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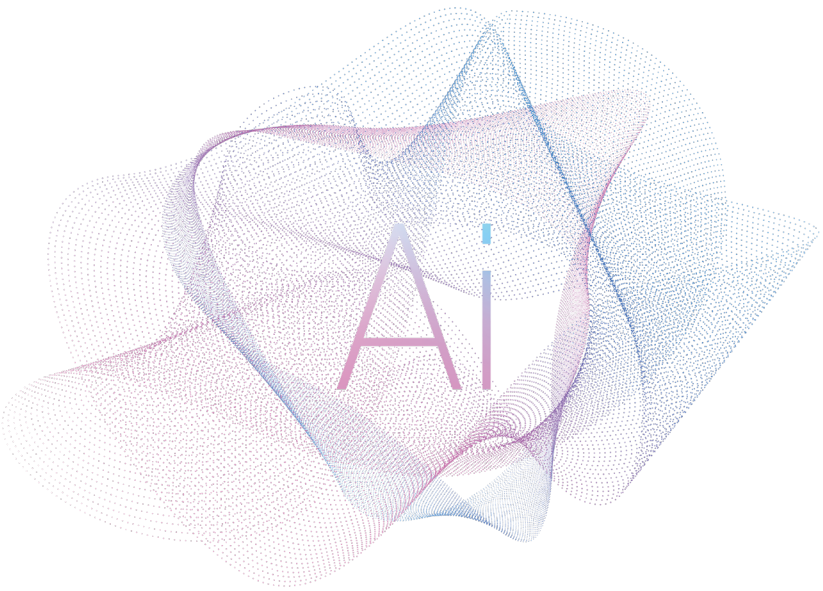
Recent Trends of Law & Regulation in Korea

Issue and Law

- **Understanding the AI Basic Act: Core Provisions & Legal Implications**
- **The Evolution of Legal Tech in Korea: Progresses and Challenges**
- **Legal Issues Related to Generative AI Contents**

Living in Korea

- **Navigating the AI Era in Korea: Healthcare, Finance, Commerce, and Mobility**



Editor's Note

Dear Readers

As artificial intelligence continues to transform our world at an unprecedented pace, legal systems across the globe are racing to keep up. In this 47th edition, we examine Korea's legislative and regulatory responses to the rise of AI, as well as the broader implications for legal technology and content creation. In "Issue & Law" section, we introduce the AI Basic Act, examine the growth of Legal Tech and its current applications, and analyze legal issues surrounding AI-generated content, particularly in relation to copyright issues. The "Case Law" section takes a closer look at a Supreme Court's ruling that drew a line between permissible Legal Tech practices and privacy violations. In our "Interview" section, the Personal Information Protection Commission shares insights on AI and data protection. Finally, "Living in Korea" section explores how AI is transforming sectors such as healthcare, transportation, and finance, as well as the regulatory changes that are following. We extend our sincere gratitude to our readers, contributors, and the hardworking team behind this publication. Your continued interest and support inspire us to keep delivering relevant and engaging content. We hope you enjoy this edition.

