

Dear friends & supporters,

As we kick off 2026, we thank you for your support of the [Oxford Institute of Technology and Justice](#).

We are deeply grateful to those who share our belief that technology can and should strengthen justice systems around the world.

At the time of writing, the Institute's Co-founders, Amal and Philippa, are in Davos at the World Economic Forum.

TIME magazine's Davos issue features their op-ed on the urgent need to harness AI for justice.

Read it [here](#)!



Highlights from the Launch of the Institute

On 6 October 2025, the Blavatnik School of Government hosted the launch of the Institute with an in-person audience of 350 judges, lawyers, technologists, journalists, academics, students and leaders of frontline organisations.

A 6-minute highlights video can be viewed [here](#).

The full (85-minute) video of the launch can be viewed [here](#).

You may also be interested to read some of the [testimonials from the Launch](#).

“The potential for empowerment is unlimited. That’s what makes the creation of this institute so inspiring and so exciting. It’s evidence-based. It applies intellectual rigor. It seeks to harness new technologies in a creative way. And it’s all in the service of the most vulnerable.”

— Lord Richard Hermer KC,
Attorney General for England and Wales

Updates

[Access to Justice](#) | [Accountability](#) | [Advancement](#)

Access to Justice Through AI

Through partnerships with Microsoft's AI for Good Lab, the Committee to Protect Journalists, and local partners like the Women Lawyers Association of Malawi, we are developing digital tools that provide legal support to those who need them most and help judges and pro bono lawyers be more efficient yet ethically responsible in their work.

Pilot Project #1: Women's Legal Assistant

1 in 3 women in Malawi face physical or sexual violence at some point in their life. 4 in 10 are coerced into child marriages. The country's laws protect girls on paper, but first responders are under-resourced when it comes to helping victims of violence assert those rights.



We are developing an AI-powered WhatsApp chatbot that helps victims and first responders understand their rights and access legal representation from vetted and qualified lawyers who will work pro bono (for free) – all through conversations in their local language on any device.



Pilot Project #2: Pro Bono Assistant

Malawi is a legal desert – fewer than 800 lawyers serve a population of 22 million. We are piloting an AI-powered tool to automate the process of securing protection orders, one of the most effective remedies for abused women and children. Survivors can recount what happened in their own words and our tool will automatically generate draft affidavits in a legally compliant format. This dramatically reduces the time that a lawyer takes to complete an application, allowing them to scale their impact and reach.

Pilot Project #3: Journalists' Legal Assistant

The Institute has partnered with the Committee to Protect Journalists, one of the world's leading press advocacy and support organizations, on an AI-driven chatbot that will help detained or threatened journalists understand their rights and access legal representation from vetted qualified pro bono lawyers in real time.

Updates

[Access to Justice](#) | [Accountability](#) | [Advancement](#)

Pilot Project #4: Fair Trial Adviser

With the support of Microsoft's AI for Good Lab and Office of Responsible AI, we are developing the Fair Trial Adviser, an AI-powered tool that will provide authoritative, practical guidance on questions related to one of the most fundamental human rights: the right to a fair trial.

With thanks to Oxford University Press, the leading textbooks *The Right to a Fair Trial in International Law* (2021, Amal Clooney and Philippa Webb) and *Freedom of Speech in International Law* (2024, Amal Clooney and Lord Neuberger, eds), are at the centre of the dataset for this tool. Designed for judges, counsel, and parties, the Adviser will combine a user-friendly interface with ethical safeguards.



Accountability in Unlawful Cyber Operations

Policy Brief: Legal Accountability for Malicious Cyber Operations

Harriet Moynihan, Philippa Webb and Amal Clooney

Digital infrastructure plays a central role in elections, healthcare, education and public safety worldwide. States, corporations and individuals remain vulnerable to cyber attacks on civilian infrastructure, cross-border hacking campaigns, cybercrime and cyber-enabled international crimes. In this policy brief, the authors argue that the international community faces a critical moment as cyber activity intensifies in scale, seriousness and sophistication. They examine legal pathways for addressing these threats, including legal mechanisms to resolve inter-state cyber disputes and options for prosecuting perpetrators in domestic and international courts. The same authors published an [op-ed](#) exploring ways in which courts might provide a route for accountability for States that are the victims of cyber operations, and highlight developments that will make this more viable in the future. The Institute has also submitted comments on the settlement of disputes to the Tallinn Manual 3.0 on the International Law Applicable to Cyber Operations.

