AITLAP
ASSOCIATION OF IT LAW PROFESSIONALS

Seventh Edition

AITLAP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.



Driving Information Technology and Legal Education

It is with great pleasure and a deep sense of responsibility that I welcome you to the Fifth Edition of the AITLAP Digital IT Law Newsletter/Journal.

This monthly publication was created to foster informed dialogue, critical reflection, and courageous thought leadership at the intersection of law, technology, and digital policy. With this second edition, we move beyond introduction and into intention.

We are living through a defining moment. Artificial intelligence, data governance, cybersecurity, digital identity systems, and platform regulation are no longer abstract policy conversations; they are actively reshaping legal education, justice delivery, professional ethics, and institutional governance. The pace of technological transformation demands more than passive observation; it demands principled leadership.

Building on the momentum of our inaugural issue, this edition deepens our commitment to sustained engagement. The reflections presented here speak to a shared urgency: ensuring that our legal frameworks, institutions, and professional practices evolve in step with rapid technological advancement, not reactively, but strategically.

This Journal is therefore a deliberate bridge: between scholarship and practice, policy and implementation, local realities and global trends. Most importantly, it is anchored in African perspectives within the broader digital discourse.

AITLAP is not simply a publication. It is a platform for intellectual courage. A space for practitioners, scholars, policymakers, technologists, and students to interrogate assumptions, share insights, and shape the future of digital law together.

I invite you to read with curiosity. Engage critically. Contribute boldly. The strength of this Journal lies not only in its pages but in its community.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for helping shape what comes next.

Creator of AITLAP's Monthly Newsletter

Meet **Ms. Lorraine Eyetsa Ocloo,** the Creator and Chief Editor of AITLAP's Monthly Newsletter, launched in January 2026 to share knowledge, inspiration, and opportunity across the intersecting worlds of technology and law. Ms. Ocloo is a leading Ghanaian design intelligence professional and digital transformation specialist with over 18 years of experience spanning strategic leadership and institutional reform, the creative industries, and the legal and justice sectors. Her career sits at the intersection of systems thinking, governance, and innovation, where she has consistently worked to reimagine how institutions evolve in response to technology.



Her work in digital transformation is driven by a strong commitment to bridging traditional African knowledge systems with modern technology, particularly in the context of Artificial Intelligence (AI). She actively advocates for the inclusion of African data, cultural logic, and problem-solving approaches in digital systems to ensure technologies are context-aware, inclusive, and globally relevant. Currently, she serves as Head of IT, Digital Transformation, and Innovation at the Ghana School of Law, where she is leading technology-enabled reforms across legal education and justice delivery. Through AITLAP's Newsletter, she brings a clear, Africa-centered, and future-focused editorial vision, creating a space for critical thought, practical insight, and cross-sector collaboration.

Lorraine Eyetsa Ocloo
Creator, AITLAP Digital IT Law Newsletter
Head of IT, Digital Transformation & Innovation
Ghana School of Law

Assistant Editor & Admin, AITLAP Monthly Newsletter



Meet **Mr. Frank Ablorh Sowah**, an experienced Software Developer and IT Professional with over nine years of hands-on experience delivering robust, user-centered digital solutions. He holds an HND and a BSc in Computer Science and has worked across academia, public institutions, NGOs, and private sector organizations.

Frank specializes in full-cycle application development, cloud and DevOps solutions, and enterprise web platforms, with strong expertise in Python, JavaScript, PHP, Laravel, React, and AWS. He has led and contributed to major systems for the University of Ghana, Ghana School of Law, and the Africa Skills Hub, Ocean Governance Project (OGP) Ghana Bar Association, combining technical excellence with a passion for innovation, training, and digital transformation.

Editorial Editorial Member, Associate, AITLAP Monthly Newsletter



Meet **Mrs. Judith Ama Afenyi-Donkor,** a results-driven lawyer with a strong commitment to addressing social injustices affecting juveniles. She holds a BA in Information Studies (Major) and Sociology (Minor) from the University of Ghana, an LLB from Wisconsin International University College, where she was named Best Student in Constitutional Law and served on the Judicial Council, and an LLM in Information Technology Law from the University of Ghana, specializing in Data Protection, Cybersecurity Law, and Digital Rights. She currently serves as an Associate at Ghartey & Ghartey, with professional interests in IT Law, Constitutional Law, and Human Rights, and is recognized for her strong analytical and research capabilities, reflected in her published legal writings.

Editorial Member, AITLAP Monthly Newsletter



Meet **Ruben Mawuji**, the Co-Founder of the Association of IT Law Professionals (AITLAP) and an Editorial Member of the AITLAP Newsletter. He is also the Organizer of the TechLaw Conference, a leading platform advancing conversations at the intersection of technology and law in Ghana.

Passionate about data protection, digital rights, and IT law advocacy, Ruben is committed to building legal capacity for the digital age and shaping the future of technology law practice in Africa.

Editorial Member, AITLAP Monthly Newsletter



Meet **Princess Batanye**, a strategic operator, legal professional, and tech ecosystem advocate serving as COO and CLO at GraySpace Digital. Driven by a passion for youth empowerment, innovation, and digital policy, her work spans operational strategy, corporate governance, and leadership across youth platforms and industry associations.

She works at the intersection of law, technology, and community building to drive sustainable digital impact.

Editorial Member, AITLAP Monthly Newsletter



Meet **Kelvin Dokodi**, a User Experience Designer and Graphic Designer based in Accra, Ghana, who designs human-centered digital products for social good and good user experiences. He holds a B.Sc. in Computer Science and has worked with clients and teams across more than three(3) continents.

His design work spans legal education, healthcare and health payments, fintech, human resources and career development, cultural and market analytics, corporate and legal compliance services, and AI-powered products.



AITLAP is a voluntary, non-profit, non-political professional body registered under the laws of the Republic of Ghana, with perpetual succession and a common seal. Headquartered in Accra, AITLAP brings together IT Law students, lawyers, IT professionals, policymakers, and industry leaders committed to shaping Ghana's digital future through research, advocacy, and collaborative initiatives.