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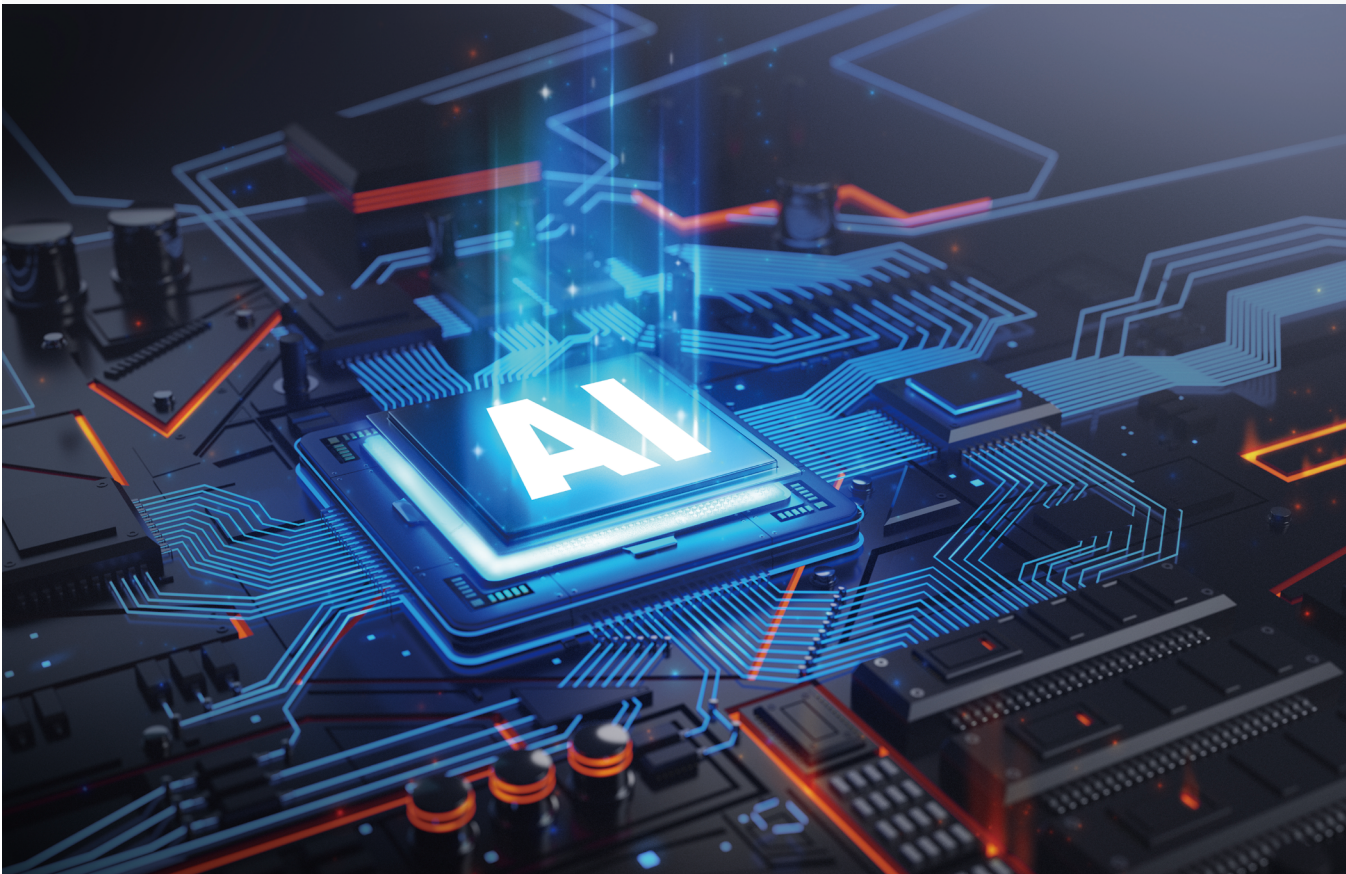
Ministry of Justice

The government of the Republic of Korea has changed its official "government identity." The new logo conveys the dynamism and enthusiasm of the country with the three colors of blue, red and white. It echoes off Korea's national flag Taegeukgi with the taegeuk circular swirl and the blank canvas embodies in white. The typeface

was inspired by the font used in the "Hunminjeongeum" (1446), the original Hangeul text, in consideration of the harmony embodied in the taegeuk circle. The new logo began to be used by all 22 ministries, including the Ministry of Justice and 51 central government agencies from March 2016.

Understanding the AI Basic Act:

Core Provisions & Legal Implications



Background and Significance of the AI Basic Act

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence has led to its widespread adoption across various industries. At the same time, growing concerns over societal risks of AI, such as deepfake-related crimes and copyright violations, highlight the need for a legal framework that ensures AI is developed and used in a responsible and trustworthy manner.

In May 2023, the European Union became the world's first to approve the 「Artificial Intelligence Act」 (EU AI Act), which sets out comprehensive regulatory standards for AI developers and users. Korea also began legislative discussions aimed at promoting AI innovation whilst ensuring safe and ethical use of AI. As a result, the National Assembly ratified the 「Basic Act on the Development of Artificial Intelligence and the Establishment of Foundation for Trustworthiness」 (AI Basic Act) in December 2024. As Korea's first comprehensive legal framework for AI, the Act provides directions for future AI governance. This article outlines the key provisions of the Act and explores its implications across major industries.

Definition of Key Concepts in the Act

Article 2 of the AI Basic Act defines key terms that determine the scope and application of the regulation. In particular, the Act specifies the definitions of 'High-Impact AI,' 'Generative AI,' and 'AI Business Operators.'

'High-Impact AI' refers to AI systems that may significantly affect or pose risks to human life, physical safety, and fundamental rights. The Act identifies ten high-risk sectors, that include healthcare, energy, nuclear power, and transportation.

'Generative AI' is defined as AI that creates text, sound, images, and other content by mimicking the structure and patterns of input data. Unlike traditional AI models which rely heavily on predefined sources, generative AI learns from patterns to generate new outputs.

The term 'AI Business Operators' encompasses both AI Developers and AI Users. AI Developers refer to those who directly develop and provide AI systems, while AI Users are those who utilize AI systems to provide products or services. Both groups are collectively classified as 'AI Business Operators' and are subject to the same regulatory obligations under the Act.

Comparative Analysis with the EU AI Act

As noted earlier, the EU AI Act is the world's first legal framework to comprehensively govern AI technology and its application. As the first legislation to establish clear standards and assign responsibilities from development to usage of AI, the EU AI Act is expected to become an important point of reference in shaping future global discussions on AI regulation.

