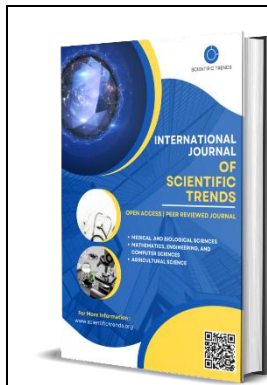


Issues of Implementing The “Digital Court” Concept in Judicial Activity

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Abstract

This article analyses the implementation of the “Digital Court” concept in the activities of courts, highlighting its significance for improving the efficiency, transparency, and accessibility of judicial proceedings. Particular attention is paid to the use of digital technologies in court administration and case management. In addition, the article examines relevant foreign experience in this area and identifies key aspects that may be adapted to the national judicial system.

Keywords: Digital Court; Digital Legal Assistant; Electronic Case Management System; Electronic Notification.

Introduction

Creating optimal conditions for the effective implementation of artificial intelligence technologies in judicial activities, ensuring the consistent development of digital transformation processes, as well as achieving the goals and objectives set out in the “Digital Uzbekistan — 2030” Strategy, constitute a pressing scientific and practical task at the present stage.

In his Address to the Oliy Majlis and the people of Uzbekistan, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, addressed the issue of the “Digital Court” system, stating: “We have begun organising the administration of justice on the basis of the ‘Digital Court’ concept. By further digitalising the investigation process, we will strengthen the protection of human rights. To this end, artificial intelligence technologies will be introduced at all stages, from the receipt of a crime report to the transfer of a case to court, thereby reducing the human factor”¹.

This statement reflects the conceptual directions of institutional and technological reforms aimed at modernising the administration of justice and investigative activities by the state. In particular, the implementation of the “Digital Court” concept is intended to enhance openness, transparency, and efficiency within the judicial and legal system, while the digitalisation of investigative

¹ <https://president.uz/oz/lists/view/8834> O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidenti Shavkat Mirziyoyevning Oliy Majlis va O‘zbekiston xalqiga Murojaatnomasi 26.12.2025.

procedures is envisaged to establish new mechanisms for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The statement indicates that the introduction of artificial intelligence technologies at all procedural stages, from the receipt of a crime report to the submission of the case to court, is primarily aimed at minimising subjective approaches dependent on the human factor, corruption risks, and procedural errors. This, in turn, plays a crucial role in ensuring the objectivity of decision-making and the impartial evaluation of evidence in investigative and judicial activities.

At the same time, the use of artificial intelligence enables stricter adherence to procedural deadlines in the investigative process, facilitates the prompt and systematic consideration of citizens' appeals, and helps create a digital legal environment that guarantees the presumption of innocence and the right to a fair trial. Consequently, this initiative can be regarded as a strategic approach aimed at building a rule-of-law state and a strong civil society through the integration of modern information technologies into law enforcement activities.

In Uzbekistan, significant steps have been taken on this topic, particularly marked by the adoption of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on 21 August 2025, entitled "On Additional Measures to Enhance the Fair Administration of Justice through the Introduction of Artificial Intelligence Technologies in Judicial Activities and to Improve the Material and Technical Support of the Judicial System." Of particular note is Chapter II of the Decree, titled "Implementation of the 'Digital Court' Concept in Judicial Activities."

This chapter outlines several positive changes, including the provision that "prior to filing a claim, the likely outcome of court proceedings and the expected costs will be determined with the assistance of artificial intelligence". This provision can be regarded as a significant step towards the introduction of predictive digital mechanisms within the judicial and legal system. Primarily, this approach serves to expand the opportunities for citizens and business entities to assess their legal standing, anticipate potential dispute outcomes, and understand the financial implications before approaching the court.

The formation of the anticipated outcome of court proceedings based on artificial intelligence technologies is envisaged through the analysis of judicial practice, legislative norms, and previous court decisions. This process aims to enhance legal certainty and awareness. As a result, it is expected to reduce groundless or legally unsubstantiated claims, optimise court workloads, and ensure the effective use of judicial resources.

