

The Impact of Artificial Intelligence Utilization on Advocacy Practices and Professional Ethics in the Legal Field

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ABSTRACT

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The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in legal practice has brought both transformative advancements and significant ethical challenges. This study examines the role of AI in enhancing advocacy practices, including legal research, document automation, and case prediction. Despite its potential for improving efficiency and accessibility, AI raises concerns regarding professional ethics, particularly around issues such as client confidentiality, accountability, and the independence of *advocates*. Using a normative approach and literature review, this research aims to analyze the implications of AI in the legal field, focusing on its impact on the *advocacy* profession and the ethical dilemmas it creates. The findings reveal that while AI can streamline administrative tasks and support data-driven decision-making, it also presents risks such as data security breaches and loss of human judgment in complex legal cases. The study highlights the necessity for stronger ethical guidelines and regulatory frameworks to safeguard client interests and preserve the integrity of the legal profession. This research emphasizes the importance of integrating AI into legal practice while maintaining a balance between technological advancement and ethical responsibility.

INTRODUCTION

Artificial Intelligence, or AI, is a technology that allows machines or computers to imitate the way humans think and act (Zein, 2021). With AI, devices can learn from data, recognize patterns, make decisions, and complete tasks that usually require human intelligence (Duan et al., 2019). The concept of AI was originally introduced in 1956 by John McCarthy (Alia Qonita, 2022). At that time, AI could only run rules that had been specially programmed. However, over time, AI has developed rapidly with *machine learning* technology, *neural networks*, and *natural language processing* that allow machines to learn and adapt independently without always having to be directed by humans (Mahendra, 2024). AI has been applied in various fields to help human work and increase efficiency (Masrichah, 2023). In the health sector, AI can analyze medical images such as X-rays and MRIs to detect diseases with high accuracy (Tajuddin, 2024). In the world of education, AI helps create a more personalized learning experience with adaptive learning platforms (Ulimaz, 2024). In the financial sector, AI predicts market trends and detects fraud with sophisticated systems. In the manufacturing industry, AI-equipped robots increase automation and productivity (Satria, 2025).

In the legal field, AI can be widely used to help lawyers quickly find and analyze legal precedents through *natural language processing*-based jurisprudence research tools, such as ROSS Intelligence (Setiawan, 2024). In its utilization, AI is used to help compile legal documents and analyze contracts automatically, saving time and reducing errors

(Taufiqurrohman, 2024). There are also applications such as Lex Machina that analyze court case data to predict litigation outcomes and help lawyers formulate better strategies (Fernando, 2024). Although AI makes legal practice more efficient, it also raises questions about ethics, especially regarding the independence and accountability of the use of AI in the legal field.

The use of artificial intelligence in legal practice helps lawyers work more efficiently by automating repetitive and administrative tasks that previously took a lot of time and effort (Rambe, 2024). For example, in legal research, AI can scan thousands of documents and jurisprudence in a short time, so lawyers can quickly find relevant references without having to search manually for hours. Likewise, in the preparation of legal documents, AI can create initial drafts of contracts or other documents based on existing templates, saving preparation time. AI can analyze previous case data to estimate risks and provide better insight into the possible outcome of a case (Oktavia, 2024).

One of the positive impacts of AI in the legal field is the increased public access to legal information, including for those who do not have a legal background or have difficulty accessing legal services due to costs (Masnun, 2020). With AI-based tools, people can more easily understand their rights and the legal procedures that must be followed (Cahya, Transformation of Legal Culture in the Digital Era (Implications of Using AI in the Development of Law in Indonesia), 2024). AI-based legal services such as chatbots or litigation outcome prediction platforms also offer more affordable legal consultations, opening up opportunities for more people to get legal assistance and supporting the democratization of access to justice.

In addition to the advantages, challenges and risks need to be considered. The use of AI can reduce the role of humans in legal decision-making, so that important emotional or moral nuances and contexts in complex cases can be overlooked. AI also risks making erroneous predictions if the data used is biased or unrepresentative. The use of AI raises concerns regarding the protection of client's data, given that AI relies on sensitive electronic data (Sudirman, 2024). Therefore, data protection by Article 3 of Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 27 of 2022 concerning the Protection of Personal Data, which is based on the principles of protection, legal certainty, public interest, benefit, prudence, balance, accountability, and confidentiality, is important (Angelia, 2024).

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in *advocacy* practice brings about major changes, not only in the way *advocates* work daily but also in their approach when providing legal advice and defending clients. Tasks that used to take a lot of time and effort, such as legal research, document preparation, and case analysis, can now be done more quickly and efficiently with the help of AI. This way, *advocates* can focus more on strategic matters and more in-depth legal consultations, while optimizing the workflow in law offices.