The Institute also seeks to develop best practices in obtaining, handling and deploying digital evidence in accountability processes. Our research in this area currently focuses on the handling of digital evidence in criminal trials. The Institute will be convening research and debate on these issues in the coming months, as well as publishing policy recommendations on handling deepfake evidence and contributing a chapter on the use of digital evidence in international trials for the *Research Handbook on International Criminal Evidence*.

Updates

[Access to Justice](#) | [Accountability](#) | [Advancement](#)

Advancement of Justice in AI-Assisted Proceedings

How can the right to a fair trial be preserved as technology reshapes the courtroom? The Institute builds on the leading scholarship of Professors Webb and Clooney, including *The Right to a Fair Trial in International Law* (OUP, 2021), to examine how justice can be advanced and fundamental rights safeguarded in AI-assisted court proceedings. The Advancement pillar analyses how emerging technologies are reshaping justice systems worldwide and develops policy recommendations to ensure the effective protection of human rights. Through research and cross-sector collaboration, the Institute spotlights innovation, assesses risks and critically examines the transformative impact of technology on law, with a particular focus on fair trial rights and due process.

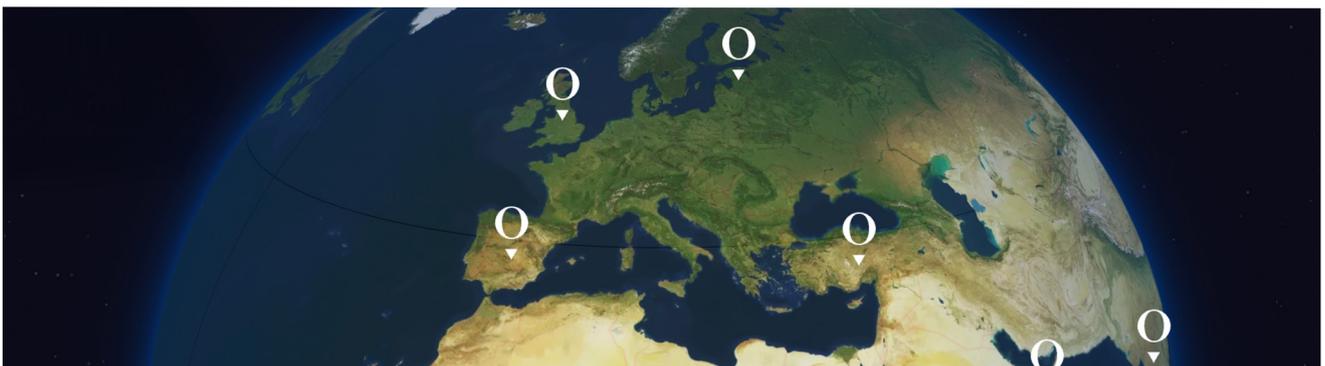
[AI Justice Atlas](#)

Lodovica Raparelli (Head of Research and Projects) and Daisy Peterson (Research Associate); Kat Lewis (Co-Lead) and Nadine Reiner (Co-Lead)

Our launch corresponded with the release of the [AI Justice Atlas](#), the first global repository tracking AI's role in criminal trials. The Atlas is an interactive resource for understanding the current use and regulation of AI in criminal proceedings, based on research from top legal professionals and judges in each jurisdiction.

The Atlas currently covers 15 jurisdictions where algorithms are already influencing bail decisions, sentencing, evidence analysis, and other elements of criminal proceedings. Our work is in partnership with leading global law firms including Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, Freshfields, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, Covington & Burling and Hogan Lovells.

The Atlas will continue to expand throughout 2026, covering dozens more jurisdictions and serving as the go-to global reference for AI in justice.