Furthermore, the pre-calculation of court-related costs increases financial transparency for citizens during the litigation process and reinforces their confidence in the administration of justice. This approach not only strengthens the principles of social justice and equality within the judicial system but also provides individuals with the opportunity to make informed and reasoned decisions in exercising their constitutional right to judicial protection.

At the same time, this mechanism presupposes that the results provided by artificial intelligence are of a consultative and informational nature, do not limit the court's authority to make independent decisions, and should be applied while maintaining the primacy of the human factor. Consequently, the provision established in the Decree can be recognised as an important institutional mechanism aimed at balancing technological innovations and legal safeguards in the process of digitalising the judicial system. The practical significance of this change is considerable, as it also contributes to preserving judicial impartiality. For instance, most citizens

submitting applications or complaints often inquire in advance about the likely outcome of their cases before formally presenting them to the judge. A critical nuance in this process is that, under our legislation, the judge is not permitted to disclose their personal position to the parties before examining the case. If proper explanations are not provided regarding this, it may lead to strong dissatisfaction among citizens, who may perceive it as being misled into pursuing a case unlikely to produce a positive result. Therefore, providing the anticipated outcome of court proceedings and the estimated costs to the parties before the trial, based on artificial intelligence, allows citizens to make informed decisions regarding their claims and protects judges from undue pressure.

The creation of such a system in our country has foreign precedents. For example, Argentina has the Prometea artificial intelligence system, developed by the judicial system of Buenos Aires. Prometea assists in case classification and the preparation of draft court decisions. The system predicts outcomes based on previous court rulings and documents, thereby expediting the processing of materials. This contributes to the automation of draft decisions in judicial practice and facilitates more efficient case management².

Artificial intelligence is also widely applied in the Brazilian judicial system. In Brazil, the judiciary employs AI to manage judicial practice efficiently, classify cases, and automatically analyse documents. Various AI tools assist in rapidly retrieving judicial information, categorising cases, and preparing draft decisions³.

In China, an artificial intelligence platform has been launched to enhance judicial efficiency. Following its application in sectors such as education, tourism, and healthcare, the introduction of AI technologies into the Chinese judicial system has been actively considered. This approach aims to improve the efficiency of judges' work and facilitate public access to legal services.

In November 2024, Yu Maoyu, Chief Editor of the People's Court Press under the Supreme People's Court (SPC), presented an AI-based judicial platform at a press conference. He noted that the platform is registered with the competent cybersecurity authority in China. Yu described the platform as a "national-level legal AI infrastructure based on large-scale, reliable, and high-quality judicial and legal data," encompassing over 320 million legal information units, including court decisions, cases, and legal opinions.

According to Yu, the platform integrates extensive legal data and enables the rapid generation of content tailored to user needs, with capabilities to understand legal terminology and logical reasoning. Another official from the People's Court Press, Zhang Chengbin, highlighted that the platform allows judges to save time and effort in searching for legal materials, analysing cases, and selecting relevant matters. While electronic tools are already in use within the judiciary, this platform is expected to further enhance judicial efficiency.

Zhang Chengbin further explained that the platform facilitates the analysis and comparison of large volumes of electronic documents, identification of key elements, and concise summarisation of case content, significantly improving overall judicial productivity. He described the platform as a "digital legal assistant" for judges, capable of classifying legal information and reducing their workload amid increasing caseloads.

² <https://unescochair.cs.uns.edu.ar>.

³ <https://restofworld.org>.

Once further developed and enriched with additional information, the platform is also planned to provide legal services to the broader public. For instance, citizens will be able to use the platform to address their legal needs. By analysing non-professional legal questions submitted by users, the platform can offer recommendations and conclusions on dispute resolution, either through mediation or court proceedings, based on the specifics of the situation. This significantly facilitates access to legal advice and services for the general population⁴.

In conclusion, the experiences of Argentina, Brazil, and China demonstrate that there are common conceptual approaches and functional similarities in the implementation of artificial intelligence technologies within judicial systems. In these countries, AI is not employed as a tool to fully replace judges, but rather as an auxiliary, analytical, and predictive mechanism.

