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Technological challenges, with particular attention being paid to the introduction of digital technology and artificial intelligence into the organisation of the administration and administrative justice

QUESTIONNAIRE

Responses from the High Administrative Court of the Republic of Croatia

This questionnaire has been prepared in anticipation of the seminar to be held in Turin on 23 and 24 November 2026. In accordance with point 2 of the guiding principles adopted by the Hellenic Presidency of ACA-Europe, it aims to explore the current challenges facing administrative judges, particularly those related to technology, and more specifically the introduction of digitalisation and artificial intelligence into the organisation and functioning of the administration and administrative justice.

In order to gain an in-depth understanding of the various dimensions of these technological challenges, the survey is split into three parts:

Part A - The digitalisation of administrative proceedings, with a focus on the experience of various supreme administrative jurisdictions and the impact of this transformation on the organisation and conduct of judicial activity.

Part B - Automated administrative decision-making and judicial review by administrative courts, particularly issues of technical discretion, automation and the delimitation of judicial powers.

Part C - The role of the administrative judge and the use of artificial intelligence in the performance of judicial functions and in the decision-making process, particularly in light of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689, known as the 'AI Act', as well as other European Union standards and regulations, such as Regulation (EU) 2016/679, known as the 'GDPR', Regulation (EU) 2022/2065, known as the 'DSA', and Regulation (EU) 2022/1925, known as the 'DMA'.

Part A

The digitalisation of administrative proceedings and the use of artificial intelligence tools by the administrative justice system

A.I – Infrastructure and technological organisation

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A.I.1 – Digital equipment and resources

1. What is the level of digital equipment available to judges and administrative staff?

☐ Non-existent
☐ Limited
x Intermediate
☐ High
☐ Complete
Please explain if necessary:

Each judge has access to hardware and software that allows them to connect securely and continuously. This equipment includes:
– a desktop computer with a domestic ADSL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line) connection linked directly to the ministry of justice network;
– a network printer;
– a laptop (if they request it);
– a remote digital signature;
– an institutional email account;
– a client for accessing the VPN (Virtual Private Network) with MFA (Multi-Factor Authentication);
– access to the Microsoft Office 365 suite.

Administrative staff are equipped with:
– a desktop computer at work;
– a network printer;
– a remote digital signature (some of them who have special authority to sign documents);
– an institutional email account;
– a client for VPN access with MFA authentication;
– access to the Microsoft Office 365 suite.

2. Is the technological infrastructure (networks, servers, equipment, connectivity) suited to the day-to-day operational needs of the administrative jurisdictions?

☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Somewhat disagree
☐ Neither agree nor disagree
x Somewhat agree
☐ Strongly agree

Please explain if necessary:

The technological infrastructure generally supports day-to-day operational needs, but it is still in transition toward full digitalization. Systems such as eSpis and e-Communication provide a solid operational base, yet interoperability, paperless workflows, and modernization remain ongoing priorities.

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A.I.2 – Cloud solutions, remote access and interoperability

3. To what extent does your jurisdiction use cloud-based solutions for its information systems?

☐ Not at all
☐ To a limited extent
x Moderately
☐ Extensively
☐ Completely
Please explain, where applicable, and, in the absence of cloud solutions, specify the alternative infrastructure solutions implemented:

Cloud-based solutions are used to a moderate extent in the Croatian judiciary, including within the Court. Core judicial information systems, such as the case management system (eSpis) and the electronic communication platform (e-Communication), are centrally managed by the Ministry of Justice, Public Administration and Digital Transformation and are increasingly hosted within the national State Cloud (Shared Service Centre). This infrastructure supports electronic case management, document exchange, and integration with the national e-government platform (e-Građani). However, some elements of the IT infrastructure remain partly on-premise, and the migration of judicial systems to cloud-based environments is ongoing as part of broader digitalisation reforms.

3a. Do the adopted technical solutions enable judges and staff to perform their duties remotely using the institutional equipment made available to them? If so, please specify any limitations.