The following are the key differences between AI Basic Act and the EU AI Act, categorized into (1) regulated parties, (2) application, and (3) penalties:

Category	AI Basic Act	EU AI Act
Regulated Parties	- Specifically defines and regulates only "High-Impact AI" and "Generative AI"	- Categorizes AI by risk levels: unacceptable, high, limited, and minimal

Category	AI Basic Act	EU AI Act
Regulated Parties	- Merges AI developers and users under the term "AI Business Operators" and imposes uniform obligations	- Imposes different duties on providers, distributors, importers, and deployers.
Application	- Applies to all AI systems except those for national security or defense	- Allows broader exemptions including R&D and personal non-commercial use
Penalties	- Imposes a maximum fine of KRW 30 million (~USD 22,000), regardless of company size	- Fines of up to 7% of revenue or €35 million, whichever is higher.

First, in terms of regulated parties, the EU AI Act classifies AI systems into four categories based on their level of risk and applies different levels of regulation accordingly. In contrast, Korea's AI Basic Act adopts the term 'impact' rather than 'risk'. This reflects the legislative intent of Haimin Lee, a member of the Natinal Assembly and the proposer of the AI Basic Act, as stated during discussions in the subcommittee on legislation, to treat AI systems not as something inherently dangerous, but as technologies with significant societal impact, with an emphasis on managing that impact. Additionally, while the EU imposes different obligations on AI-related entities based on their roles, the AI Basic Act applies a unified set of responsibilities under the single concept of 'AI Business Operators,' encompassing both developers and users.

In terms of application, the AI Basic Act limits exemptions strictly to AI systems developed or used for national security and defense. The EU AI Act, by contrast, permits broader exemptions, including those for research and development as well as non-commercial personal use, thereby allowing for more regulatory flexibility.

Lastly, regarding penalties, the EU imposes administrative fines of up to 7% of a company's global annual revenue or €35 million, depending on the nature of the violation and company size. Korea's AI Basic Act, on the other hand, imposes administrative fine of up to KRW 30 million, regardless of corporate scale, making it relatively less stringent in terms of regulatory intensity.

Key Obligations of AI Business Operators

The AI Basic Act aims to promote the sound development of AI while mandating clear responsibilities for AI business operators to ensure a safe and trustworthy ecosystem. Below are the core provisions that define the specific responsibilities of AI business operators under the Act.

● **Advance Notification Obligation (Article 31)**

AI business operators must notify users in advance when offering products or services that utilize High-Impact or Generative AI. In particular, both developers and users of Generative AI are required to disclose its use. This provision aims to enhance transparency by ensuring that users are informed when AI is used in the development of products or services. In light of the growing use of generative AI in high-risk areas such as deepfake technologies, setting out a disclosure requirement serves as an important legal safeguard.

● **Risk Management Obligation for High-Performance AI (Article 32)**

AI business operators using AI systems that exceed a certain computing capacity are required to implement processes for identifying, assessing, and mitigating potential risks. Notably, this obligation applies regardless of whether the AI is categorized as ‘High-Impact.’ The specific standard, to be set by Presidential Decree, may substantially shape the scope of regulatory compliance required from businesses.

● **Safety and Reliability Measures Obligation for High-Impact AI (Article 34)**

AI business operators that develop or deploy High-Impact AI systems are obligated to implement risk management and user protection measures in accordance with Presidential Decree. These include establishing and operating plans for risk mitigation and user protection, ensuring explainability of AI outcomes by clarifying decision-making criteria and training data, maintaining human oversight of AI operations, and keeping records of how reliability measures are applied. This provision serves as an institutional foundation for addressing the unpredictability and reliability issues associated with High-Impact AI.

● **Impact Assessment Obligation (Article 35)**

The Act recommends that operators of High-Impact AI conduct impact assessments to evaluate potential violation on constitutional rights. Public institutions are also advised to prioritize AI products and services that have undergone such assessments. Although not legally binding, these assessments may become practical requirements for firms seeking to enter the public sector.

● **Regulatory Oversight (Article 40)**

The Act authorizes the Minister of Science and ICT (MSIT) to determine

whether AI business operators are in violation of the law. Under this provision, the Minister may request the submission of relevant documentation or conduct on-site inspections. If any violations are identified, the Minister is empowered to issue corrective orders or suspend the illegal conduct. Failure to comply with such orders may result in an administrative fine of up to KRW 30 million. As one of the Act’s core enforcement provisions, it provides a practical mechanism to ensure AI business operators comply with legal requirements.

Industry-Specific Implementation of the Basic AI Act

The AI Basic Act is likely to affect how AI systems are implemented across different industries, highlighting the need to examine its relevance and impact in each sector.

In the mobility sector, AI systems, that serve as the core technology behind autonomous vehicles, are designated as High-Impact AI given their direct influence on passenger safety and human life. As such, companies operating in this sector are obligated to comply with the transparency and safety requirements mandated by the AI Basic Act and are further expected to reinforce safety assessments and improve user disclosure regarding the use of AI systems.