This change requires *advocates* to continue to develop their abilities, especially in mastering new technologies, so that the quality of legal services is maintained and does not decline. AI does help in formulating defense strategies and decision-making because it is able to analyze large amounts of data and predict outcomes based on existing patterns. However, AI cannot completely replace human judgment, which is highly dependent on context, moral values, and subjective considerations that are often crucial in legal cases.

Discussion of professional ethics in the use of AI in the legal field is very important to maintain the integrity and trust in the legal profession. The confidentiality and security of client data must always be strictly maintained because AI handles highly sensitive and personal information. *Advocates* must ensure that the data is protected from misuse or leakage. Accountability is a major concern. If AI makes a mistake or fails to capture important things in a case, who is responsible? This is crucial because the mistake can affect the quality of the defense and legal advice provided to the client. Therefore, *advocates* must maintain full control and be responsible for the final results provided, even with the help of AI technology.

Despite these advantages, the implementation of AI in legal practices raises pressing ethical concerns, particularly related to client confidentiality, accountability, and the independence of *advocates*. While previous research has examined the efficiency of AI in various sectors such as healthcare and finance (Tajuddin, 2024; Satria, 2025), few studies have focused on its impact within the legal profession. This research addresses this gap by exploring how AI is reshaping *advocacy* practices and examining the ethical implications of its use, which remains an under-researched area. The novelty of this study lies in its exploration of AI's influence on legal professionals, focusing on both its positive impacts and the ethical challenges it presents.

This study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of AI's role in legal practices, with particular attention to the potential ethical dilemmas faced by *advocates*. By analyzing how AI is used in legal research, document automation, and case prediction, this research will contribute to the ongoing discussion about balancing technological advancement with the protection of fundamental legal values. The findings are expected to offer valuable insights into the benefits and risks of AI adoption, ultimately informing regulatory frameworks and guiding ethical practices in the legal profession.

The objectives of this study are to assess how AI influences legal practice efficiency, identify the ethical concerns associated with AI, and propose strategies for mitigating these challenges through ethical guidelines and regulations. The potential benefits of this research include providing legal practitioners with a framework for integrating AI tools while safeguarding client confidentiality and ensuring accountability. Additionally, it will inform policymakers on the need for robust regulations that address the evolving landscape of technology in legal practice.

METHOD

This study used a normative approach with a literature review to analyze the impact of the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on *advocacy* practices and professional ethics in the legal field. The normative approach focused on the study of relevant laws and regulations, as well as the principles of professional ethics for *advocates*, as stated in Law Number 18 of 2003 concerning *Advocates* (hereinafter referred to as the *Advocate Law*), and other professional ethics standards. The literature review was conducted by examining various sources, articles, journals, and previous research that discussed the use of AI in legal practice, the ethical challenges that arose, and the application of regulations related to technology in the legal sector. Through this method, the research aimed to provide a deeper understanding of the potential

and risks of utilizing AI in the legal profession, as well as the importance of strengthening regulations and codes of ethics for the legal profession in dealing with technological changes.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Impact of Artificial Intelligence Utilization on Advocacy Practices

The development of artificial intelligence (AI) technology in the legal world has undergone significant changes in recent years (Cahya, 2024). AI was only used to help with simple administrative work, such as archiving documents and searching for legal data digitally. However, now, AI has developed into a much more sophisticated system. AI can perform complex legal analysis, recognize patterns in jurisprudential data, and even predict the possible outcome of a case (Rondonuwu, 2025). This change is driven by the acceleration of digital transformation that has led legal institutions, law firms, and advocates to begin integrating technology into the way they work and develop defense strategies. The goal is clear: to increase efficiency as well as the quality of the legal services provided. One example of the important use of AI is in jurisprudential research. Platforms such as ROSS Intelligence use natural language processing technology to search for legal precedents quickly and accurately, replacing time-consuming manual searches. With the help of AI, advocates can make relevant decisions to strengthen their legal arguments more efficiently. AI also helps in legal analysis by reviewing complex case facts and documents, so that advocates can more easily identify key legal issues and develop a more structured, data-driven defense strategy.

AI plays a role in automating the creation of contracts, lawsuits, or other documents. This not only speeds up the writing process but also reduces administrative errors and ensures that documents comply with best legal practice standards. Another major innovation is AI's ability to predict case outcomes. Applications such as Lex Machina and Premonition can analyze thousands of previous decisions to provide an overview of how a judge's decision or the outcome of a case is likely to be, based on patterns and characteristics of similar cases.