Specifically, in Argentina, the Prometea system analyses court documents and previous judicial practice to identify potential case outcomes and assist in drafting decisions, thereby expediting the decision-making process and reducing the technical workload associated with the human factor. In Brazil, AI technologies are applied to classify cases, analyse documents, and review judicial practice, enabling the efficient use of judicial resources and enhancing organisational and procedural efficiency in case management.

In China, artificial intelligence has been implemented within the judiciary as a centralized, national-level model for digitalising the court system, functioning as a “digital legal assistant” for judges based on a large-scale judicial and legal database. This system is designed to facilitate rapid analysis of case materials, generate legal opinions, and expand access to legal services for the public, aiming to enhance the level of fair justice.

Overall, the experiences of these three countries demonstrate a prevailing trend in the application of AI in judicial activities: integrating technology as a supportive tool rather than completely replacing the human factor, ensuring the quality and consistency of judicial decisions, and broadening citizens’ opportunities to understand their legal standing prior to initiating court proceedings. These examples clearly highlight the necessity of balancing legal safeguards with technological innovations in the implementation of the “Digital Court” concept.

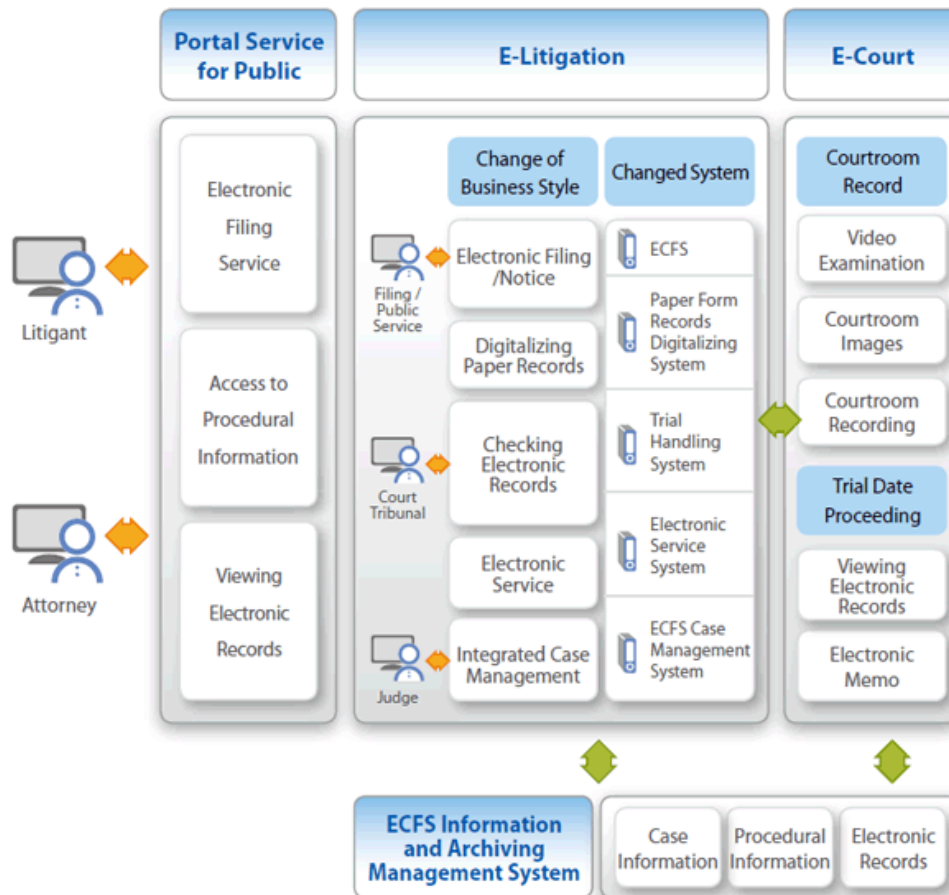
In the Republic of Korea, the Electronic Case Filing Service (ECFS) serves as the judiciary’s electronic case management system. This comprehensive information system enables participants in court proceedings and their representatives (such as attorneys) to initiate and manage cases electronically, as well as to access information regarding judicial activities and procedures remotely.