In the medical device and healthcare sectors, AI systems are likewise designated as High-Impact AI. A key regulatory issue here is the potential overlap between the AI Basic Act and the “Digital Medical Products Act”, which governs clinical trials, approval procedures, and quality control for AI-based medical products. While integration of the AI Basic Act’s requirements into the existing medical device framework could mitigate some aspects of regulatory duplication, AI-based medical devices are not excluded from the scope of the AI Basic Act. As such, companies may still face overlapping compliance burdens. Further institutional alignment between the two legal frameworks will be necessary to reduce regulatory friction.

AI systems in the financial sector may also be viewed as High-Impact AI, particularly when used in credit scoring, issuing loans, or recruitment processes that significantly affect individuals’ rights and obligations. The Financial Services Commission (FSC) has already issued AI guidelines recommending appropriate internal controls and approval procedures for high-risk services. Some financial institutions have incorporated these guidelines into their operations. However, since the AI Basic Act may introduce obligations not covered under the existing guidelines, financial firms should closely examine the new

regulatory requirements and consider adjusting their current AI systems to ensure full compliance.

Evaluation and Future Outlook of the AI Basic Act

The AI Basic Act is Korea’s first comprehensive legislation governing AI technology and its applications. It marks a significant first step toward building a legal framework that supports the responsible development of the AI industry while fostering a safe and trustworthy environment for its use. Notably, by defining key terms such as ‘High-Impact AI’ and ‘Generative AI’ and imposing related obligations on AI business operators, the Act reflects a policy shift toward balancing innovation with appropriate regulatory oversight.

Nonetheless, a number of key challenges still need to be addressed. The criteria for identifying High-Impact AI are based on the notion of ‘significant impact’, which is inherently vague and may lead to interpretative uncertainty. In addition, many of the core provisions concerning business obligations remain largely declarative, with key implementation and enforcement details left to be specified in lower-level regulations. To enhance regulatory effectiveness and predictability, it will be essential to clarify the criteria for identifying High-Impact AI and more clearly define the scope of operators’ responsibilities through detailed institutional frameworks.

The Evolution of Legal Tech in Korea: Progresses and Challenges

Introduction

The emergence of generative Artificial Intelligence technologies, particularly ChatGPT, has sparked growing interest in the potential application of AI in professional fields. The legal sector is no exception. As AI tools increasingly reveal their capabilities to search case law, summarize legal documents, and even draft contracts, legal professionals remain divided over the use of AI in their field. While some embrace these innovations as a means to enhance efficiency and access to justice, others express concerns regarding their implications for legal ethics and professional responsibility. Within this evolving landscape, interest in 'Legal Technology (Legal Tech)' is on the rise. Legal Tech refers to a range of technologies that leverage information and communication tools to facilitate legal services, including client-lawyer

matching, legal research, and case management. This section aims to analyze the development of Legal Tech from the perspectives of technological advancement and legal system reform.

Emergence of Legal Tech

Legal tech has evolved gradually over time, but a major turning point came in 2010 with the launch of the Korea Law Information Center by the Korea Ministry of Government Legislation. This state-sponsored platform unified access to national statutes, local ordinances, and administrative regulations and was later

integrated with the National Assembly's Bill Information System, enabling users to trace legislative procedures and interpret the intent behind proposed legislation. As a state-led initiative, it serves as a symbolic embodiment of the spirit of Article 11 of the "Constitution of the Republic of Korea," which proclaims, "All citizens shall be equal before the law." Technological advancements, including legal information systems, have enhanced equality before the law and access to justice through the implementation of digital infrastructure. This example reflects how Korea's Legal Tech has pursued the digitalization of legal information infrastructure, rooted not only in technological innovation but also in a commitment to public accessibility and legal transparency.

Alongside these government-led developments, the private sector also began cultivating Legal Tech solutions. Among the earliest and most influential portals was a platform founded in 2000 by lawyers from one of Korea's big law firms. By integrating public legal data with a vast repository of case law, commentaries, and interpretative materials, the platform significantly enhanced the efficiency of legal research and practice. It also served as a functional prototype for subsequent Legal Tech services. Notably, its 'Legal Professional Navigator' service enabled users to search for legal professionals based on shared academic backgrounds, professional affiliations, or career trajectories.

Controversies Regarding Legal Tech

As with many forms of technological advancement, the development of Legal Tech in Korea has been accompanied by various social discussions and controversies. A particularly notable case involved a new platform that offered a 'Sentence Prediction Service' that became the focus of significant legal and ethical debate. The service employed AI to generate statistical data on sentencing trends for various criminal offenses based on users' answers to a predefined set of questions. It enabled users to access information on the most commonly imposed sentences, sentencing distribution, and broader sentencing tendencies. However, critics argued that the service constituted unauthorized legal advice and therefore violated Article 109 of the Attorney-at-Law Act.