However, it is important to remember that the use of AI in advocacy practice must still be by legal rules and professional ethics. Based on Articles 14 and 15 of the Law, Advocates have full freedom to carry out their duties and provide opinions in court, while adhering to the applicable code of ethics and regulations. Therefore, AI must be seen as a tool that supports the professionalism of advocates, not as a substitute for the main role of advocates in making strategic and ethical decisions in defending clients.

The use of artificial intelligence in advocacy practices makes a significant contribution to increasing efficiency and expanding access to legal information (Hamizar, 2024). AI technology allows advocates to conduct legal searches and document processing automatically and quickly, which previously required a lot of time and effort (Raifangga, 2025). Furthermore, AI can open up opportunities for wider access to legal information for the community, including those who live in remote areas or who have limited access to conventional legal services. Through AI-based legal applications, the public can obtain basic legal information, understand their rights, and even create simple legal documents independently.

In terms of improving the quality of legal research, AI provides advantages with its ability to reach various relevant legal sources more widely and quickly. The AI system can

scan thousands of legal documents, court decisions, and laws and regulations in a short time, and then present the most relevant results according to the legal issues being studied. This allows advocates to formulate legal arguments with a stronger and data-based basis. In addition, AI can also help identify jurisprudence trends, which are very important in formulating legal strategies, especially in complex cases or those that do not yet have established legal certainty. Another very prominent benefit of using AI is saving time in carrying out technical and administrative tasks. AI can be used to draft contracts, manage evidence, schedule legal activities, and prepare case files automatically. Thus, the administrative burden that has taken up a lot of time can be transferred to the AI system, so that advocates have more space to focus on the substance of the case, formulate defense strategies, or conduct in-depth negotiations with clients. The positive impact is increased productivity and the quality of legal services provided.

The use of AI in advocacy practice does bring many conveniences, but it also raises serious ethical challenges, especially regarding the confidentiality of client data. Because many AI systems are cloud-based or managed by third parties, there is a risk that sensitive data such as case chronologies, evidence documents, and legal strategies can be leaked or misused. This certainly contradicts the obligation of advocates to maintain client confidentiality under any circumstances, as regulated in the professional code of ethics. Therefore, advocates need to review and ensure data security policies when using AI technology so that client information remains well protected.

An important question is who is responsible if AI produces incorrect or misleading results, for example, incorrect legal recommendations. Does that responsibility lie with the advocate who uses AI, the technology developer, or the platform provider? This becomes complicated because legal decisions are not only about computer logic but also involve interpretations that are highly dependent on context and subjective values. Therefore, it is very important to have clear regulations regarding the limits of AI responsibility in the legal field so as not to cause confusion and risk of loss.

Another challenge that is no less important is the potential for reduced independence of advocates. AI that provides recommendations or formulates defense strategies can make advocates too dependent on the technology. In fact, an advocate's thinking process is not only about data and logic, but also involves moral values, intuition, and professional experience that cannot be replaced by machines. If dependence on AI is too great, this can reduce the advocate's freedom of thought and critical thinking, which can ultimately damage the integrity and quality of the legal profession. Therefore, AI should be positioned as a supporting tool, not replacing the role of advocates in making legal decisions.

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the world of advocacy can test important principles such as honesty, responsibility, and independence. If advocates rely too much on AI to provide advice or create legal documents, there is a risk that important decisions will be made based on data or the workings of the AI system that are not entirely clear. This can make it difficult for advocates to maintain integrity and ensure that every legal step is taken with honest and ethical considerations. Article 19 paragraph (1) of the Law on Advocates requires

advocates to maintain client confidentiality, but this principle can be threatened if data is processed by AI without strong protection.

Therefore, advocate organizations in Indonesia must update the existing code of ethics. Currently, the code of ethics does not regulate the use of technology such as AI in detail. It is necessary to create new ethical guidelines that include how to protect client data in AI systems, ensure transparency in the use of technology, and determine the limits of responsibility between advocates and the AI systems used. This regulation must also strengthen the protection in Article 19 paragraph (2) of the Advocates Law, which guarantees the confidentiality of the relationship between advocates and clients, including documents and electronic communications protection from confiscation and wiretapping.

Challenges Posed by the Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Legal Profession.

