

Data is and will remain a key asset that drives economic, societal and scientific advancement. Development of the data-driven applications, most importantly Artificial Intelligence (AI), require designing appropriate framework that will allow to utilize data for the benefit of humankind. Thus, the **overarching aim** of the project is to **determine human rights obligations in regard to data governance** through the prism of the **right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications** (Article 15(1)b of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights).

The research will be carried out at two levels:

- 1) quantitative analysis of the recommendations formulated under the UN human rights mechanisms (UN treaty-based bodies, Special Procedures and the Universal Periodic Review) between 2002 and 2018;
- 2) interpretation of the relevant UN documents and academic sources.

During **the first phase of the research** an innovative **information retrieval techniques** (so called text mining) will be applied to the collection of the recommendations related to the data governance. Recommendations will be extracted from the Universal Human Rights Index based on the occurrence of identified keywords. The collection of the recommendations will be then subjected to the **statistical and computational analysis** in the software Orange, GATE and Statistica. The application of statistical and computational informational retrieval methods will allow to achieve a **better understanding on the evolving status of data in the practice of the UN human rights mechanisms**, e.g. contexts in which references to data are made, types of data requested, change over time etc. Although the original motivation behind requesting data was the drive for better methods of human rights assessment and monitoring, there is a growing number of recommendations that highlight the role of data in designing evidence-based public policies and, more recently, engaging into scientific inquiry. The choice of information retrieval techniques arise from the **increasing attention that scholars and policy-makers give to the quantitative methods** of analyzing documents and legal sources.

During **the second phase of the research** a classical doctrinal method will be applied. Findings from the first phase will be interpreted in the light of the UN documents, including the *travaux préparatoires* to the Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), General Comments of the UN treaty-based bodies, academic sources as well as the available materials from the ongoing discussions on the normative content of the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications (for instance recordings from the conferences and workshops organized under the auspices of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights). It will allow to **determine the possible obligations of State-parties** in regard to the data governance under the Article 15(1)b of the Covenant in the context of data-driven scientific progress (related to the data collection, re(use) and data sharing).

The **motivation behind the choice of this topic** is threefold. First, although AI is still relatively nascent, **international organizations and governments intensively investigate** the opportunities and challenges it entails. Majority of the conceptual and legislative efforts focus on the designing the appropriate data governance framework. Regulations in regard to the data collection, (re)use and data sharing are a key components of the AI strategies adopted by states and international organizations. Second, although the discussions on the societal impact of AI involve experts from various fields, including legal sciences, the **human rights perspective remain peripheral**. Third, the UN Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights has recently **launched the process of drafting the General Comment** on the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its application. The process of drafting is accompanied by the series of expert meetings, workshops and conferences during which issues related to the data governance are widely discussed.