Through ECFS, parties can submit all types of court documents, written evidence, and digital evidence via the internet without personally visiting the courthouse. Once a case is initiated, plaintiffs or applicants are notified by email or SMS whenever other parties submit documents to the court. If defendants or interested parties consent to submit documents electronically, they also receive electronic notifications regarding submissions made by other parties.

These notifications, together with electronic access to case materials and procedural information, allow all ECFS users to monitor the current status of court proceedings promptly and efficiently. Furthermore, the computerised case management application integrated into the ECFS enables judges and court staff to work with electronic case documents, promptly determine the status of

⁴ <https://english.court.gov.cn>

cases, and manage court proceedings efficiently. The ECFS has gradually replaced the previously used paper-based case management system, initiating a new phase of electronic case administration. This development can also be observed in Appendix 1.



Judges are provided with the ability to conduct court hearings without relying on paper documents, as all electronic case materials, including legal documents, are retrieved from centralized databases and reviewed in courtrooms via monitors and large display screens.

To ensure the protection of personal data and information security, access to electronic case files is granted exclusively to participants in the court proceedings and their representatives, and is not open to the general public. At the same time, an online information service providing access to Supreme Court and lower court decisions is made publicly available in the Republic of Korea.

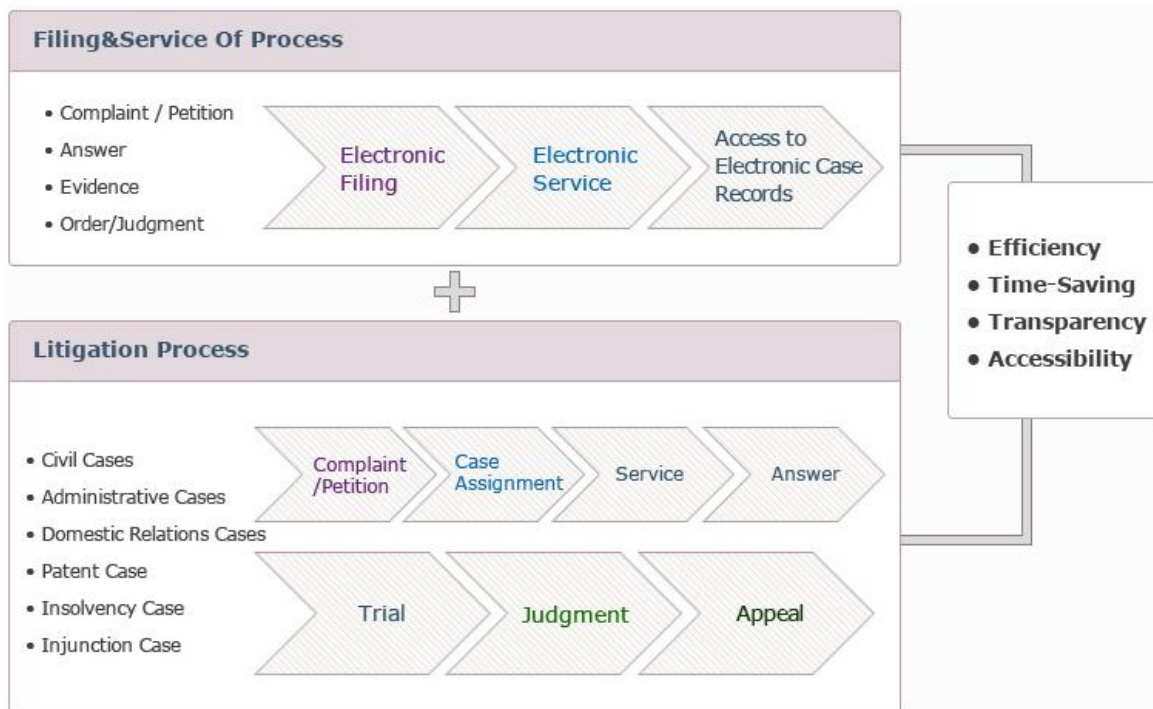
Regarding the structure and functional capabilities of the ECFS, the Electronic Case Filing System implemented within the judiciary represents a comprehensive institutional model for the digitalisation of court proceedings. The system enables participants in court cases and their representatives to submit court documents and evidence electronically for certain categories of cases, as well as to access case materials and procedural information remotely.