Updates

[Access to Justice](#) | [Accountability](#) | [Advancement](#)

Open Online Course for Judges

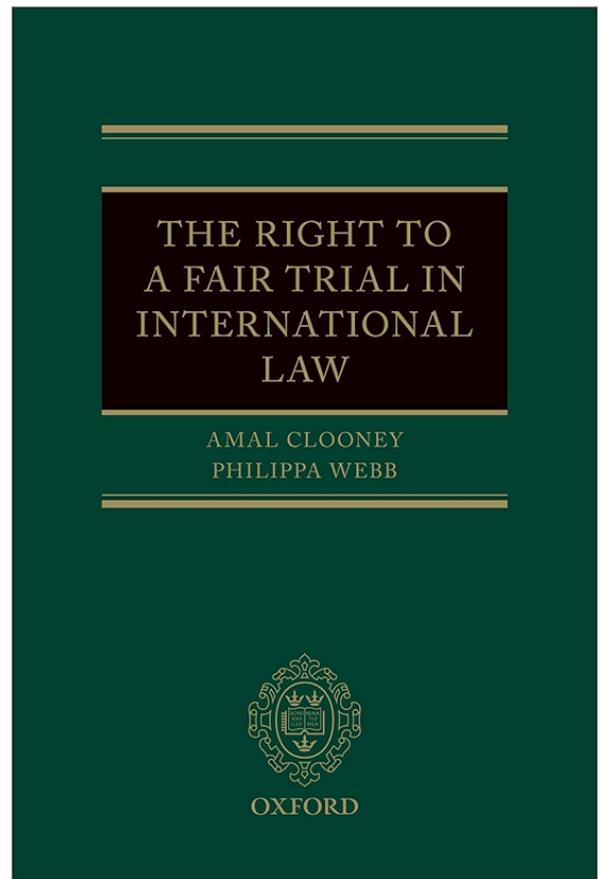
Later this year, UNESCO will launch its Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on AI and the Judiciary. In partnership with UNESCO, the Saïd Business School, and the Oxford Faculty of Law, the Institute will provide training to tens of thousands of judges in over 160 countries on AI and access to justice, fair trial rights, and women's rights.

We are also working with UNESCO to develop content on fair trial rights for UNESCO's [Guidelines for the Use of AI Systems in Courts and Tribunals](#).

Fair Trial Adviser

With the support of Microsoft's AI for Good Lab and Office of Responsible AI, we are developing the Fair Trial Adviser, an AI-powered tool that will provide authoritative, practical guidance on questions related to one of the most fundamental human rights: the right to a fair trial. This global right has been interpreted by 25 international human rights bodies, adjudicated in over 28,000 decisions and analysed in thousands of pages of commentary. With thanks to Oxford University Press, the leading textbooks *The Right to a Fair Trial in International Law* (2021, Amal Clooney and Philippa Webb) and *Freedom of Speech in International Law* (2024, Amal Clooney and Lord Neuberger, eds), are at the centre of the dataset for this tool, which uses a retrieval-augmented generation architecture to mitigate hallucinations and ensure that each source is traceable and reliable.

Designed for judges, counsel, and parties, the Adviser will combine a user-friendly interface with ethical safeguards.



Global Human Rights Repository

The Institute is collaborating with HURIDOCS to develop a comprehensive AI-powered database that will aggregate publicly available human rights information from international human rights courts and bodies. Currently, human rights jurisprudence is scattered across numerous databases, some behind paywalls. This creates a barrier to accessibility for lawyers, judges, and students. This project aims to use the power of AI to equip these individuals with the data and analysis they need to advance human rights and pursue justice more effectively.

Updates

[Access to Justice](#) | [Accountability](#) | [Advancement](#)

Perspectives

We launched our new platform, *Perspectives*, which is dedicated to sharing the experiences, insights, and viewpoints of those working at the intersection of AI, technology, and justice.

For publications by Institute members, see our website's [publication page](#).

Perspectives: Rudimentary AI in Judicial Decision Making

By Alejandro Moya Riveros

Alejandro Moya Riveros, who draws on his work as an auxiliary judge in Colombia, reflects on the practical realities of judicial decision-making and what the growing role of AI could mean for courts in practice.

