

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTION

Special Issue of the International Journal “Informatica e diritto”

Law, Language and Information Technology

editors

Daniela Tiscornia, Francesco Romano, Maria Teresa Sagri

The study of relationships and dependencies between law and language is a complex field of investigation, addressed both by philosophers of law and legal practitioners. The debate on the role, the impact and the use of language in law is central in several specialized disciplines, like science of legislation, judicial rhetoric, theories of legal interpretation and legal comparison. Law, is not only language, it is far more than a collection of linguistic signs, but norms must be communicated by using language. Therefore, the analysis of legal language must be addressed under several perspective, from a diachronic to a synchronic profile, from a cross-national and cross-cultural environment to an institutional and social dimension. A multidisciplinary sector of research, where a variety of methodological approaches coexist and should be fruitfully combined.

With the goal of providing innovative insights into the field, the Journal “Informatica e diritto” promotes a special issue, on *Law, Language and ICT*. Consistently with the editorial mission of the journal, namely revisiting traditional legal science under the light of information technology, the scope of the volume is focussed on approaches, methods and tools that are based on computational applications. Contributions are welcome that highlight the role of information technologies as a source of methodological innovation for legal scholars and as a means of better communication of legal knowledge to society.

Key Themes

We invite submission of original and not published contributions on methods, tools, systems and applications for the following (non-exhaustive) list of topics:

- Linguistic quality in legal texts: assessing formal, technical and terminological quality; support to legislative drafting; quality indicators for readability, clearness and coherence in legal texts;
- construction, use and reuse of linguistic-semantic resources: taxonomies, thesauri, lexicons and ontologies; conceptualization of legal knowledge for cross-lingual, and trans-national retrieval as well as for knowledge sharing;
- multilingualism and linguistic policies for digital legal information services; tools for multilingual alignment of legal terminologies;
- semantic interoperability among digital collections; metadata quality, standards and shared vocabularies for legal documents exchange and linked data in the legal domain;
- information extraction and automatic classification of legal corpora;
- historical archives: digitalization, preservation and usability;
- legal texts processing and quantitative analysis of legal documents;
- legal language and the communication of the law in multilingual and multicultural contexts;
- law and language in legal professions training.

Contributions

The submitted contributions will be peer-reviewed by members of the Journal Scientific Committee and by external reviewers through a double blind evaluation process.

Authors are invited to submit papers of a maximum length 56,000 characters in any of the following formats: MS Word, Open/Libre Office, LateX using the platform easychair (<https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=id2014lawandlanguage>). Alternatively, abstracts and texts can be mailed to the Journal Secretariat.

Publication is expected by October 2014.

Accepted languages

Italian, English

Important dates

15 April 2014	Submission of full paper
15 May 2014	Notification of peer evaluation
30 June 2014	Final version