

Abstract

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Legal Ethics in the Digital Age of Law

Every day, startups emerge developing new digital technologies either directed at or applicable to the legal industry. Technologies such as cyber security, artificial intelligence and blockchain offer great potential to the law in terms of efficiency, security and access to legal resources. The application of these technologies also creates a host of ethical questions not heretofore contemplated by the existing ethical rules and legal regulators.

My presentation will address key ethical questions raised by these developments, such as confidentiality, unauthorized practice of law and the requirements that lawyers using these technologies must possess a level of technical competence. I will also explore what legal regulators are doing to respond and whether regulation or fear of regulation impacts the adoption of the technologies.