Remote work for judges, if they request it, is operationally supported but not fully comprehensive. The current technological solutions enable remote access for many tasks, particularly document review and drafting, but full remote judicial workflows are constrained by security policies, partial digitization of files, and procedural requirements requiring physical presence.

3b. Are the applications being used interoperable with other national or cross-border judicial IT systems? If so, please specify the extent of this interoperability.

The applications used in the Croatian judiciary, including those supporting the work of the Court, provide a certain level of interoperability with national and EU judicial IT systems. At the national level, systems such as the eSpis and e-Communication platforms are interoperable with other public administration systems and are integrated with the e-government platform (e-Građani) for authentication and access to digital services. At the EU level, interoperability exists mainly through specific cooperation platforms, which enables secure cross-border transmission of judicial documents. However, full integration of national case management systems across EU Member States has not been implemented.

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A.II – Digitalisation and dematerialisation of judicial administrative proceedings

A.II.1 – Dematerialised administrative proceedings

4. Is a dematerialised judicial administrative proceedings system in place within your jurisdiction?

☐ No
☐ Yes, at an initial stage
x Yes, at an intermediate stage
☐ Yes, at an advanced stage
☐ Yes, on a fully integrated basis
Please explain if necessary:

A dematerialised system for judicial administrative proceedings is partially implemented in Croatia, including in Court. Electronic tools such as the eSpis and the e-Communication enable digital case registration, document management, and electronic exchange of documents between courts and parties. These systems are integrated with the national e-Građani platform for secure user access.
However, full dematerialisation has not yet been achieved, as some procedural steps and case materials may still involve paper documents or physical files, and not all workflows are entirely digital. The judiciary is continuing efforts to expand paperless processes and further integrate digital systems.

4a. When this system exists at least at an initial stage, do judges and staff process and sign documents exclusively in digital format in their everyday working practice?

☐ Never
☐ Rarely
☐ Occasionally
x Frequently
☐ Always

Please explain if necessary:

All documents exchanged between courts and parties should be in digital format and digitally signed, but there are some exceptions (Article 109. paragraph 1. Of the Law on Administrative Disputes stipulates that submissions (to the court) may be filed in written or electronic form through the court's information system. A statement that is normally submitted through a filing may also be given orally before the court and recorded in the official minutes. Article 110. paragraph 2. of the Law on Administrative Disputes stipulates that if a party declares that it agrees to receive service electronically, the court will carry out service through the information system. Consent is presumed, unless the party states otherwise, if the party has submitted a document to the court in electronic form.).

4b. Percentage of paper files prior to the implementation of dematerialised administrative proceedings that have been digitised:

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☐ 0–20%

x 20–40%

☐ 40–65%

☐ 60–80%

☐ 80–100%

A.II.2 – Digital services for members of the public, lawyers and public authorities

5. Are digital services available for filing documents, consulting files, notifications, payments or other related services? If so, please specify which ones.

Digital services in Croatia are available for filing documents, consulting files, receiving notifications, making payments, and accessing other related administrative and judicial services. These services are primarily provided through the e-Građani platform, which enables citizens and businesses to submit applications and requests electronically (e.g. civil registry extracts, official certificates, and certain administrative procedures). Access to case and registry information is provided through judicial and registry systems such as e-Communication, e-Predmet, and the Joint Information System of Land Registry and Cadastre, which allow users to consult case status and obtain land registry documents. The system also provides a secure electronic mailbox for official notifications from public authorities and enables users to review financial obligations and, where available, make electronic payments of administrative fees.

6. Do these digital services guarantee an adequate level of accessibility for people with disabilities?

☐ 0–20%

☐ 20–40%

x 40–65%

☐ 60–80%

☐ 80 - 100%

7. Are lawyers involved in the design, development and implementation of digital platforms and tools intended for their use?
If so, please specify the terms of this involvement.

Lawyers are occasionally involved in the design, development and implementation of digital platforms intended for their use in Croatia, including systems used by the Court. Their involvement generally occurs through consultative mechanisms rather than direct participation in technical development. The Croatian Bar Association and representatives of the legal profession may be consulted by the Ministry of Justice, Public Administration and Digital Transformation during the preparation, testing, or rollout of

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digital tools such as the electronic communication system between courts and legal representatives. Feedback from lawyers is typically collected through working groups, pilot projects, training sessions, and professional consultations, particularly regarding usability, procedural compliance, and practical implementation.
However, the design and technical development of these platforms are primarily carried out by the Ministry and its IT service providers, with lawyers participating mainly in an advisory and user-feedback capacity.