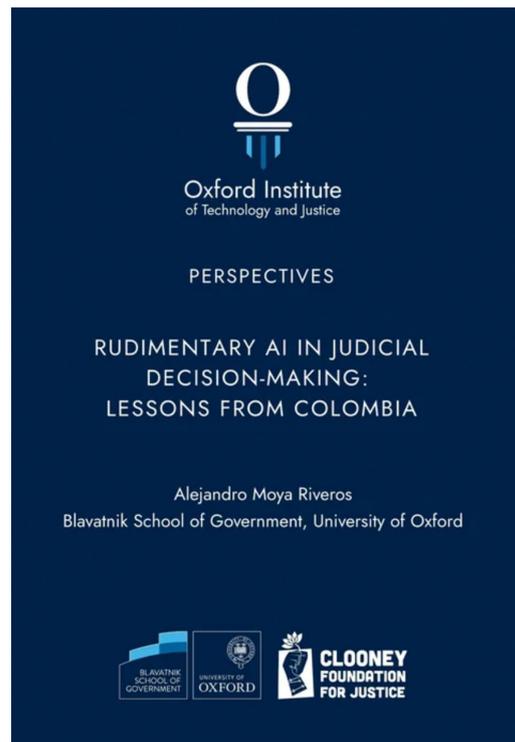
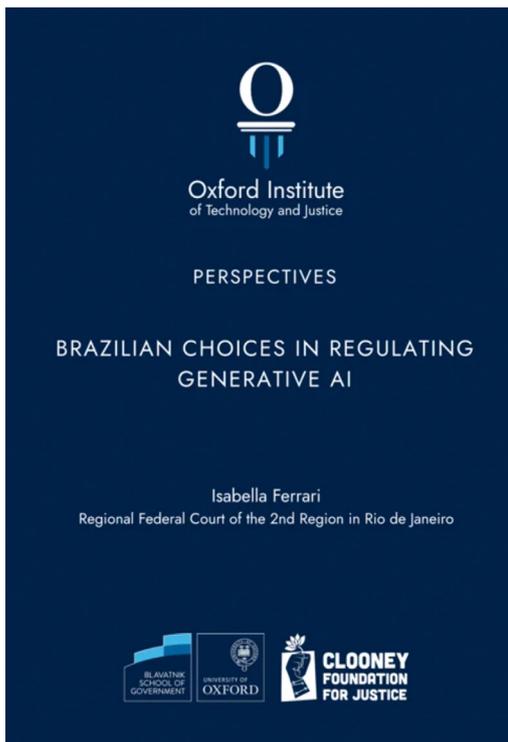
Read the full *Perspective* [here](#).

Perspectives: Brazilian Choices in Regulating Generative AI

By Isabella Ferrari

Isabella Ferrari examines how Brazil's judiciary is responding to an unprecedented litigation crisis — marked by more than 80 million pending cases — through the regulated adoption of AI.

Read the full *Perspective* [here](#).



What's Next

At the Oxford Institute of Technology and Justice

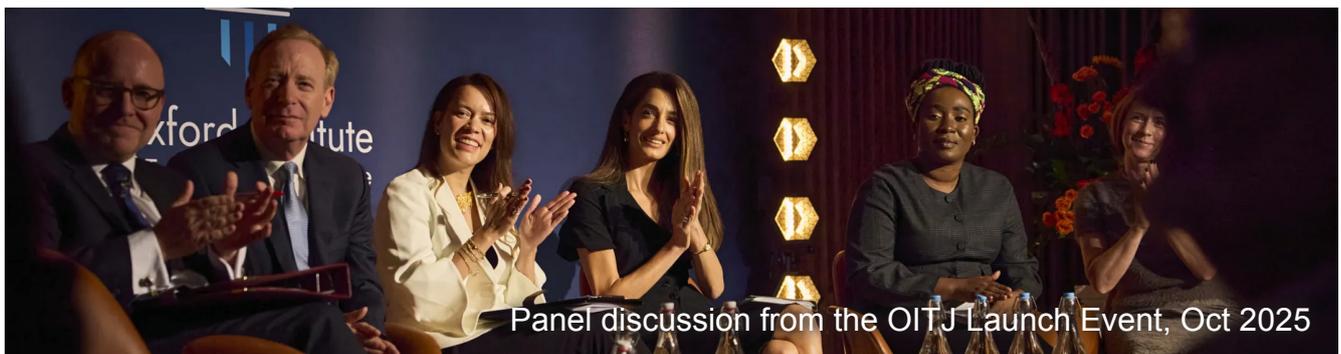
Upcoming Events

Fair Trial Adviser Hackathon

On the 26th and 27th of January, we will be holding a Hackathon to support the initial design and development of the **Fair Trial Adviser**.

