

WORKSHOP

Global Governance and Innovation: *Law and Science Fiction*

Faculty of Law of the University of Macau & Institute of Law of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna

22 August 2018, Faculty of Law, University of Macau

Call for Papers

The Institute of Law of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, and the Faculty of Law of the University of Macau will jointly organize a workshop on the regulatory challenges that arise from a rapidly changing environment driven by innovation in science and technology. The manifold and interdisciplinary questions that arise from this development need to be discussed on a global scale. Judge Manfred Lachs summed up these challenges for international law in 1969 already:

[T]he great acceleration of social and economic change, combined with that of science and technology, have confronted law with a serious challenge: one it must meet, lest it lag even farther behind events than it has been wont to do.¹

The claim that law lags behind technology is frequently made and certainly deserves attention. However, it may overlook the constructive role that law takes or can take in the design and usage of new technologies. This potentially constructive role of law is also often forgotten in the context of the global governance debate, which is aimed at elaborating the contours of a future global legal order. It is also to be taken into due account both at the regional level, such as the BRICS countries' cooperation or the integration process in Europe, and at the national level, where similar challenges and opportunities exist.

To foster such a constructive, forward looking or even creative role of the law in regulating innovation, the workshop invites participants to present regulatory concepts and ideas that may have been discussed in science fiction.

For this workshop we invite interested participants to send an abstract from different fields of law and related disciplines within the general theme of law and technology. An illustrative list of topics includes (but is not limited to): *Artificial Intelligence; Deep Learning; Blockchain Technology; Self-Driving Cars; New Technologies & New Logics*.

Workshop Date: 22 August 2018

Submissions: Abstracts in English, between 250 and 500 words, along with the speaker's biographical note should be sent to rjn@umac.mo

Deadline for submissions: **30 June 2018**

¹ Manfred Lachs, "Thoughts on Science, Technology and World Law" (1992) 86(4) *The American Journal of International Law* 673-699.