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THE JUSTICE SECTOR IN THE AI ACT: TRANSPARENCY OBLIGATION AS "SULFUR ANHYDRIDE"?

This paper explores the European Union's AI Act and its impact on the justice sector, focusing on the regulation of artificial intelligence in criminal justice. This analysis highlights the categorization of AI tools used by judicial authorities as "high-risk", underlining the need for transparency, accountability, and continuous human oversight. Particular attention is paid to the prohibition of predictive policing systems and the limitations imposed on real-time biometric identification, both of which pose significant threats to fundamental rights. This study investigates transparency requirement not only as a formal legal obligation but also as a crucial safeguard to ensure accessibility, clarity, and trust in judicial decision-making. Transparency, however, risks remaining a vague principle unless supported by clear guidelines and effective implementation across Member States. The integration of AI into justice is also argued in this paper, concluding that this cannot be immediate or purely technical; it should be accompanied by cultural, ethical, and legal adaptation. Only through such a gradual process technological innovation can strengthen - rather than undermine - the rule of law and the protection of individual rights.