Core Objectives

- Bridge Law & Technology – Be the go-to body for organizations and government on IT policy.
- Advocate for IT Lawyers & Professionals – Champion their role in Ghana's digital transformation.
- Networking & Knowledge Sharing – Host workshops, webinars, and knowledge sessions.
- Consultation & Business Acquisition – Offer expert policy and legal advice.
- Policy Advocacy – Push for fair, inclusive, and innovative digital regulation.
- Capacity Building – Fund member training and international conference sponsorships.
- Flagship Annual IT Policy Conference – Ghana's biggest IT law event.
- Alumni Engagement – Homecoming for IT Law alumni to connect and collaborate.
- Monthly or quarterly meetup (lectureship).
- IT Law Blog or newsletter per month.

Why This Association?

Ghana's digital economy is expanding fast, and with it comes new challenges in law, technology, and policy.

To meet this demand, we are creating a state-of-the-art platform where lawyers, IT professionals, policymakers, and alumni collaborate to shape Ghana's digital future.



Our Vision

To be Ghana's leading hub for IT law, policy, and technology innovation, building trust, fairness, and accountability in the digital economy.

Our Mission

To bring together experts from legal and IT fields to shape policy, foster knowledge sharing, and champion best practices for a secure, inclusive, and sustainable digital economy.

Fun & Community Activities

- Hackathons & Policy Pitch Competitions.
- Cybercrime Moot Courts & Trial Simulations.
- Tech & Law Movie Nights.
- Networking Mixers, Homecomings & Gala Nights.
- Annual Awards (Tech-Law Innovator of the Year).
- International Exchange & Travel Tours.
- Sports & Bonding Events (Lawyers vs. IT Professionals).

Share topics among members to teach or facilitate capacity building.

Expected Impact

- Recognition as Ghana's leading IT law and policy hub.
- Strong collaboration between lawyers, IT experts, and policymakers.
- Greater global opportunities for members.
- A vibrant alumni-driven community with professional and social values.
- Build capacity to engage international organizations for policy alignment.

Mentorship programs for upcoming professionals.

TAGLINE:
"Legal Minds for the Digital Age."



HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF IT LAW PROFESSIONALS – AITLAP AFRICA



The Association of IT Law Professionals (AITLAP Africa) was conceived from a shared vision to create a unified platform for professionals and scholars at the intersection of law and technology across Africa.

The founding idea was initiated by Ruben Mawuji (popularly known as Figo), who envisioned an association that would bring together IT law practitioners, academics, technologists, and students to advance discourse, policy development, and professional collaboration in the evolving digital landscape. He initially shared this vision with his course mates, Baffour Asare Koreng Esq. and Yao Constant, who supported the concept. Ruben subsequently informed the Association's current Patron, Dr. Kwaku Boadu, about the initiative. Dr. Boadu advised that the vision should be aligned with alumni of the IT Law program and encouraged engagement with previous course representatives and Dr. Kan Asigbey to build a strong institutional foundation.

Following this guidance, outreach was made to the course representatives of the earlier cohorts, including Eunice Oteng Dapaah Esq. (First Cohort) and Judge Sly (Second Cohort). Eunice Oteng Esq. further introduced Dr. Sylvester Nyamekye, who currently serves as the Interim President and has played a key role in structuring and documenting the Association's development.

The founding vision was also shared with Hajia Naderatu Adams and Cephas Agbozo, who, together with Dr. Sylvester Nyamekye, are recognized as Co-Founders of AITLAP Africa. Their collective leadership laid the institutional and operational foundation for the Association. AITLAP Africa was formally registered as a company on 10th November 2025, providing it with legal recognition and a structured governance framework. The Association held its first official activity, a Health Walk on 5th December 2025 at the University of Ghana campus, marking the beginning of its public engagement and community-building initiatives.

MEET THE AITLAP EXECUTIVE MEMBERS



Its official launch took place on 29th January 2026, alongside the TechLaw Conference 2026, which was held the same day. The event was highly successful and was graced by the Deputy Minister for Communication, Digital technology and Innovation of Ghana Hon Mohammed Adams Sukparu, demonstrating strong institutional and governmental interest in advancing IT law discourse in the country.

As of today, AITLAP Africa has 182 registered members, supported by a duly constituted (10) Board and eight (8) Interim Executive Members overseeing its strategic direction and operations. The Association continues to grow as a professional body committed to promoting excellence in Information Technology Law, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and shaping Africa's digital legal ecosystem.

Membership Benefits



Access to Knowledge & Thought Leadership

Access to Knowledge & Thought Leadership Members receive priority access to AITLAP's Digital IT Law Newsletter/Journal, research briefs, policy papers, and curated insights on emerging issues in IT law, digital governance, AI, data protection, and cyber regulation.

Professional Development & Capacity Building

Members benefit from workshops, masterclasses, seminars, and conferences led by legal, technology, and policy experts, supporting continuous learning and practical skill development across law and technology.

Policy Engagement & Advocacy Platform

AITLAP provides members with opportunities to contribute to policy dialogue, research, and advocacy initiatives that influence legislation, regulatory reform, and national digital strategy in Ghana and beyond.

Professional Development & Capacity Building

Membership offers access to a multidisciplinary professional network of IT law students, lawyers, technologists, policymakers, and industry leaders, fostering collaboration, mentorship, and career-building opportunities.

Membership is open to all individuals, organizations, and IT Law students who support the vision, mission, and objectives of AITLAP, and who are engaged in or have an interest in the field of information technology and law.

There shall be four categories of membership:

1. **Full Members**

Description: Lawyers in good standing, IT professionals, policymakers, and academics.

