

Summary of the book

Lawyers, including advocates, legal advisers, judges and prosecutors are facing a major revolution both in the way they operate, such as running law firms, and in the substantive and legal aspects of legal assistance provided, to include court proceedings. The changes are already taking place. For some lawyers, they are obvious, noticeable and they willingly participate in them, for others, they are a problem, an attitude of denial emerges and an attempt to maintain the current *status quo*. Many do not see the changes coming.

Depending on the digital competence of the state, lawyers function at different levels of use of LegalTech tools. In states with low levels of digital competence, it is LegalTech 1.0, reinforced by the Covid19 pandemic based on simple tools to support the work of lawyers (expert systems, online services, instant messaging, online communication with courts). In countries with higher digital competencies, it is LegalTech 2.0 (such as smart contract, process tokenization, etc.) or LegalTech 3.0 based on process automation, including decision and judgment issuance, AI or machine learning support.

Algorithmic codes, including algorithmization of law, are increasingly used not only by lawyers but also by entrepreneurs in the area so far reserved exclusively for lawyers. Many activities that used to be performed by people are more and more often and even with better results performed by algorithms. The development of machine learning, AI and algorithmization of legal thinking is still ahead of us. The way of creating and publishing legal acts is changing, both in the form of texts based on specialized software and new proposals - immediate implementation of the law in algorithmic codes, in a form understandable primarily by computer programs.

LegalTech tools are increasingly used in the communication of lawyers but also in court proceedings. Particularly this tendency has strengthened in the pandemic period. The level of use of electronic communication in legal proceedings varies. From quite low - sending correspondence online, through video hearings, to specialized online courts fully automated, exclusively online, based on algorithms and even automatic issuance of judgments. This is no longer science fiction, but real and functioning courts. In Europe we are facing a very serious discussion not only about electronic communication, electronic identity, electronic identification,

electronic form, but also about the way the judiciary works, the level of automation of the adjudication process and the participation of the human factor in the whole process, including lawyers.

LegalTech tools force lawyers to use an appropriate methodology for their implementation and supervision of algorithms. Disciplinary proceedings are already being conducted against lawyers for defective use of Legaltech tools in the office, defective data storage, defective electronic communication, etc. Data security, regardless of how it is stored (in the cloud or stationary in the organization), cyber security of devices used by lawyers, but also algorithms is becoming crucial.

In the near future we are facing further development of algorithms, proliferation of blockchain and smart contract, spread of machine learning and AI, automation of processes, and activities of lawyers both in law firms and in the broader justice system. Maybe a new type of courts (exclusively online and based on algorithms), and even to some extent the legal subjectivity of AI.

These are the problems we have to face not only in the future but already today. The revolution in the way the law and lawyers operate has already begun. It is time to recognize this and take appropriate action, both in terms of education, regulation, ethics, corporate rules, and the acquisition of new competencies by lawyers. The time of algorithms is coming. For this reason, the considerations presented in this book are intended to be useful in lawyers' continuing adventures with LegalTech tools. The discussion and suggestions contained herein are intended to further scholarly discourse on the use of technological tools in the operation of the justice system. We invite you to join the discussion.

Dariusz Szostek, Mariusz Załucki