8. Are there any support and training measures in place for users outside the court system (lawyers, members of the public, government agencies) regarding the use of the digital tools available to them?
x YES
☐ NO

If so, please specify which ones

Support and training measures are provided for external users of judicial digital tools, including lawyers, members of the public, and government agencies. These include guidelines, manuals, online instructions, training sessions, and helpdesk support for systems such as the electronic case management system (eSpis) and electronic communication platforms. External users also receive guidance for secure access via the e-Građani, ensuring effective use of available digital services.

A.III – Security of information systems and data protection

A.III.1 – Compliance with the regulatory framework

9. Do your jurisdiction's information systems comply with European and national standards on security, data protection and digital preservation?

☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Agree only slightly
☐ Indifferent
x Somewhat agree
☐ Strongly agree

Please explain if necessary:

Croatian judicial information systems, including those used by the Court, are generally compliant with national and European standards on security, data protection, and digital preservation. Systems such as the eSpis and electronic communication tools follow Croatian legal requirements on data protection (aligned with the EU GDPR) and implement secure authentication, encryption, and access control measures.
However, full compliance is still being strengthened, particularly regarding long-term digital preservation of historical case files and interoperability with evolving EU digital standards. As such, while the systems meet most mandatory requirements, ongoing improvements and audits are needed to ensure complete alignment with all European and national standards.

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A.III.2 – Incident management and business continuity

10. Are IT security incidents dealt with promptly and effectively?
☐ Never
☐ Rarely
☐ Occasionally
☐ Frequently
x Always

11. Are business continuity and disaster recovery plans regularly updated and tested?

☐ Never
☐ Rarely
☐ Occasionally
x Frequently
☐ Always

A.III.3 – Publicity and dissemination of court decisions

12. Are court decisions available online in their entirety?

☐ Never
☐ Rarely (only for the most significant decisions)
☐ Occasionally
☐ Frequently
x Always

Please add any additional information and explain if necessary:

Until recently, decisions of the High Administrative Court of the Republic of Croatia were published online only selectively, primarily when they were considered legally significant or relevant for the development and consistency of case law. As a result, the online availability of decisions was limited and did not systematically include all judgments.

However, as of 1. January 2025, a new practice has been introduced by Law on Courts whereby all court decisions must be made available online in full. In accordance with the requirements of the GDPR, these decisions are published in anonymised form to ensure the protection of personal data and the privacy of the parties involved.

13. Where a system for publishing decisions online is in place, is there an internal policy to ensure the protection of personal data and respect for the right to be forgotten?

☐ No
☐ No formalised policy; anonymisation is carried out by the registry services on a case-by-case basis
☐ No formalised policy; anonymisation is decided on a case-by-case basis on the instructions of judges

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x Yes, personal data are systematically anonymised
☐ Yes, personal data are anonymised in accordance with an internal policy providing for targeted exceptions
☐ Other (please specify)

A.IV – Training and digital skills

14. Does your jurisdiction offer structured and regularly updated digital technology training courses for judges and staff? – Yes.

If so, please specify which ones.

Structured and regularly updated training on digital technologies is provided to judges and court staff through the Judicial Academy of Croatia as part of continuous professional training. The programmes include training on the use of judicial IT systems, electronic communication tools, electronic case management, digital document handling, cybersecurity, and data protection in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). These courses are updated periodically to reflect developments in judicial digital systems and the ongoing digitalisation of court procedures.

A.V – Involvement of judges in digital transformation

15. To what extent are judges involved in decision-making and design processes relating to technological innovation and digital transformation in the judiciary? If applicable, please provide details.