1. **Associate Members**

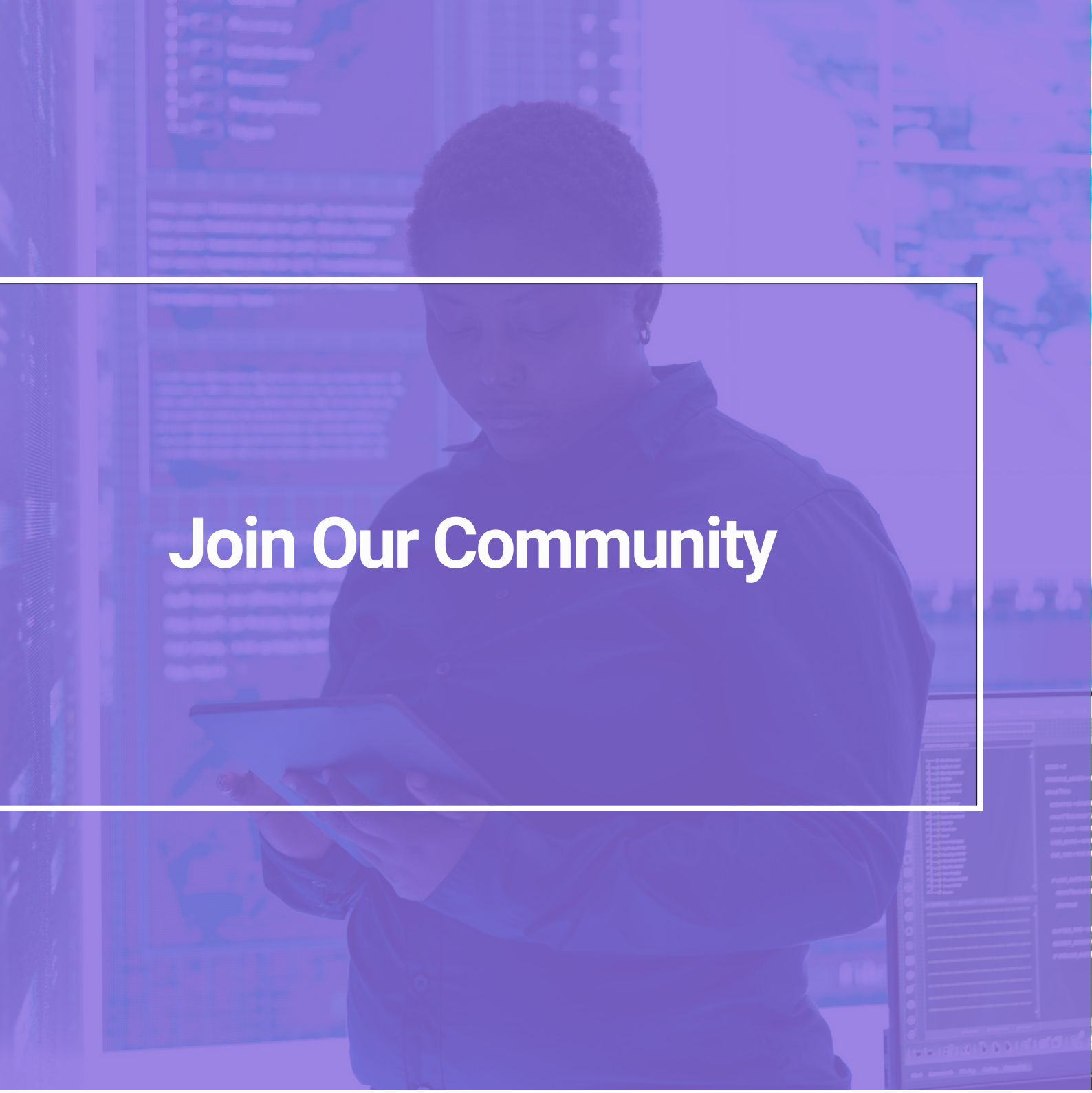
Description: Law and IT students, interns, and early-career professionals.

1. **Corporate Members**

Description: Law firms.

1. **Honorary Members**

Description: Persons of distinction recognized for their contributions to the field.



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Executive Highlight

Nyamekye and Partners

DR S. NYAMEKYE, ESQ



Nyamekye & Partners is a Ghanaian law firm specializing in corporate and litigation practice. The firm was founded and is managed by Dr. S. Nyamekye, Esq., a distinguished legal practitioner with extensive experience and advanced training from Harvard University.

Based in Accra, Greater Accra Region, the firm focuses on legal, technology, and corporate matters. Nyamekye & Partners is actively engaged in legal technology initiatives, including its involvement in the TechLaw Conference 2026 and its support for the Association of IT Law Professionals (AITLAP) Africa, notably sponsoring the AITLAP Africa launch on Instagram.

Key Details

- Leadership: Founded and managed by Dr. S. Nyamekye, Esq., a recognized legal practitioner.
- Location: Accra, Greater Accra Region, Ghana.
- Specialization: Corporate and Litigation Practice.
- Key Activities: Participation in TechLaw Conference 2026 and support for the Association of IT Law Professionals (AITLAP) Africa.

Executive Highlight



Hajia Naderatu Adams

IT law expert, ICT marketing strategist, and Chief Executive Officer of Global Information Technology Solutions (GITS)

Hajia Naderatu Adams – Legal-Tech Executive | CEO, Global Information Technology Solutions (GITS)

As CEO of GITS, she has strengthened the company's reputation for innovative and reliable ICT solutions. She also spearheaded the maiden Information Technology Law Conference 2026 in Ghana, convening legal and technology leaders to shape national dialogue on cybersecurity, AI regulation, and digital governance.

Academically accomplished, she holds an MBA in Marketing (UGBS),BA (Hons) Sociology & Political Science (UG),LLB (Mount Crest University College), LLM in Information Technology Law (UG School of Law) among others , she is a Fellow of the Maastricht School of Management, Netherlands. She is also certified as a Cisco Sales Expert (CSE) and Advanced Security Sales Expert (ASSE), with additional studies in National Security Law, AI governance, data protection, and automated legal technologies.

Hajia Naderatu Adams is known for integrity, strategic negotiation skills, and a strong commitment to technology that empowers society.

Hajia Naderatu Adams is a legal-tech executive, IT law expert, ICT marketing strategist, and Chief Executive Officer of Global Information Technology Solutions (GITS) with over two decades of experience driving digital transformation across Ghana and Africa. She blends legal scholarship, business leadership, and public-interest technology to advance innovation, regulatory compliance, and inclusive growth within the ICT sector.

She is widely recognized for her expertise in data protection and privacy, with specialized exposure to Colombian and German frameworks. Her multidisciplinary profile bridges law, technology, and strategic marketing, positioning her at the intersection of regulation and enterprise innovation. An ADR practitioner and Director of the Center for Citizen Empowerment she actively promotes digital rights awareness and citizen inclusion.

