Legal information retrieval: state of the art, challenges and next level

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Today's Presentation

- General Situation of Legal Information Retrieval Services as of today

- Retrieval Situation in Legal Information Retrieval Systems

- Developments in Legal Text Analytics

- Lessons Learned from Operating Successful Legal Information Retrieval Systems

- Additional Factors to consider when dealing with EU materials

- Room for Legal Data Science in my view

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General Situation of Legal Information Retrieval Services as of today

- (near-)complete electronic availability of relevant traditional print materials

- initiatives to additionally provide e-only practical guidance materials

- strong need for and push towards adding visible value to retrievable text data ("We provide way more than an ebook.")

Retrieval Situation in Legal Information Retrieval Systems

- limits of mere full text retrieval as well as non-legal-specific text analysis have become apparent

- limits of traditional directory browsing retrieval have become apparent

- urgent need for live, behind-the-scenes research flow anticipation and guidance

- case study: LexisNexis Austria search scenarios

Developments in Legal Text Analytics

- importance and potential of legal citations cannot be overstated

- recognition of meaning especially based on non-citation text data is challenging

- case study: LexisNexis Austria continuous online content analysis for content development

Lessons Learned from Operating Successful Legal Information Retrieval Systems

- mere citation recognition and cross-linking are not enough

- pulling up additional databases in addition to document storage and retrieval systems is essential

- case study: LexisNexis Austria related content column

Additional Factors to consider when dealing with EU materials

- EU institutions produce huge amounts of text

- EU legal research requires an additional set of research competencies

- challenging trade-offs and conflicting goals surface when combining national materials and EU materials in one system/service

Room for Legal Data Science in my view

- legal citation analysis including qualifications

- metadata creation and ultimately standardization making use of all analysis techniques available (using machine learning algorithms)

- creation of additional content connections to anticipate and support successful research paths

- Q & A systems and natural language generation (text draft generation)

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Thank you and let's keep in touch!

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