Article 109 of the Attorney-at-Law Act (Penalty Provisions)

A person, not an attorney-at-law, who receives or promises to receive money, valuables, entertainment or other benefits or who provides or promises to provide such things to a third party, in compensation for providing or arranging legal services, such as examination, representation, arbitration, settlement, solicitation, legal consultation, drafting of legal documents, etc. concerning cases in each of the following items:

- (a) Litigation, a non-contentious case, arbitration of household matters, or adjudicative case;
- (b) An administrative adjudication, request for review, raising of an objection, or a case in which an objection is raised against an administrative agency;
- (c) A case under investigation by an investigative agency;
- (d) A case under inspection by an inspection agency established by Acts and subordinate statutes;
- (e) Other general legal affairs;

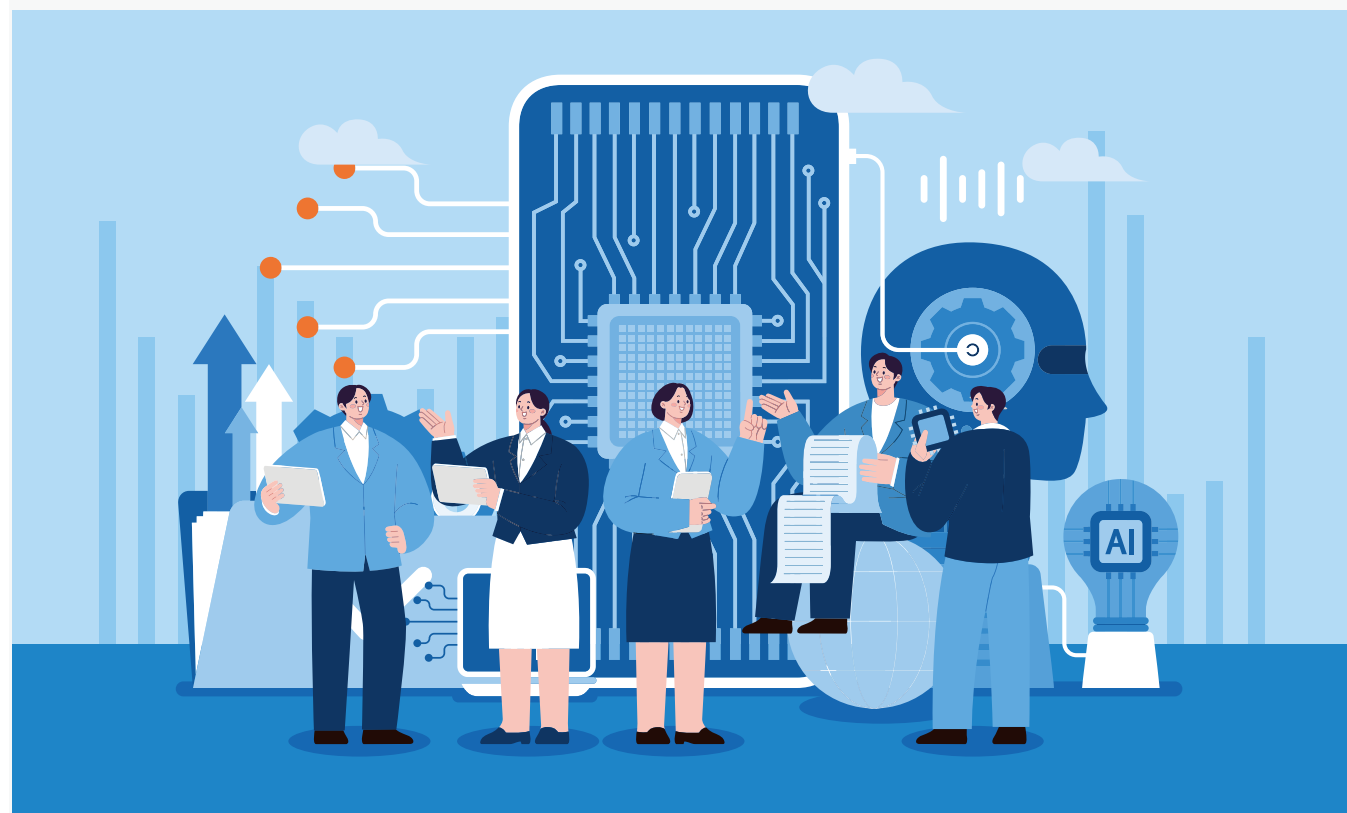
The Prosecution ultimately determined that the sentence prediction service did not constitute a violation of the Attorney-at-Law Act. The legal debate in this case centered on two main issues. The first was whether the sentencing prediction system violated the Attorney-at-Law Act's restriction that only licensed attorneys may provide legal counseling and services. The second issue involved the platform's use of a promotional features, such as a "network index", which raised concerns about potential violations of regulations prohibiting legal brokerage and solicitation.

In 2021, the Ministry of Justice held a public briefing titled "Issues Surrounding Online Legal Platforms," during which it formally stated that advertising-oriented platforms are not in breach of the Act as long as they do not directly mediate specific legal cases. While recognizing the potential risks posed by legal platforms, including the increasing dependence on capital-driven platforms, the Ministry of Justice also underscored that the rise of Legal Tech represents an irreversible and necessary progression. This episode signaled a broader phase of institutional recalibration and gradual maturation within Korea's Legal Tech ecosystem.