Beyond corporate leadership, Hajia Naderatu leads the Voice of the Widows Foundation, empowering women and vulnerable groups through skills training, legal aid access, social advocacy, and sustainable livelihood initiatives.



About Course

The Pre-Bar Course is a transitional academic program introduced under the Legal Education Act, 2026 (Act 1170) to bridge the gap between an LLB degree and professional legal training. Designed for recent LLB graduates and eligible law graduates, the one-year program covers foundational subjects

Who Can Apply?

- LLB Graduates — Class of 2026
- Existing LLB graduates
- Ghanaian Nationals with LLB From Common Law Jurisdictions
- Graduates from GTEC/GLC-Accredited Law Faculty

Courses to be Offered

- Company Law
- Commercial Law
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
- Family Law
- Interpretation of Deeds & Statutes
- Approved Electives

Pre Bar Details website

UG | SCHOOL OF LAW



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LAW (LL.M. & M.A.)

The world is in the information age, the fourth industrial revolution, and IT permeates all aspects of human experience. Every economy requires the proper implementation of information technologies to bolster growth and sustain its development process by raising productivity and efficiency in all other sectors of the economy. However:

What are the top-down high-level issues of technology and the responses of law to technology required to ensure that the economy has the policy, legal, and regulatory frameworks, and the right practitioner approaches essential to facilitate economic growth?

And,

What are the bottom-up concepts of law, computer systems, and technology trends that must be mastered for innovative participation in the creation of policy and regulatory structures, and the successful implementation of private and public sector IT projects, with contextual local and regional impacts on economic growth?

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

To help answer the need to facilitate economic growth, the University of Ghana School of Law's M.A./LL.M. IT Law program adopts both top-down and bottom-up approaches to train public and private sector leadership and managerial staff with the objectives to:

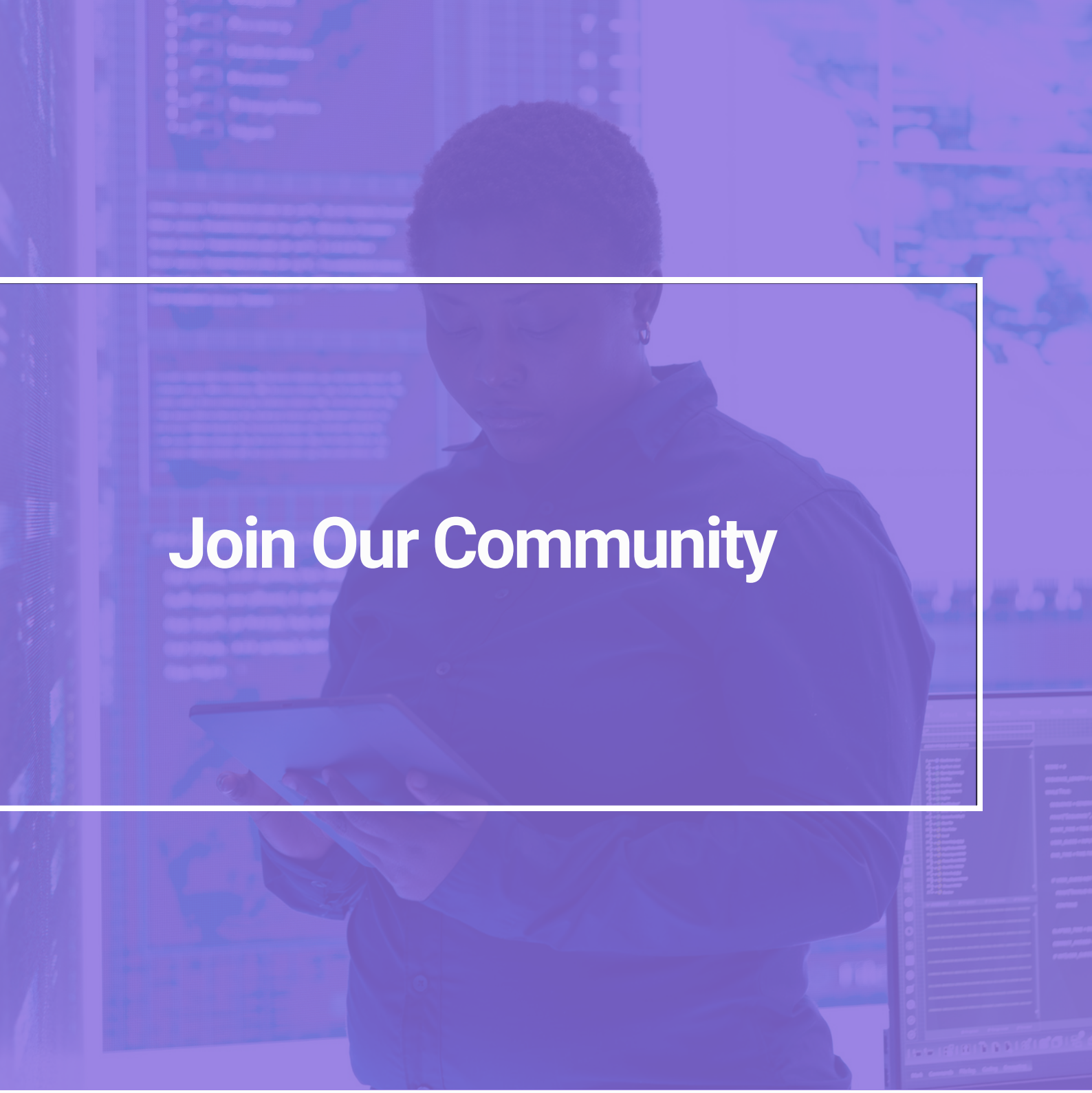
1. Equip students with mastery over basic legal and computer system concepts essential for advanced studies in IT Law and for the confident handling of IT language and issues.
2. Explore the responses of law to issues of information technology.
3. Situate the issues of law and technology in the student's local and regional contexts, aligned with AU and AfCFTA goals.
4. Build and instill valuable employability skills that can be readily applied to a wide range of careers in the fields of IT Law and FIDIC in public and private sector projects.

