



**WSIS
FORUM 2026**

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Session Outcome Document

From Fragmentation to Coherence: The Role of the International Law Association in Global AI Governance

International Law Association's Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Technology Law

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2026/Agenda/Session/203>

Key Issues discussed:

- The ambition of the International Law Association to play a role in Global AI Governance
- AI as a catalyst for cooperation and multilateralism
- The polyphony of voices for a trustworthy, safe, human-centred and sustainable AI
- The fallacy of the distinction between civil and military uses: AI is inherently dual-use
- The necessity of red-lines and safeguards
- The indispensability of international rules
- Gaps and overlaps in the current international regulatory framework

Key Outcomes of the session:

- key insights and findings

To say that AI brings challenges and opportunities, benefits and risks and to argue for human rights-based approach and a responsive environment and ecosystem for AI, is one thing. How to operationalize it is another story. We need an articulated but also systemic picture of the multiple intersections between AI and human rights, which is still missing, together with the recognition that not all human rights, as we know them, might apply.

The diversity of regulatory instruments and governance initiatives is not a failure, but a logical consequence of an emerging branch of law trying to find its way. The task before us is to turn the currently fragmented legal landscape into coherence, and the ILA Committee – given its diverse, cross-regional and cross-sectoral membership – is well-placed to help in this regard.

The session affirmed the ILA Committee's role as a legal forum for identifying convergence, gaps and overlaps across AI governance instruments, including treaties, soft-law frameworks, technical standards and national regulation.

- announcements, launches, or new initiatives presented during the session

The International Law Association will hold its 82nd Biennial International Law Conference in Vienna, Austria, between 17-21 August 2026, where the ILA Committee on AI and Technology Law will also hold special sessions that will provide an opportunity to present its activities to the broader audience and to continue the discussion of the topics also highlighted at the WSIS side-event.

- agreements, collaborations, or commitments made

Key Recommendations and Forward-Looking Actions:

While a multistakeholder approach remains essential and all actors along the life-cycle of AI are relevant, addressing users – contributing to their critical thinking and fostering their imagination – is key to ensure the safety, security, transparency, accountability and sustainability of AI.

The Committee should develop practical comparative guidance, shared principles and, where appropriate, model laws or legal toolkits to support coherent, human rights-based and sustainable AI governance towards WSIS implementation by 2035.