ethically and equitably.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks to Dr. Verhagen for his insightful presentation and ability to simplify complex concepts for the audience. The lecture gave attendees a deeper understanding of the **sociotechnical approach to AI** and the pressing need for ethical and legal safeguards in its development. The engaging discussions during the session highlighted the importance of collaborative efforts between technologists, policymakers, and legal professionals to ensure that AI systems are developed responsibly and deployed for the betterment of society. The lecture, organized by the International Cell of Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur, was a resounding success, providing students and faculty with a valuable opportunity to explore the intersection of AI, ethics, and law.





Event Report: Lecture on AI-Based Decision-Making and the EU AI Act

-By Dr. Henricus Verhagen and Prof. Claes Granmar



A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**Director
Symbiosis Law School,
Nagpur**