Challenge students to think creatively about legal and non-legal (ethical, social, cultural, economic) approaches to the regulation of technology.

COURSE DURATION

One (1) Academic Year

https://law.ug.edu.gh/admissions/masters



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ETHICAL AI AND DATA GOVERNANCE TAKE CENTRE STAGE AT GHANA DATA SCIENCE SUMMIT 2026

As Ghana continues its march towards becoming a digitally driven economy, experts from academia, government, industry, and the technology ecosystem convened at Ho Technical University for the Ghana Data Science Summit 2026, where the conversation shifted beyond technological advancement to the responsible governance of artificial intelligence and data.

Held under the theme "Data First: Unlocking Ethical and Inclusive AI in Ghana," the summit attracted researchers, students, policymakers, data scientists, entrepreneurs, and technology professionals to explore how data can become the foundation for sustainable innovation while safeguarding privacy, fairness, and accountability. The event was organized by IndabaX Ghana in partnership with Ho Technical University and forms part of the broader Deep Learning Indaba movement that promotes AI research and capacity building across Africa.

Putting Data at the Heart of AI Innovation

Opening discussions throughout the summit centered on a simple but increasingly important message: the future of artificial intelligence depends on the quality, accessibility, and governance of data.

Speakers noted that while Ghana has made significant progress in digitalization through initiatives such as digital identity systems, mobile money, e-government services, and digital health platforms, the next phase of innovation will require robust data ecosystems that are secure, representative, and ethically managed.

Participants emphasized that artificial intelligence cannot produce reliable outcomes without quality datasets. Equally important, they argued, is ensuring that data is collected, processed, and used in ways that respect individual rights and minimize bias.

The summit therefore positioned data governance—not merely AI development—as the critical foundation for Ghana's digital future. Opening discussions throughout the summit centered on a simple but increasingly important message: the future of artificial intelligence depends on the quality, accessibility, and governance of data.

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Ethical AI Takes Centre Stage

One of the recurring themes throughout the conference was the need to build ethical and inclusive AI systems capable of serving all segments of society.

Researchers highlighted concerns that poorly designed AI systems can unintentionally reinforce discrimination when trained on incomplete or unrepresentative datasets. Discussions therefore focused on creating AI models that are transparent, explainable, and accountable, particularly in sectors such as healthcare, education, agriculture, and financial services.

Participants stressed that African countries should not simply adopt AI technologies developed elsewhere but should actively develop locally relevant datasets and solutions that reflect African languages, cultures, and socio-economic realities.

This approach, delegates argued, would help reduce algorithmic bias while ensuring that AI delivers meaningful benefits to local communities.



Academia and Industry Strengthen Collaboration

The summit also underscored the growing collaboration between universities and industry in advancing data science research and AI innovation.

Researchers presented ongoing work in machine learning, natural language processing, predictive analytics, computer vision, and data engineering, while technology companies shared practical experiences deploying AI-powered solutions across different industries.

Students participated in technical workshops and networking sessions designed to bridge the gap between academic research and commercial innovation.

Speakers encouraged stronger partnerships between higher education institutions, government agencies, and private-sector organisations to accelerate AI research while ensuring responsible deployment.

Data Governance Emerges as a Strategic Priority

Beyond technical discussions, the summit devoted considerable attention to the governance challenges associated with rapidly expanding AI adoption.

Participants examined issues including:

- data privacy and protection;
- responsible data sharing;
- transparency in automated decision-making;
- governance of public datasets;
- accountability for AI-generated outcomes;
- digital inclusion.

These conversations reflected growing international recognition that AI regulation cannot focus solely on algorithms but must also address the quality, ownership, and stewardship of the data that powers intelligent systems.

For Ghana, delegates noted, this will require continued investment in digital infrastructure alongside stronger legal and institutional frameworks capable of supporting trustworthy AI innovation.

Preparing Ghana's AI Workforce

Capacity building remained another major focus of the summit.

Industry leaders observed that while Ghana has produced a growing community of software developers and data scientists, there remains a need to expand specialised expertise in areas such as machine learning engineering, data engineering, AI ethics, and AI governance.

Workshops throughout the event introduced participants to emerging tools and research methodologies while encouraging collaboration among students, researchers, entrepreneurs, and practitioners.

The summit reinforced the importance of nurturing local talent capable of developing AI solutions for African challenges rather than relying solely on imported technologies.

Implications for Technology Law

Although primarily a technical conference, the summit raised several issues of direct relevance to legal practitioners.

As AI adoption accelerates across sectors, organisations will increasingly require guidance on:

- compliance with data protection laws;
- governance of AI systems;
- ownership and licensing of datasets;
- liability for AI-assisted decision-making;
- ethical standards for automated technologies;
- cross-border data sharing.

The discussions highlighted that legal and regulatory frameworks will play a central role in ensuring innovation proceeds alongside public trust and accountability.

For technology lawyers, this represents a growing area of practice requiring expertise that combines law, policy, and emerging technologies.

Key Outcomes and Takeaways

- **Data quality is the foundation of trustworthy AI**. Participants agreed that AI systems are only as reliable as the data used to train them.
- **Ethical AI must be locally relevant**. Delegates advocated for AI models built on African datasets that reflect local realities and minimise bias.
- **Data governance is becoming a strategic priority.** Privacy, transparency, and accountability were identified as essential pillars of responsible AI adoption.
- **Collaboration is essential**. Universities, industry, government, and researchers must work together to build Ghana's AI ecosystem.
- **Technology law will play a growing role.** As AI becomes more widespread, lawyers will increasingly advise on governance, compliance, intellectual property, and digital rights.



DIGITAL UBUNTU WORKSHOP EQUIPS AFRICA'S NEXT GENERATION TO LEAD IN CYBERSECURITY AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

As artificial intelligence and cybersecurity continue to reshape economies and societies across Africa, educators, researchers, and students from across the continent gathered at the University of Ghana for the Digital Ubuntu: Cybersecurity/AI Pan-African Student Workshop—a two-day programme designed to prepare the next generation of African innovators to develop secure, ethical and inclusive digital technologies.

Organised by the Institute of Applied Science and Technology (IAST), University of Ghana, in collaboration with Nelson Mandela University (South Africa) and supported by Google, the workshop served as both a technical training programme and a platform for continental dialogue on the future of artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and responsible innovation.