Judges are involved in consultation and advisory processes related to technological innovation and digital transformation in the judiciary. Their participation usually takes place through working groups, consultations, and feedback mechanisms organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, Public Administration and Digital Transformation of the Republic of Croatia. Judges may provide input on the practical functioning and needs related to judicial IT systems and digital tools used in court proceedings. However, the strategic planning, development, and implementation of technological solutions are primarily managed at the central administrative level.

A.VI – Use of AI systems in administrative justice

A.VI.1 – Tools and level of deployment

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16. Are artificial intelligence systems currently used to assist in judicial or administrative activities? Yes.

16a. If so, which ones are used? (Please tick all that apply)

☐ Chatbots

☐ Semantic search tools

x Automated anonymisation of decisions

☐ Text analysis and assistance with legal research

☐ Tools to assist with organisation and court management

☐ Other (please specify)

16b. Overall level of internal deployment of AI systems:

x Occasional or isolated use
☐ Trial phase
☐ Development phase
☐ Widespread use
☐ Full integration

Please explain if necessary:

A.VII – Governance, regulation and ethical framework for AI

A.VII.1 – Internal guidelines and regulatory compliance

17. Has your jurisdiction adopted any internal guidelines, charters or policies governing the use of AI systems, in particular in application of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 (the AI Act), the GDPR and other relevant European instruments?

☐ YES

x NO

If so, please specify which ones.

18. Are AI systems subject to prior risk assessments?
☐ YES

x NO

If so, please specify the terms of these assessments

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19. Are there specific requirements in terms of transparency for the use of AI systems? If so, please provide details.

No specific requirements currently in place.

20. Is the use of AI systems accompanied by human oversight mechanisms?

x YES

☐ NO

If so, please provide details

The adoption and use of AI systems in administrative justice are subject to constant human supervision: AI tools have an instrumental and supportive function, while drafting and any decisions remain the sole responsibilities of the judge.
Human supervision is carried out by the following means:
– initial controlled training and coaching of AI systems: models are trained exclusively on certified internal data, according to criteria defined and verified in collaboration with the legal component, in order to ensure consistency with the legal context and the quality of the source data, and to prevent any bias or distortion;
– Ministry of Justice plays a key role in defining product architecture, identifying methodologies, and in training and supervision activities, with structural integration of legal and technological expertise;
– human validation of results;
– fine-tuning and non-automatic improvements: user feedback during the usage phase is not directly integrated into the models; a dedicated committee, composed of technicians and Ministry officials, analyses and evaluates evolutionary interventions before they are implemented;
– user responsibility and final human checks: although technical and organisational checks are in place, even after commissioning, the checks linked to each user's responsibilities remain intact.

None of the use cases implemented is intended to predict or determine the outcome of decisions, and artificial intelligence is not used to make decisions automatically.

21. Are specific methodologies implemented during the design, development and deployment of AI systems to ensure their traceability, reliability, integrity and accuracy? If so, please provide details.

Specific methodologies are adopted to ensure the traceability, accuracy and integrity of systems during the design, implementation and development of artificial intelligence projects, in accordance with European regulations and best practices, but they are exclusively the responsibility of the Ministry of Justice, Administration and Digital Transformation.

A.VIII – Innovation, prospects and future needs

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A.VIII.1 – Current innovation projects

22. Are there any innovation projects currently under way in the following areas? (please tick all that apply)

x Process automation
x System interoperability
x Modernisation of existing systems
x Advanced digital services for external users
☐ AI systems
☐ Other (please specify)

A.VIII.2 – Barriers to digital transformation

23 What do you consider to be the main barriers to the digital transformation of administrative justice? (please tick all that apply)

x Complexity of the regulatory framework
x Insufficient financial resources
x Lack of specialised human resources
x Organisational complexity
x Resistance to change and digital skills gap
x Cybersecurity risks and challenges
☐ Other (please specify)

A.VIII.3 – Investment priorities

24. What do you think should be the priority areas for investment over the next few years? (please tick all that apply)

x Modernisation of infrastructure
x Cybersecurity
x Training and skills development
☐ Deployment of AI systems
x Interoperability at European level
x Complete digitalisation of administrative procedures
☐ Other (please specify)

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25. Please describe one or more good practices in digitalisation that have been implemented or are planned within your jurisdiction.