Progress of Generative AI

As the digital transformation of the legal sector gains momentum, various efforts are being made to enhance digital fluency of future legal professionals. For instance, the Ministry of Justice introduced Computer-Based Testing (CBT) for the bar examination. Moreover, several institutions now offer dedicated courses in Legal Tech, collaborate with engineering departments to engage students in legal AI development, and incorporate hands-on technology training into their curricula. As one law school professor observed, "Students increasingly recognize the importance of technology and are embracing AI as part of their practical legal skill set."¹⁾

These developments in legal education reflect broader shifts across the



industry. A domestic startup which has operated a precedent search engine for over five years and currently maintains Korea's largest database of court decisions—over four million cases—has leveraged this extensive repository to build a next-generation search engine integrated with advanced AI capabilities. Meanwhile, major law firms have adopted a different approach, refining their Legal Tech strategies by building on existing service models. For instance, Korea's largest law firm has established a dedicated Legal Tech team tasked with developing internal tools based on the firm's proprietary database. It has also implemented a comprehensive workflow management system that incorporates AI-powered translation, automated letter drafting, and timeline-based task tracking.

Outlook and Challenges of Legal Tech

The establishment of the 'Judiciary AI Committee' under the Supreme Court's National Court Administration in 2025 marks a pivotal step towards the institutionalization of artificial intelligence usage within the judiciary. A forthcoming AI-powered litigation support platform is expected to automate the classification, summarization, and retrieval of legal documents, including court rulings and litigation records, and recommend relevant precedents based on the nature of the case. In parallel, AI-enabled chatbots will be introduced to assist the general public by providing information on litigation procedures, case status, and frequently asked questions across civil, criminal, family, administrative, and intellectual property matters. These developments illustrate the potential of generative AI to meaningfully improve access to justice and promote the public good.

Despite its promise, legal AI is accompanied by concerns over accuracy, bias, and accountability. One of the known risks of generative AI is a phenomenon called "hallucination," where the system produces information that sounds accurate but is actually false or entirely made up. If such hallucinations occur in legal applications, they could lead to the creation of non-existent precedents or incorrect interpretations of legal principles—mistakes that may have serious consequences in real legal cases. In a notable incident in 2024, a U.S. attorney was suspended after submitting court documents citing non-existent cases generated by an AI tool. The case underscores a critical point that, as Legal Tech continues to expand, legal professionals should adopt a more proactive approach to information gathering and ensure rigorous fact-checking to uphold the integrity and public trust in legal practice.

1) Seo, H. (2025, April 2). Legal tech enters the university classroom (대학 강의실로 들어간 리걸테크). LawTimes Korea. <https://www2.lawtimes.co.kr/news/206817>

Legal Issues Related to Generative AI Contents

Introduction

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence(AI) is reshaping the creative domain. Generative AI, a technology that learns from vast datasets to automatically produce text, images, and other content, is being swiftly adopted across fields such as art, design, and media. Today, users can replicate the style of specific artists or mimic renowned authors' writing style simply by entering a prompt. This section examines the possibility of infringement of the 'Copyright Act' or 'Unfair Competition Prevention and the Trade Secret Protection' by the AI systems when they utilize existing copyrighted works or confidential information without the creator's consent. In addition, it explores related legal implications under the Basic Act on the Development of Artificial Intelligence and the Establishment of Foundation for Trustworthiness("AI Basic Act"), particularly concerning its requirements on transparency.

Potential Copyright Infringement and Discussions on the Introduction of TDM

Generative AI is utilizing third-party copyrighted works as its training data without obtaining copyright holder's consent, resulting in outputs that are very similar to the original works. This has raised key legal questions regarding potential violations of the Copyright Act, the applicability of fair use standards, and the possible adoption of a "Text and Data Mining (TDM)" exception clauses. The debate centers around two opposing positions: one advocating for the free use of training data to support the growth of the AI industry, and the other emphasizing the need to strengthen regulations to protect the rights of creators. Article 16 of the Copyright Act stipulates that "the author shall have the right to reproduce his/her work.", thereby recognizing the reproduction right as a fundamental component of copyright protection. The potential for copyright infringement in the training and output processes of generative AI primarily concerns "the right of reproduction". First, infringement may arise when AI generates content that is substantially

similar to an existing copyrighted work. According to both the Copyright Act and Supreme Court precedents in Korea, copyright protects not ideas themselves but only their specific and creative expressions. Therefore, simply replicating a particular artistic style (e.g., a "Ghibli-style" illustration) would not constitute infringement. However, if the AI-generated content mirrors the original work in specific expressive elements—such as character composition, background detail, or use of color—it may be deemed a violation of the reproduction right under Article 16. Second, the "memorization" or "regurgitation" phenomenon, which may be considered as an unauthorized reproduction of protected expression and copyright infringement can occur. 'Memorization' refers to the phenomenon where generative AI internally retains large portions of training data verbatim during learning process, while 'regurgitation' denotes the reproduction of such memorized sentences or information in the model's output." For example, in the 2023 case of New York Times v. OpenAI, the plaintiffs showcased the AI system producing paragraphs nearly identical to that of the original article when a user entered the headline or lead paragraph of a specific article, as grounds for the infringement.