Hosted at the West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens (WACCBIP) conference facility in Legon, the workshop reflected a growing recognition that Africa must not only adopt emerging technologies but also actively shape their development through research, collaboration and ethical governance.

Building Africa's Digital Future Through Collaboration

The programme opened with remarks from Ing. Prof. Elsie Effah Kaufmann, Dean of the School of Engineering Sciences at the University of Ghana, who underscored the importance of equipping young Africans with the knowledge and practical skills needed to thrive in an increasingly digital world. She emphasised that the continent's future competitiveness will depend on nurturing graduates capable of solving African challenges through technology while remaining grounded in ethical principles.

She was joined by Prof. David Doodo Arhin, Director of the University's Research and Innovation Directorate, who highlighted the critical role of research partnerships and cross-border collaboration in strengthening Africa's capabilities in cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. According to Prof. Arhin, universities must become hubs for innovation where students, researchers and industry work together to develop solutions with both local relevance and global impact.

The workshop was jointly moderated by Dr. Bukelwa Ngoqo, Deputy Director of the Mandela University Africa Hub and project lead for the Digital Ubuntu initiative, alongside Prof. Samuel Kojo Kwofie, Director of IAST. Prof. Robert Sowah, Head of the Department of Computer Engineering at the University of Ghana, also addressed participants, reinforcing the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in addressing Africa's digital challenges.



Ubuntu Meets Artificial Intelligence

One of the defining features of the workshop was its emphasis on Ubuntu—the African philosophy centred on humanity, community and shared responsibility—as a framework for developing and governing emerging technologies.

Rather than viewing AI solely as a technical discipline, organisers encouraged participants to consider its broader social implications. Discussions explored how African values could shape the design of AI systems that are fair, transparent and inclusive, ensuring that technological progress advances human wellbeing rather than exacerbating inequality.

Dr. Ngoqo argued that Africa's approach to AI should be informed by collaboration across disciplines and sectors. She noted that many of the continent's AI implementation challenges require partnerships among universities, governments, industry and civil society, adding that support from organisations such as Google helps ensure that underrepresented communities are not left behind in the global AI revolution.

Cybersecurity in an Increasingly Connected Africa

Cybersecurity featured prominently throughout the programme as participants examined the growing risks associated with Africa's rapidly expanding digital economy.

Sessions explored the importance of securing digital infrastructure, protecting sensitive information and preparing future professionals to respond to increasingly sophisticated cyber threats. Students also participated in technical demonstrations on network security and ethical hacking, gaining practical exposure to cybersecurity tools and techniques used in professional environments.

Organisers stressed that cybersecurity is no longer merely an information technology concern. As governments digitise public services and businesses increasingly rely on cloud computing, artificial intelligence and digital payments, cybersecurity has become a strategic issue affecting national security, economic resilience and public trust.

Students Take Centre Stage

Unlike many technology conferences, the Digital Ubuntu Workshop placed students at the heart of the conversation.

A dedicated panel featured Asumboya Wilfred, Stanley Agbola, Miriam Aniwa, and Akua Asantewaa Sarkodie, all students from the University of Ghana, who shared their perspectives on the opportunities and challenges presented by artificial intelligence and cybersecurity.

The panel explored issues such as:

- preparing young Africans for careers in AI and cybersecurity;
- balancing innovation with ethical responsibility;
- addressing digital security challenges across the continent;
- encouraging greater student participation in technology research.

Their contributions reflected the workshop's broader objective of empowering young Africans to become active contributors to technology policy and innovation rather than passive consumers of imported solutions.

Research, Innovation and Pan-African Partnerships

The workshop also served as a platform for strengthening research collaboration between African universities.

Participants discussed opportunities to develop joint research projects, exchange programmes and innovation partnerships focused on artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and digital transformation.

Beyond the technical sessions, delegates participated in networking activities designed to foster long-term academic relationships and encourage knowledge sharing across borders. Visiting students from Nelson Mandela University also engaged in cultural exchanges, including visits to sites of historical significance in Ghana, reinforcing the workshop's Pan-African spirit.

Implications for Technology Law

While primarily an academic programme, the workshop highlighted several issues of growing importance to the legal profession.