A significant digitalisation measure implemented within the Croatian judiciary, including the High Administrative Court of the Republic of Croatia, is the systematic online publication of court decisions. As of 1. January 2025, all court decisions are made available online, which represents an important step toward improving transparency, accessibility of case law, and public trust in the judiciary. Before publication, all decisions are anonymised in order to protect the personal data of parties and other individuals involved in the proceedings, in accordance with GDPR. This approach ensures that transparency is balanced with the protection of privacy and personal data.

Another important digitalisation practice in the Croatian judiciary is the use of electronic communication systems and digital case management tools, coordinated by the Ministry of Justice, Administration and Digital Transformation of the Republic of Croatia. These systems enable electronic exchange of documents between courts and parties, facilitate the management of electronic case files, and improve the efficiency of administrative procedures. Together, these initiatives contribute to greater efficiency, improved access to justice, and enhanced transparency, while laying the groundwork for further digital transformation of the judicial system.

Part B
Automated administrative decisions and judicial review

B.I – Automated administrative decisions: substantive legality and procedure

1. Are there provisions in your legal system that authorise public administrations to use digital or algorithmic technologies in the exercise of their powers?

x YES

☐ NO

If so:

1.a. According to these provisions, what are the authorised tools and the objectives pursued by their use?

Croatian public administrations are authorized to use digital and algorithmic technologies under national laws like the General Administrative Procedure Act (ZUP) and Regulation on office operations, as well as EU AI Act implementation.
Article 41. paragraph 1. of ZUP stipulates that a party may submit a request to initiate proceedings directly to a public law body in writing or orally for the record, and may send such a request by post or deliver it electronically.
Article 75. of ZUP stipulates that public law bodies and parties and other persons participating in the procedure shall primarily communicate electronically and using the state information infrastructure system (paragraph 1.) and submissions submitted in

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electronic form with a qualified electronic signature in accordance with special regulations shall be deemed to have been signed in person (paragraph 2.).
Article 75. of ZUP stipulates that when the case file is kept in electronic form, the public law body is obliged to ensure the technical conditions for its inspection. The public law body may ensure the availability of the file electronically, if the conditions for the protection of the party's privacy are ensured.
Article 94. paragraph 1. of ZUP stipulates that delivery is made electronically upon request, with the express consent of the party or when required by law.
Article 98. paragraph 1. of ZUP stipulates that the decision consists of a header, introduction, dictum, explanation, instructions on legal remedies, and the handwritten signature of an authorized official and an imprint of the official seal of the public law body or a qualified electronic signature of an authorized official or a qualified electronic seal of the public law body.
Article 3 of the Regulation on office operations stipulates that public bodies must primarily communicate electronically with each other and citizens.
Article 9. paragraph 1. of the Regulation on office operations stipulates that electronically received documents are processed, recorded, and not printed by default.
Article 15. paragraphs 3. and 4. of the Regulation on office operations stipulates that physical documents convert to electronic form and non-searchable ones undergo optical text recognition whenever possible and in accordance with the needs of the body.
Article 30. paragraph 3. of the Regulation on office operations stipulates that cases and documents can be automatically assigned to work through the office business information system when this is possible in the work process.
Article 62. paragraph 1. and paragraph 2. of the Regulation on office operations stipulates that the office operations information system must enable complete office operations in electronic form and the office operations information system must have the ability to connect and exchange data with other information systems that are maintained separately for certain administrative areas in accordance with the regulation governing the organizational and technical standards for connecting to the state information infrastructure.

1.b. What types of acts can be adopted using these technologies?
In particular, is the use of algorithms permitted for the adoption of administrative decisions involving discretionary powers?

Regarding algorithms, Croatian law does not explicitly provide a general framework for fully automated administrative decision-making, but the use of software or algorithmic tools is possible as technical support in preparing decisions, especially in simple or standardized cases based solely on data from official records. However, where administrative authorities exercise discretionary powers or must assess the specific circumstances of a case, the final decision must be taken by a human official, and algorithms may only assist the process. In practice, automation is therefore limited to rule-based or routine administrative decisions, while decisions involving discretion, evaluation of evidence, or balancing of interests cannot be fully automated.