Through the ECFS, users can monitor case-related information in real time and access Supreme Court decisions, legal articles, and current developments in the field of law. This functionality plays a crucial role in ensuring legal certainty and consistency in judicial practice.

A notable feature of the system is its integration with electronic services of financial institutions, registration authorities, and other state agencies involved in judicial processes. This integration

reduces additional bureaucratic procedures in case management and enhances the speed and efficiency of court proceedings.

Moreover, the ECFS serves as an effective management tool for judges and court staff. The system enables the electronic scheduling of court hearings, preparation of cases for review, and rapid monitoring of case statuses. As a result, it facilitates the efficient use of time and resources in case management. This development can also be observed in Appendix 2.



Overall, the ECFS has established a fully digital infrastructure that replaces the traditional paper-based case management system, enabling the complete conduct of electronic court proceedings. It is recognised as an effective foreign model of the “Digital Court” concept⁵.

Several scholars have expressed their views on this issue. Notably, Syariful Alam and other researchers, in their articles, analyse the potential of artificial intelligence to transform judicial proceedings from the administrative stage through to the main judicial phase. The authors emphasise that AI technologies can accelerate court processes and support fair and impartial decision-making through data analysis, while also highlighting the need for a cautious approach when implementing AI in judicial practice⁶.

These perspectives support the view that integrating artificial intelligence into judicial processes can significantly enhance both the administrative and substantive phases of court proceedings. The authors argue that AI technologies can improve the efficiency of decision-making and strengthen the principles of fairness and impartiality by enabling rapid and systematic analysis of case materials. At the same time, they emphasise the need for a cautious, gradual approach to the

⁵ <http://ecfs.scourt.go.kr>.

⁶ Alam, S., Salsabila, M. S., & Al-Fatih, S. (2024). Artificial Intelligence (AI) in judiciary processes: Between wild solutions in the digital age and the irony of justice opportunities. *Indonesian Journal of Law and Society*. <https://doi.org/10.19184/ijls.v5i1.42798>

implementation of AI in judicial practice, taking into account potential legal risks and ethical considerations.

Among Uzbek scholars, J. Eshonqulov and D. Muzaffarova, in their articles, provide a detailed analysis of the current applications, opportunities, and limitations of AI in the judicial system. They highlight the potential of artificial intelligence to enhance efficiency and fairness in case management. At the same time, they emphasise that AI should not function as a decision-making authority, but rather as an auxiliary mechanism under human supervision⁷.

According to scholars, artificial intelligence modernises the judicial system, automates administrative processes, enhances efficiency through data analysis, and facilitates the rapid processing of ambiguous documents, among other functions. However, their research emphasises that AI should not serve as a substitute for judges; rather, it should operate as an auxiliary tool under human supervision. Legal safeguards, transparency, ethical principles, and the protection of human rights are the most critical requirements for the implementation of AI in the judiciary. In this context, AI should function as a supportive mechanism under human oversight, and assigning full decision-making responsibility to AI is neither legally nor practically appropriate.

In conclusion, artificial intelligence cannot serve as an independent decision-making entity. In particular, the element of a judge's internal confidence in judicial decision-making is a prerogative that belongs exclusively to the judge. Since judicial decisions require human reasoning, internal confidence, ethical evaluation, and legal accountability, they must remain within the exclusive authority of human judges. Therefore, in the process of integrating AI into the judicial system, human oversight, legal safeguards, transparency, ethical standards, and the protection of human rights are recognised as fundamental principles.

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