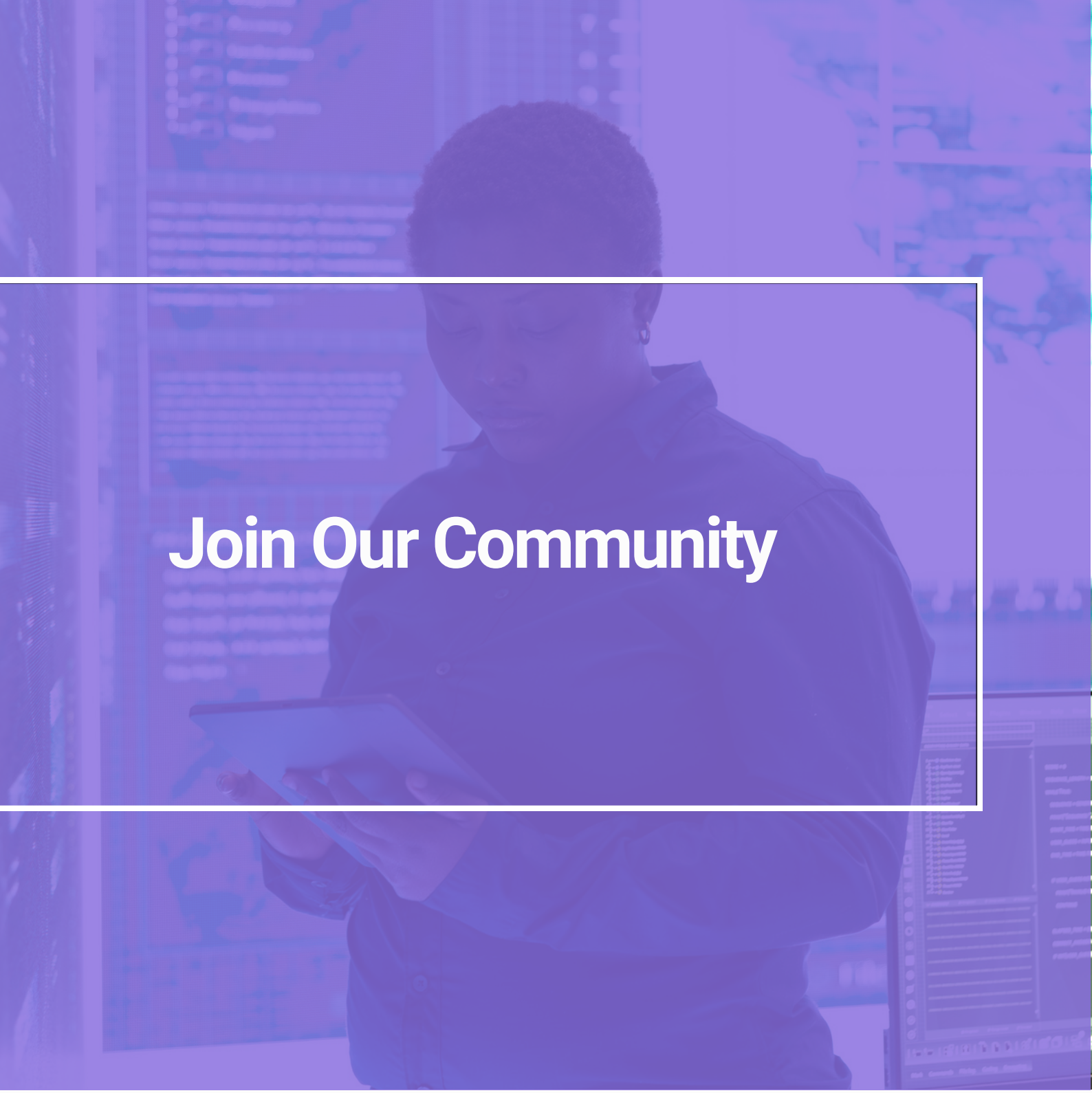
As artificial intelligence becomes more deeply integrated into public services, business operations and everyday life, legal practitioners will increasingly be called upon to advise on:

- AI governance and accountability;
- cybersecurity regulation and compliance;
- privacy and data protection;
- ethical AI frameworks;
- cross-border data sharing;
- intellectual property relating to AI systems.

The emphasis on Ubuntu also raises important questions about how African legal systems can incorporate local values into emerging digital governance frameworks, rather than relying solely on imported regulatory models.

Key Takeaways

- **Ethical AI must reflect African realities.** Participants argued that AI development should be guided by principles of fairness, inclusion and shared responsibility, drawing on African values as well as global best practice.
- **Cybersecurity is now a strategic priority.** Protecting digital infrastructure and building cyber resilience are essential for Africa's digital economy.
- **Universities are shaping the continent's AI future.** Higher education institutions are playing an increasingly important role in producing research, talent and policy ideas that support responsible technology development.
- **Cross-border collaboration accelerates innovation**. Partnerships between institutions such as the University of Ghana and Nelson Mandela University demonstrate the value of regional cooperation in tackling common digital challenges.
- **Technology law is evolving alongside technology.** As AI and cybersecurity become central to economic development, lawyers will play a crucial role in developing governance frameworks that encourage innovation while protecting rights and public trust



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Global Technology Law & Policy

IT Law Professionals

European Commission Imposes €890 Million Fine on Google Under Digital Markets Act

The European Commission imposed €890 million in fines on Google in one of the first major enforcement actions under the Digital Markets Act (DMA), accusing the technology giant of abusing its gatekeeper position in digital markets.

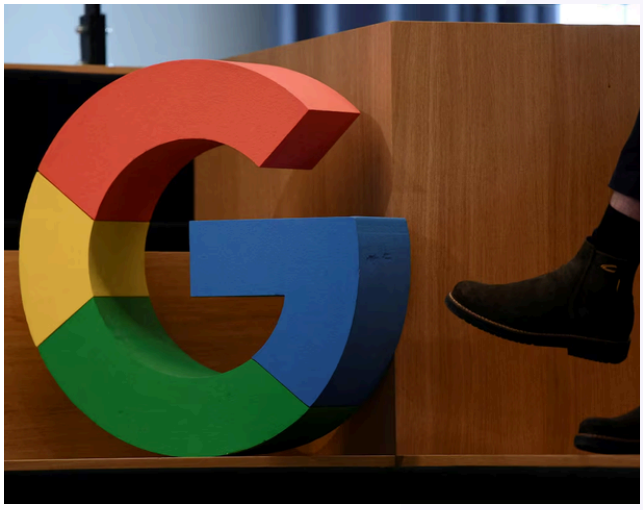
According to the Commission, Google unlawfully:

- prioritised its own services—including Shopping, Hotels and Flights—in search results ahead of competitors;
- prevented Android app developers from effectively directing users to alternative payment options outside Google Play.

The Commission imposed:

- €460 million for self-preferencing in Google Search; and
- €430 million for anti-steering restrictions within Google Play.

Google has been given 60 days to implement effective remedies or face additional daily penalties. The company indicated it disagrees with the decision and is considering legal action, arguing that some compliance measures could reduce product quality for users.





EU Orders Google to Open Key Platform Features to AI and Search Competitors

In a separate July decision, the European Commission required Google to provide competing AI assistants and search services with greater access to certain Android platform features and selected search data under the Digital Markets Act.

The measures are intended to reduce barriers to entry for rival AI services and promote greater competition in digital ecosystems.

Under the Commission's proposed remedies:

- qualifying AI assistants may gain access to core Android functions;
- competitors could receive access to certain anonymised search data;
- Google may continue applying cybersecurity and privacy safeguards before granting access.

The ruling signals that future AI regulation may increasingly focus not only on safety and transparency but also on interoperability and market access. The decision has implications for competition law, platform governance and AI innovation.