The development of AI technology in the Indonesian legal sector is indeed very rapid, but unfortunately, it has not been followed by clear and complete regulations. Until now, there have been no specific regulations that specifically regulate the use of AI by advocates or legal institutions. This condition creates uncertainty, especially regarding the limitations and legal responsibilities when AI is used to handle cases, create documents, or provide legal advice. Unlike several other countries that have begun to have specific guidelines or regulations for the use of AI in legal practice, Indonesia still needs to catch up on this.

Without clear regulations, there are risks that can be detrimental to clients and the legal profession. For example, the privacy and confidentiality of client data can be leaked, especially if the data is processed through a cloud-based AI system or managed by a third party. In addition, AI used for legal analysis or predicting case outcomes is not always accurate. If there is an error in the analysis or prediction, this can have bad consequences for the client, while there are no clear rules about who is responsible for the error.

Therefore, it is necessary to immediately create a legal framework that regulates the use of AI in the legal field. The regulation must be able to protect the rights of clients while maintaining the integrity of the legal profession. The rules are not only about technical matters but must emphasize the principles of justice, prudence, and professional ethics. With clear regulations, advocates can use AI more safely, without worrying about violating ethical obligations or crossing their professional boundaries as independent law enforcers.

In drafting these regulations, an approach based on basic principles such as transparency, justice, accountability, and protection of human rights is essential. This approach will ensure that even though technology continues to develop, the fundamental values in the legal system are maintained. This is also in line with the spirit of Article 14 and Article 15 of the Advocates Law which emphasizes the freedom and responsibility of advocates in carrying out their profession, including in the context of using new technologies such as AI.

Strengthening the code of ethics for the advocate profession is very important amidst the rapid use of artificial intelligence (AI) technology in legal practice. A revision of the code of ethics must answer the challenges and risks that arise from the use of AI. In this update, advocates must be required to understand how AI technology works and be responsible for the results produced from its use in the legal process. In addition, it is necessary to emphasize the

limitations of using AI so that this technology does not replace the important role of advocates in conducting professional analysis and decision-making so that the values of integrity, prudence, and independence are maintained in carrying out the profession.

As part of the code of ethics update, it is essential to add rules that regulate the protection of client data when AI is used in document processing or legal research. These rules must include security standards such as data encryption, secure cloud system management, and protection from potential misuse by third parties. For these rules to be effective and legitimate, it is recommended to implement a regulatory model that involves collaboration between professional advocate organizations, legislative institutions, and technology developers. With this collaboration, comprehensive technical and ethical standards can be created, so that the use of AI in the legal world remains by the principles of justice, professional responsibility, and protection of client rights.

Professional institutions such as advocate organization have a meaningful role in ensuring that the use of artificial intelligence (AI) technology in the legal world continues to be run by the ethical values and professionalism of advocates. Advocate organization can take the initiative by drafting technical and ethical guidelines related to the use of AI in legal practice, including setting limits on use, data security rules, and responsibility for the results produced by the AI system. In addition, advocate organization also needs to actively conduct ongoing training for advocates so that they fully understand the potential, limitations, and risks that may arise from the use of AI. No less important, this institution must determine disciplinary sanctions in the event of ethical violations related to technology. In this way, the advocacy profession will not only follow technological trends but can truly use AI wisely and responsibly.

To build a safe and ethical digital legal ecosystem, collaboration between various parties is needed, including between professional institutions, government, and technology developers. This synergy aims to create flexible and adaptive regulations, build AI interoperability standards, and ensure that all parties understand their respective roles and responsibilities in utilizing legal technology. For example, the American Bar Association (ABA) in the United States has issued ethical guidelines for the use of AI for advocates that emphasize the importance of technological competence, data protection, and human oversight of all AI outputs. This example can be an inspiration for advocate organization and other legal professional institutions in Indonesia to formulate similar policies that are under national legal conditions and needs.

CONCLUSION

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in *advocacy* practice has significantly enhanced efficiency, improved the quality of legal research, and expanded public access to legal information. While AI offers valuable assistance to *advocates* in tasks such as jurisprudence searches, document preparation, and case outcome prediction, it also introduces challenges related to client data protection, legal responsibility, and the potential erosion of *advocates'* independence and critical thinking. To address these issues, it is essential to update regulations and professional codes of ethics to safeguard integrity and professionalism in the digital era. The rapid advancement of AI in Indonesia's legal sector calls for an adaptive,

principle-based regulatory framework and active involvement from professional institutions like advocate organization to develop guidelines, provide education, and supervise AI use. Future research should explore the effectiveness of these regulatory measures and ethical guidelines in practice, as well as examine how collaboration between legal professionals, government, and technology developers can further ensure a safe, transparent, and ethical digital legal ecosystem.

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