

Erasmus
School of
Law

Erasmus



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A few loose quotes to rock the boat

- ▶ Richard Susskind, *Tomorrows Lawyers*, 2013: "... on the face of it, there are no knockdown objections, no overriding concerns of law or principle, that should call a halt to the ongoing and advanced computerization of courts"
- ▶ Yuval Noah Harari, *Homo Deus*, 2016: "What will be the fate of all these lawyers?"
- ▶ Eve Dullabh, *What skills are required of a contemporary legal professional that may not have been as necessary ten years ago?*, 2018, : "The world is digital and lawyers should know their way around Clients do."
- ▶ Dietvorst, Simmons & Massey, 2014: "The aversion to algorithms is costly"
- ▶ Vishnu Prasad, 2018: "Embrace it"



Impact on lawyers' work; LegalTech

- So far limited evidence and a lot of noise on impact.
- Automation of document related tasks: NLA.
- Automation of search related tasks: Case Law Databases
- Automation of prediction related tasks: AI/ML.
- Automation of decision related tasks: already above the admin level.
- Blockchain??



Impact on law

- ▶ Rule based systems put pressure on diversity
- ▶ RegTech: regulation should enable automation
- ▶ SupTech: supervision of regulated (market) activity via data-analysis (real time and asynchronous) brings different reporting duties.
- ▶ Citizens' participation in democracy. Elections?
- ▶ Internet knows no jurisdictional borders.



Assignment for Legal Education 1

- Close the gap (in NL: printed statutes vs. wetten.nl)
 - A certain general level of tech savviness
 - Familiarity with opportunities and threats for access to justice/rule of law
 - Insight into values → knowledge evaluation
 - Trumping with the human factor → non-automatable tasks/skills
 - Partner for data scientists
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Non automatable skills: Internationalization

- ▶ NLA → one language
 - ▶ Moderating/mediating between legal systems
 - ▶ Cross cultural communication and negotiation
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Assignment for Legal Education 2

- Awareness of language and translation issues
 - Comparative study
 - Cultural awareness
 - Training of cross border communication/negotiation skills
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What to do now?

Delivering the services the future clients are willing to pay for requires retraining of senior partners

and law professors.

Thank you
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