OÑATI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF LAW

OÑATIKO LEGE-SOZIOLOGIAKO
NAZIOARTEKO ERAKUNDEA

INSTITUTO INTERNACIONAL
DE SOCIOLOGÍA JURÍDICA DE OÑATI

Guidance on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on the IISL's publications

1. Purpose and Scope

This policy establishes guidelines for the ethical, responsible, and transparent use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in the publications of the International Institute for the Sociology of Law (IISL, we), specifically its online journals Oñati Socio-legal Series and Sortuz, and other publications by the IISL.
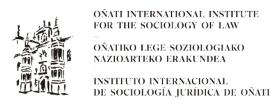
The IISL values interdisciplinary work and critical inquiry. The Institute is committed to endorsing ethical, transparent, and responsible use of GenAI and other AI tools.

2. Guiding Principles

- **Academic Integrity**: AI must not be used to misrepresent authorship, fabricate data, or replace intellectual effort.

- **Transparency**: Authors must disclose any substantive use of Gen AI or other AI tools in the terms detailed below (point 4).

- **Respect for Intellectual Property**: Authors remain fully responsible for ensuring that any AI-generated material does not infringe third-party rights or licensing terms.

- **Human supervision:** Gen AI tools must be used as aids and must never take up the role of an author or coauthor. Their use must always be supervised, reviewed, and allowed by the authors.

- **Critical approach to AI:** The IISL encourages critical reflection on the role of AI in law, society, knowledge production and environmental impact.

- **Acknowledging AI Bias:** AI-assisted analysis can introduce biases, because AI systems reflect the data and assumptions on which they were trained. Using AI tools to filter, classify, or summarize information inherently shapes the research output. Responsible practice requires acknowledging this potential bias, disclosing AI use, and critically reflecting on how it may influence findings.

- **Continuous examination of the policy:** This policy is subject to continuous review and reflection to ensure alignment with emerging standards and IISL's academic values.

- **Environmental awareness:** The use of AI tools should consider the environmental footprint of its operation.

3. Disclosure Requirements and Assessment of the content

The use of AI tools must be explicitly acknowledged in the submitted work. A recommended format is: "This work has benefited from the use of [Tool Name] for [purpose], under the guidelines of the IISL

AI Use Policy." Failure to disclose any substantive AI use may be treated as academic misconduct. Disclosure must be made at the submission stage, and an acknowledgement must be included in the paper.

4. Acceptable and Unacceptable Uses

Acceptable uses (no disclosure required):

- Grammar, spelling, and stylistic refinement.
- Brainstorming and idea generation as a preliminary stage of research.
- Locating potential sources or bibliographic leads (with critical evaluation).
- Translation support, provided the author verifies accuracy.

Acceptable uses (disclosure required):

- Generating text, images, data visualisations, or analytical output incorporated into the work.
- Using AI tools for **partial** data analysis, coding, classification, text mining, or content summarisation as part of the research process. This is especially important due to the inherent biases and assumptions embedded in AI systems, which can shape research outcomes if not critically supervised and disclosed.

Unacceptable uses:

- Submitting AI-generated text, images, or data as original work without disclosure.
- Using AI to simulate interviews, fabricate results, or impersonate others.
- Delegating substantial parts of the intellectual or analytical process to AI tools without supervision or critical oversight.

4. Guidelines for Reviewers

Reviewers must not upload submissions with third parties, including Gen AI tools. They may, however, use AI tools locally to check grammar or summarise *their own* notes.

5. Sanctions

Violations of this policy will be addressed under the Institute's academic ethics framework and may result in the withdrawal of the published work and exclusion from future IISL publications.

6. Review and Updates

This policy may be reviewed annually in accordance with the rapidly evolving technologies. Authors and editors are welcome to propose amendments through the Publications Department of the IISL.

7. Questions, comments and observations

Please direct your comments to: publications@iisj.es

Last updated in October 2025