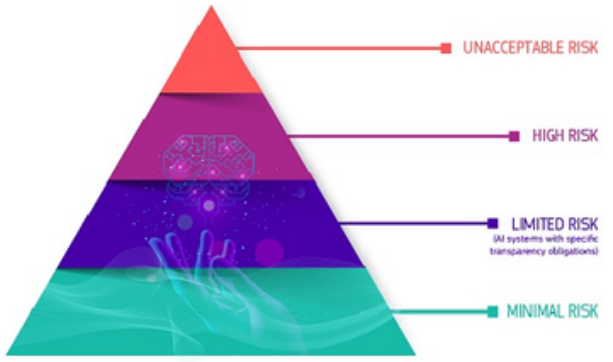
European Commission Launches New Cybersecurity Action Plan for Advanced AI

Recognising the growing cybersecurity risks associated with advanced artificial intelligence, the European Commission released a July 2026 Action Plan on Cybersecurity and AI to improve the resilience of AI systems deployed across Member States.

The plan proposes:

- enhanced cybersecurity evaluations for advanced AI models;
- stronger coordination among Member States;
- improved testing before powerful AI systems enter the European market;
- expanded technical capacity for evaluating AI-related risks.

The initiative reflects increasing concern that AI systems may themselves become targets of cyberattacks or introduce new vulnerabilities into critical digital infrastructure.



The Action Plan demonstrates the growing convergence of AI regulation and cybersecurity law. Organisations developing or deploying advanced AI systems should anticipate greater expectations around risk management, security testing and resilience.

Businesses Prepare for the Next Phase of the EU AI Act

Compliance efforts intensify ahead of additional obligations

During July, businesses across Europe accelerated preparations for upcoming obligations under the EU Artificial Intelligence Act, particularly those relating to transparency, governance and general-purpose AI models. The Act continues its phased implementation, with further obligations taking effect over time.

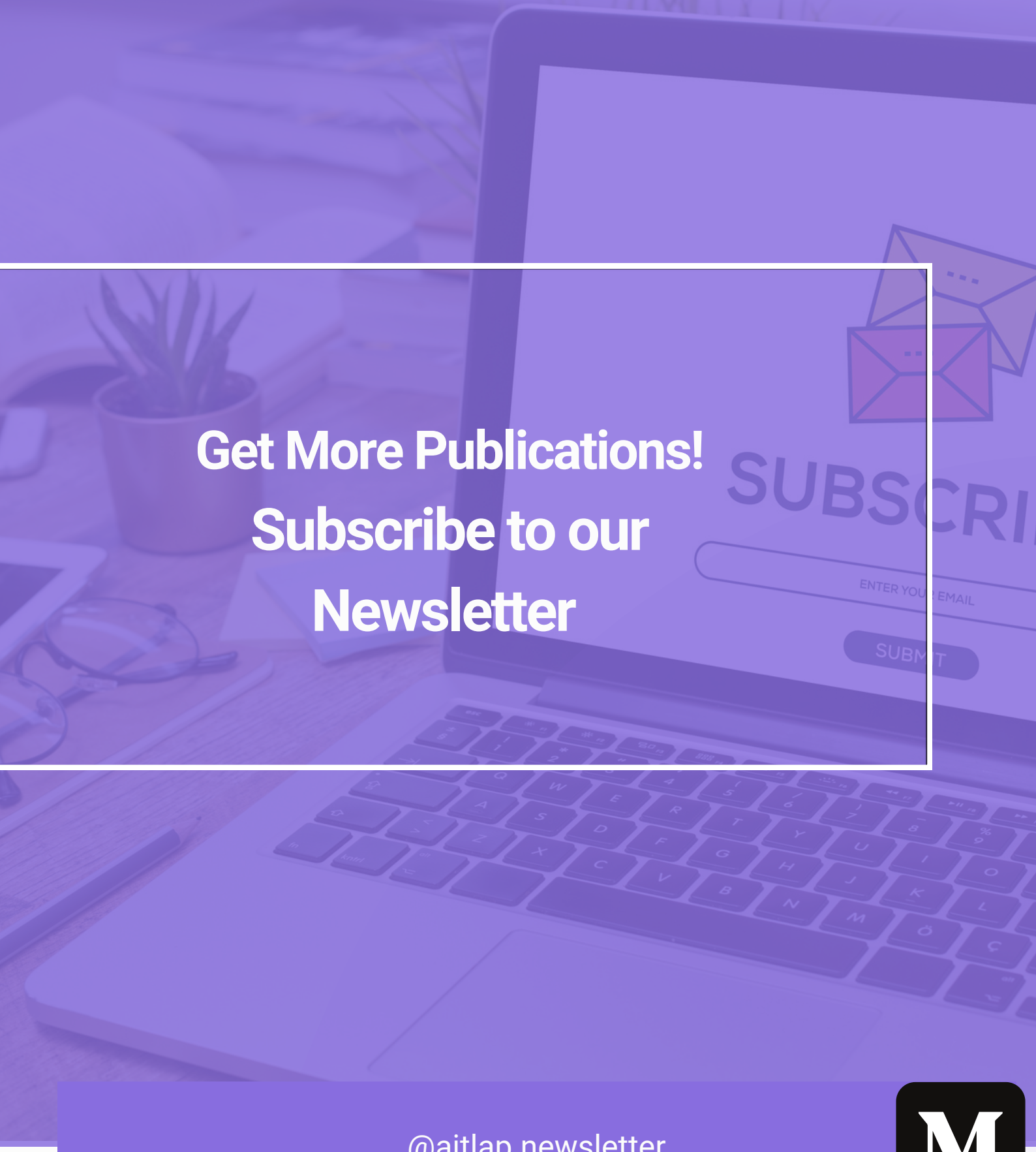
Global AI Governance Shifts Toward Enforcement and Accountability

Across multiple jurisdictions, July saw regulators place increasing emphasis on the practical implementation of AI governance frameworks rather than simply proposing new legislation. Legal analysts observed a growing focus on:

- algorithmic transparency;
- governance of autonomous and agentic AI systems;
- documentation and risk management;
- mechanisms allowing individuals to challenge automated decisions.

The trend reflects a broader evolution in AI governance, with regulators seeking to ensure that organisations adopting AI maintain appropriate oversight, accountability and documentation throughout the lifecycle of AI systems

For technology lawyers, compliance advice is increasingly shifting from policy interpretation to operational governance. Organisations will need robust internal AI governance programmes supported by legal, technical and risk management expertise..



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