Copyright Act

Article 35-5 (Fair Use of Works, etc)

(2) In determining whether an act of using works, etc. falls under paragraph (1), the following shall be considered:

① Purposes and characters of use including whether such use is for or not-for nonprofit;

② Types and natures of works, etc.;

③ Amount and substantiality of portion used in relation to the whole works, etc.;

④ Effect of the use of works, etc. on the current or potential market for or value of such work etc.

However, as the use of large-scale training data becomes increasingly essential for AI development, the potential applicability of the "Fair use" doctrine is being examined. Fair use permits the use of copyrighted works without the right holder's consent, provided that certain conditions are met and the utilization serves socially valuable purposes such as criticism, education, research, or news reporting. Under Copyright Act, whether a specific usage



qualifies as fair use is assessed comprehensively by considering several factors: whether the use is commercial or transformative; whether the original work is fact-based or creative; the amount and substantiality of the portion of the original work used in the generated content; and the effect of the use on the current or potential market value of the original work. Accordingly, there is a general consensus that commercial use is less likely to be considered as fair use, particularly when the generated content is used for marketing or advertising. Furthermore, if an AI model mimics a particular artistic style in a way that affects the market value of the original work, it would be difficult to justify such use as fair use. Conversely, when the use of a copyrighted work is for non-expressive purposes such as data analysis, academic research, or machine learning, or in cases where it constitutes only a minor portion of the overall training data and exerts negligible impact on the market, there may be greater room for it to be considered as fair use.

As the current fair use provisions are considered insufficient to cover the wide range of reproduction and utilization enabled by AI, discussions on the introduction of “Text and Data Mining (TDM)” exception have begun in the Republic of Korea. The aim of such an exception is to simplify the use of copyrighted materials to promote innovation and enhance competitiveness in technology sectors, whilst not significantly affecting the existing copyright market. Although TDM provisions are not explicitly stipulated under current domestic legislation, discussions are ongoing to seek a balance among stakeholders. Some argue that the TDM exception should also extend to commercial applications, provided that AI development for purely non-commercial purposes is rare and copyright holders’ rights could be protected through mechanisms such as opt-out options or compensation schemes.

Critics, however, warn that broad AI training on creative content could harm industries, lead to monopolization by a few dominant firms, and ultimately undermine human creativity.

Preventing Unfair Competition & Protecting Trade Secrets

Even if generative AI does not violate the Copyright Act, it may still raise concerns under the Unfair Competition Prevention and Trade Secret Protection Act.

Unfair Competition Prevention and Trade Secret Protection Act
Article 2 (Definitions)

(1) The term "act of unfair competition" means any of the following acts:
(I) An act of infringing on another person's economic interests by using mark that can distinguish the individual's identity, such as name, portrait, voice, or signature, which is widely recognized in the Republic of Korea and has economic value, for one's own business without permission, in a manner contrary to fair commercial practices or competition order;

(m) Any other acts of infringing on other persons’ economic interests by using the outcomes, etc. achieved by them through substantial investment or efforts, for one’s own business without permission, in a manner contrary to fair commercial practices or competition order;
(2) The term "trade secret" means information, including a production method, sale method, useful technical or business information for business activities, which is not known publicly, is managed as a secret, and has independent economic value;

First, Article 2(1)(I) protects the right of publicity. This provision applies when a person's recognizable aspects of personality signs is used for commercial purposes in a manner contrary to fair commercial practices, thereby infringing upon his/her economic interests. While there may be debate over whether a specific artistic style qualifies as "recognizable indicator", if a creation has strong distinctiveness, like the Ghibli style, such that consumers can easily identify its originator, unauthorized commercial use of it may be deemed an infringement of the right of publicity. Second, such acts may constitute “misappropriation of others’ achievements”, under the Article 2(1)(m). This provision is unique to the Korean law and the Korean court precedents have clarified that in determining what constitutes an "achievement," factors such as reputation, economic value, customer attractiveness, and competitiveness of the output in the relevant field must be comprehensively considered. If a specific drawing or writing style is interpreted as a creator’s “achievement,” then training AI on that style, developed through significant investment or effort, and using it commercially without consent could be viewed as a misappropriation. Additionally, when trade secrets are uploaded into generative AI, there is an inherent risk that they lose legal protection. To be legally protected as a trade secret, information must meet the requirements of confidentiality, economic value, and secrecy management. However, when confidential information is entered into a generative AI system, it may be stored in the AI system's database, which leads to possibility of reproduction or even external exposure, thereby compromising its confidentiality. In particular, if an employee discloses information to an AI system without ensuring that the system will treat it as confidential information, the information may also fail to meet the requirement of secrecy management, ultimately disqualifying it as a trade secret.

