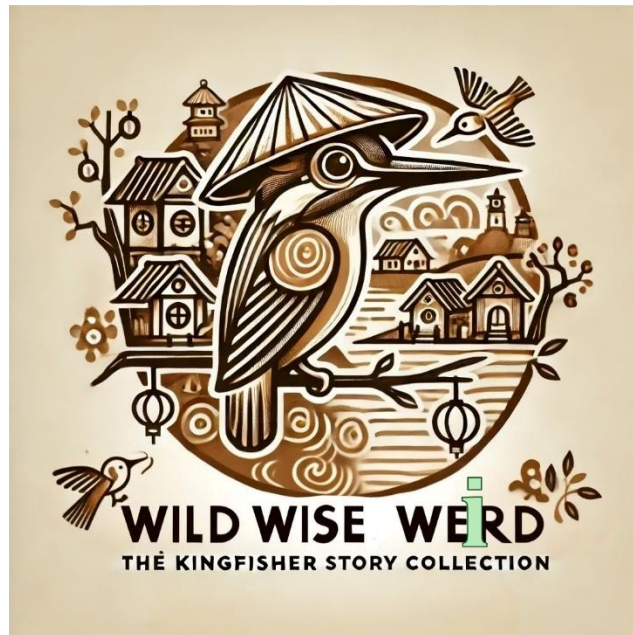


Equilibrating the Scales: Legal Tools to Safeguard against AI Domination

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“Well, a real collision may inflict real hurt as at that technology-powered speed, Kingfisher might risk a broken beak or lost feathers [...].”

In “Innovation”; *Wild Wise Weird* [1]



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As artificial intelligence (AI) becomes deeply embedded in society, concerns are growing that it may not just assist humans—but dominate them. In a recent study, legal scholar Maksymilian Michał Kuźmicz [2] explores how law can serve as a safeguard against power imbalances caused by AI, using a framework called the equilibrium model of balancing.

Domination, in this context, means the loss of human autonomy due to asymmetric power relations—when one party, such as an AI system or its developers, can act unchecked by those affected. Kuźmicz identifies two key sources of such power: control over resources (like data, computational capacity, or digital skills) and control over events (such as decision-making processes or automated actions).

To counteract this, the study proposes legal mechanisms designed to restore balance. These include financial support (like subsidies for digital tools), mandatory transparency and information rights (so users understand and can question AI decisions), and targeted assistance (like AI education and legal aid). The framework also advocates for stronger regulatory measures, such as prohibiting certain harmful AI applications, ensuring participatory design that includes marginalized voices, and enhancing access to legal recourse [3].

Rather than viewing AI regulation as a matter of limiting innovation, Kuźmicz presents balancing as a proactive legal strategy to uphold human dignity and agency. By addressing both the structural and procedural roots of technological power, the paper offers a roadmap to ensure AI development respects and reinforces democratic values.

In a world increasingly shaped by algorithms, this study makes a compelling case: what we need is not just smarter AI but wiser, more human-centered laws—capable of anticipating and preventing domination before it takes root.

To achieve this, we must also confront the strange and often foolish ways we allow power to concentrate, whether in governments, corporations, or machines. Legal balancing, then, is not simply a matter of rules and rights; it reflects a broader cultural shift toward humility, accountability, and ecological awareness. By integrating proactive legal frameworks with emotionally resonant narratives that challenge our assumptions, we can move toward not only safer AI systems—but also fairer, more sustainable futures [3].

References

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