We will bring together a group of legal professionals, technologists, human rights advocates, and students to create conceptual prototypes of the tool's core components. Participants will test and improve the prototype by evaluating the UX design and the tool's ethical transparency framework, and by testing the prototype's legal knowledge curation & integration model.

This approach will ensure that the Fair Trial Adviser is ethically compliant, technically robust and grounded in the practical realities of justice systems worldwide.



Accountability for Malicious Cyber Operations: Webinar in Asia

On 29 January, the Institute will co-host, with the NUS Centre for International Law in Singapore, a webinar on legal accountability for malicious cyber operations (8.30 - 9.30 am GMT). Danielle Yeow, Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Center for International Law, will moderate a conversation with Professor Philippa Webb and Harriet Moynihan on legal accountability for malicious cyber operations, including inter-State disputes and prosecutions in domestic courts. This webinar also explores whether international courts are ready to adjudicate inter-State cyber disputes, the role of the new UN Cybercrime Convention in relation to the prosecution of cybercrime and the ICC's new Policy on Cyber Enabled Crimes under the Rome Statute.

Oxford Process Conference on the Application of International Law to Emerging Technologies

On 5 February, the Oxford Process on International Law Protections in Cyberspace and the Oxford Institute of Technology and Justice will co-convene a workshop on the application of international law to emerging technologies, including the regulation of cyberspace, information security and AI.

What's Next

At the Oxford Institute of Technology and Justice

The Role of Attribution in Accountability for Malicious Cyber Operations: BSG Panel Event

On 11 February, in collaboration with the Oxford Programme on Cyber and Technology Policy, the Institute will host a panel event that explores accountability for malicious cyber operations, particularly the issue of attribution of cyber activity to individual perpetrators or state actors.

This panel event, introduced by Professor Philippa Webb and chaired by Harriet Moynihan, will feature expert discussion by Professor Ciaran Martin, Avril Haines (former US Director of National Security), Jen Easterly (former Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency) and Shehzad Charania MBE (Director of Legal Affairs and International Relations, GCHQ).

Drawing on their experience in government and beyond, the panel will offer practical insights into how accountability is pursued in real-world settings, including the critical issue of attribution. This will be a closed-door event.

India AI Impact Summit 2026

On 17 February, the Institute will be presenting at the India AI Impact Summit, the first ever global AI summit in the Global South. Our session will showcase the Fair Trial Adviser, an AI-powered expert system designed to support judges and lawyers in navigating the complexity of fair trial rights as AI enters courtrooms around the world. The session will share key findings from our hackathon, demonstrate an early prototype, and introduce emerging ethical and practical guidelines for responsible AI in justice systems.



MOOC April 2026

In April 2026, together with Saïd Business School, UNESCO, and the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford, we will launch a new global online course (MOOC) for the judiciary on Artificial Intelligence and the courts. Designed for judges worldwide, the course will provide practical guidance on how AI intersects with judicial decision-making, independence, and access to justice. It will support judges in applying human rights law, procedural safeguards, and judicial ethics when AI systems are used in court processes or arise in litigation, in line with UNESCO's international standards. The modular structure will allow participants to tailor their learning to their jurisdiction and professional needs, combining conceptual insight with practical, case-focused reflection.

What's Next

At the Oxford Institute of Technology and Justice

RightsCon 2026

In May 2026, the Institute will be presenting at RightsCon, the world's leading summit on AI in a Digital Age. Across a number of panels, the Institute will explore how AI-powered legal tools can ethically improve access to justice for vulnerable communities, drawing on co-creation experiences in Southern Africa to examine best practices, risks and opportunities. They will also convene judges, practitioners, technologists and human rights experts to examine how AI can be designed and taught to strengthen fair trial rights. Harriet Moynihan will also be speaking on a panel on the investigation and prosecution of cyberenabled international crimes.

Getting Involved

You can keep in touch at techandjustice@bsg.ox.ac.uk.

To hear more about our events and outputs, please check our [website](#) and follow our [LinkedIn page](#) for the latest up-to-date news.