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2. Are there provisions in your legal system governing the design, deployment and use of artificial intelligence systems employed by public administrations?

x YES

☐ NO

If so,

2.a. what type of implementation measures are these? (for example, legislative or soft law):

2.b. Is there an obligation for public administrations to inform the public or individuals about the use of AI systems?

2.c. Are any authorities or bodies responsible for developing general rules or standards for the use of artificial intelligence within public administrations?

Croatia's legal system governs AI systems in public administrations primarily through direct application of the EU AI Act (Regulation (EU) 2024/1689), effective since August 2024 with phased implementation, including full effect by August 2026. National alignment includes designated competent authorities such as the Ombudswoman, Personal Data Protection Agency (AZOP), and others for oversight, enforcement, and rights protection.
The framework emphasizes risk-based regulation: prohibiting manipulative/biometric AI, mandating transparency and assessments for high-risk systems (e.g., in administration), and requiring human oversight. Ongoing national AI strategy and implementing laws further detail design, deployment, and use per EU standards.

3. What conditions must be met to ensure the legality of administrative procedures involving the use of artificial intelligence systems?

In particular:

3.a. Is the decision-making administration required to indicate the type of algorithmic system used and its principal characteristics?

3.b. At what stage of the procedure must the administration provide information about the use of an algorithmic system and its characteristics?

3.c. Does the interested party have the opportunity to comment on or challenge the use or operation of the AI system before the final decision is made?

Currently, in Croatia, there are no general standards requiring administrations to specify, at a given stage of the administrative procedure or in the final decision, the use of a specific algorithm, or to make its characteristics public.

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4. Are specific areas of administrative law in your country subject to express authorisation for the use of administrative decisions based on artificial intelligence systems? – No.

5. Are there specific areas of administrative law in which the use of artificial intelligence systems for issuing administrative decisions is expressly prohibited? – No

B.II – Judicial review of automated administrative decisions

6. Does national case-law recognise the legality of automated administrative decisions?

☐ YES

x NO

Please explain if necessary:

If so:

6.a. What principles and conditions have been identified by national case-law as necessary for these decisions to be legally valid? X

6.b. Have any limitations been identified with regard to the possibility of delegating the administration's decision-making power to algorithmic systems? X

6.c. In particular, which of the following principles must be respected, according to national case-law, when adopting an automated administrative decision? (Please tick all that apply)

☐ Principle of transparency
☐ Principle of non-exclusivity of human intervention ('human in the loop')
☐ Principle of non-discrimination
☐ Principle of knowledge and comprehensibility of algorithmic functioning
☐ Principle of attributing the decision to an authority vested with power
☐ Other (please specify)

X

7. Has national case-law ruled on the nature and legal classification of the algorithm or AI system used for administrative decision-making? - No

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8. What are the limits of the judicial review that administrative judges can exercise over automated administrative decisions?

Bearing in mind that the subject of an administrative dispute is the assessment of the legality of an individual decision by which a public law body has decided on a right, obligation or legal interest of a party in an administrative matter (administrative act) against which it is not permitted to file a regular legal remedy, the assessment of the legality of the actions of a public law body in the field of administrative law that have violated a right, obligation or legal interest of a party against which it is not permitted to file a regular legal remedy, the assessment of the legality of the failure of a public law body in the field of administrative law to decide on a right, obligation or legal interest or a regular legal remedy of a party within the legally prescribed time limit, or to act in accordance with the regulation, and the assessment of the legality of the conclusion, termination and performance of an administrative contract (Article 3. of the Law on Administrative Disputes), administrative courts may, within these limits, assess the legality of automated administrative decisions.

9. According to national case-law, is the right of access to the algorithmic process that led to the automated administrative decision recognised?

☐ YES
x NO

If so:
9.a. What information relating to the AI system (data, logic, key parameters) must be made available to the party concerned?
x

Part C
Administrative judges and the use of artificial intelligence in the performance of judicial functions and in the decision-making process, in light of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 (the 'AI Act') and other European Union standards and regulations, such as the GDPR, the DSA, the DMA, etc.

