

DO ANDROIDS DREAM OF LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING?

The use of AI and new technologies in legal drafting
Assembleia da República, Portugal

WORKING GROUP FOR A DIGITAL PARLIAMENT

- In 2018, this working group presented its final report and in it there is not a single reference to artificial intelligence or natural language processing

EUROPEAN CENTER FOR PARLIAMETARY RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION

- There are already three questionnaires concerning artificial intelligence, but the questions are about the existence of committees dealing with this question or the approval of regulation on this matter.

PARLIAMENTS BECAME MORE OPEN, ACCESSIBLE AND ENGAGING

- It's easier for citizens to participate in political life and know what MPs said, wrote and how they voted. On the other hand, digital technologies help parliaments to get more information and to organize it better, which may lead to the approval of better state budgets, better laws and foster a more responsive government.

WHAT'S NEW ABOUT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE?

- It's a question about what benefits parliaments and MPs can get from it and the risks that are involved.

ANDROIDS ARE COMING FOR THE WORST PARTS OF OUR JOB

- AI can provide the relevant legislation in force, analyze court decisions, economic and social statistics, international regulation and provide MPs with all the relevant data. AI may provide decision makers with legal impact assessment, ex ante or ex post, within a reasonable delay and with a great level of accuracy.

DO THEY DREAM OF LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING?

- I don't think that androids will replace humans as legal drafters for the time being or in the foreseeable future. For now, they just may be programmed to dream about it. Whether they will be able to learn from their dreams – or from our dreams, for that matter - remains to be seen.

THANK YOU

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