1. Does your country recognise, at constitutional level, principles that expressly refer to the use of artificial intelligence in the performance of judicial functions?

☐ YES

x NO

If so, please specify which ones

X

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2. Has your country adopted or is it in the process of adopting national measures to implement Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 (the AI Act) concerning the use of artificial intelligence to support judicial decision-making, which is classified as a 'high-risk' activity (Annex III, point 8(a))?

x YES

☐ NO

If so:

2.a. What is the nature of these measures (legislative, regulatory, guidelines, soft-law instruments)?

Croatia's measures include regulatory notifications designating competent authorities (e.g., Ministry of Justice listing 7 bodies notified to the EC in December 2024) for AI Act oversight, including high-risk judicial systems. Ongoing soft-law efforts encompass a national AI strategy with ethical guidelines, human rights impact assessments, and working groups for judiciary AI (e.g., judgment anonymization tools), aligning with EU timelines through August 2026. There is no standalone legislative act yet and direct EU AI Act application supplemented by policy frameworks.

2.b. For what purposes is the use of AI permitted? (Please tick all that apply)

☐ Research and interpretation of the law

☐ Research and assessment of the facts

☐ Application of the law to a specific factual situation

☐ Administrative activities that are purely ancillary (recital 61 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689)

Please explain if necessary:

In Croatia, there is no specific national law currently authorising or restricting particular purposes of AI use in judicial decision-making. As an EU Member State, Croatia will apply Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 (the AI Act) directly.

2.c. What measures are taken to ensure human oversight (Article 14 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689)? In particular, under what conditions is the user able to ignore, cancel or override the result produced by the artificial intelligence system (Article 14(4)(d) of the AI Act), or to suspend or interrupt its use (Article 14(4)(d) of the AI Act)?

There are no specific measures.

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2.d. What regulatory measures have been adopted to ensure the transparency, accuracy and robustness of the artificial intelligence system used (Articles 13 and 15 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 – the AI Act)?

In Croatia, no specific national legislation has yet been adopted that regulates transparency, accuracy and robustness requirements for AI systems used in the judiciary.

3. Are there any official forms of testing or use of artificial intelligence systems for decision-making or generating judicial decisions currently in place in your country?

☐ YES

x NO

Please explain if necessary:

If so:

3.a What do they consist of?

X

3.b. What data sets are used?

X

3.c. Is the software used publicly owned or provided by private operators?

X

3.d. Have any biases been identified in its operation? If so, what kind?

X

4. Are measures planned in your country to ensure a sufficient level of artificial intelligence literacy specifically for judges (Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689)?

x YES

☐ NO

If so:

4.a. What do these measures consist of?

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In Croatia, the planned measures to ensure a sufficient level of artificial intelligence literacy for judges mainly consist of training, awareness-raising and capacity-building activities within the judicial training system, in preparation for the application of Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 (AI Act).

4.b. Is specific training planned to prevent or limit the phenomenon known as 'automation bias' (Article 14(4)(b) of the AI Act)?

x YES

☐ NO

Please explain if necessary:

5. Is the use of generative or agentic artificial intelligence systems permitted in your country to assist in the drafting of procedural documents or court decisions? - No

To help you understand the question better: **generative artificial intelligence (AI)** is a category of AI models which, thanks to machine learning and training on vast amounts of data, are capable of creating original content (text, images, videos, music, etc.). **Agentic AI** is described as a system capable of autonomously planning, making decisions and executing complex tasks with minimal human intervention to achieve a defined objective [source: OECD].

6. Has the national case law of your country addressed issues concerning the interpretation and application of EU Regulation 2024/1689?

☐ YES

x NO

Please explain if necessary:

6.a. If yes, which principles have been established?

7. Have national courts of your country submitted preliminary rulings to the Court of Justice of the European Union regarding EU Regulation 2024/1689?

☐ YES

x NO

Please explain if necessary:

7.a. If yes, which questions were referred? What answers has the Court of Justice of the European Union provided?

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