Obligations for Ensuring Transparency

As AI technology advances, responsibilities and obligations imposed on developers and providers of high-impact generative AI are also expanding.

Article 31(2) of the AI Basic Act stipulates an obligation to ensure transparency, requiring that the content generated by AI must be clearly indicated as such. Accordingly, AI service providers are legally required to inform users and mark AI-generated content using methods such as watermarking. These watermarks may be visible (e.g., identifiable patterns) or invisible (e.g., frequency-based or metadata-based signals).

The need for such labeling primarily arises from two perspectives: user protection and copyright protection. In an environment where deepfakes and false AI-generated content can mislead or deceive users, clear labeling of AI-generated content is essential to safeguard users’ right to access information and their ability to make informed decisions. Moreover, given the current difficulty in distinguishing human-created and AI-generated works, explicitly indicating that a work was produced without human involvement would be crucial.

While there is growing consensus among stakeholders including copyright organizations, platform operators, and AI companies on the need for a labeling obligation, they have different opinions on its scope and possible exceptions. It is necessary to clarify in future enforcement regulations whether the labeling obligation should apply to all AI-generated content, whether it should be limited to content with a high risk of rights infringement such as deepfakes, and whether exceptions can be made to minimize negative impacts on freedom of creation and expression.

In addition, the technical characteristics and limitations of watermarking must be taken into account when implementing this policy. While visible watermarks are effective for verifying authenticity, they may interfere with the user experience. Invisible watermarks preserve the integrity of the content but are harder for users to detect. Under the AI Basic Act, watermarking applies to all digital content generated or significantly modified by AI, including images, videos, audios, and texts. However, watermarks on AI-generated text may be difficult to preserve during editing or content distribution, and watermarks on AI-generated images can be easily removed via screenshots. Therefore, it is necessary to establish practical guidelines that take these technical limitations into account. Furthermore, since the level of risk varies depending on the type of AI output, tailored labeling requirements should be introduced to ensure the effectiveness and enforceability of the legislation.

Supreme Court:

Lawyer Information Website’s “Network Index” Is Illegitimate, While “Expertise Index” Is Legitimate



Background Information

As technologies enabling the mass collection and analysis of data to repackaging expert information continue to spread, we are witnessing an increasing conflict between two constitutional values; freedom of expression and personal data protection. Chatbots and algorithms now recommend legal professionals, and legal tech companies provide credibility indices and other evaluation metrics for lawyers based on

publicly available data. In 2011, the Supreme Court en banc ruled on whether it is legitimate for a website operator to use publicly available information on lawyers to generate a network index and an expertise index. This case is regarded as a leading precedent in which the constitutional rights of personality and freedom of expression came into direct conflict. The Court ultimately ruled that while the “Network Index” service is illegitimate, showcasing litigation success rates and providing the “Expertise Index” service is legitimate, drawing a distinction between the two services.

Case Facts

(1) Network Index Service Quantifying Personal Similarities Among Legal Professionals

The defendant operated a website that collected various personal data of lawyers such as names, places of birth, gender, the year they passed the bar exam, class year at the Judicial Research and Training Institute, educational background, and work experience at courts and prosecutors’ offices. Based on these information, the defendant assigned scores for shared background elements between two legal professionals—such as graduating from the same high school, department in university, class year at the training institute, or holding similar public positions—and aggregated them into a Network Index. Scores varied depending on alumni status or class year, and overlapping factors resulted in bonus points. Using this Network Index, the defendant offered paid search services such as “Find Close Legal Professionals,” “View the Relationship Between Two People,” and “Find Intermediary Contacts.” The website claimed that the Network Index was based on publicly available information and interviews with around 200 legal professionals and stated that the calculation method had been patented.

(2) Expertise Index and Litigation Success Rate Derived from Court Data

Between 1993 and 2005, the defendant collected approximately 35 million cases from the “My Case Search” service on the Supreme Court’s website. This information included case numbers, case names, legal representatives, and final outcomes. The defendant categorized these cases into 8 major categories, 173 mid-level categories, and 525 subcategories based on case names. For each lawyer (legal representative), the defendant calculated total cases handled, performance by year, and distribution across jurisdictions. Then, based on the final outcomes, cases were categorized as “win,” “loss,” or “draw” to calculate litigation success rates. The Expertise Index was calculated by assigning 30 points for wins, 20 points for draws, and 10 points for losses for each category, and averaging the total per lawyer. Based on these data, the defendant developed paid services such as “Ten-Year Litigation Statistics,” “Case Performance Data of a Lawyer,” and “Area of Expertise of a Lawyer.” The website disclosed the calculation standards and limitations of the litigation success rate and Expertise Index. And it announced future plans to incorporate consumer trust, litigation complexity, and career data into the indexes.

Main Issues and Ruling

- The main issue in this case was whether disclosing personal information without an individual’s consent constitutes an illegitimate act. The term “personality rights regarding personal information” refers to an individual’s right to control their own data and to avoid exposure in unnecessary or distorted ways. This right is closely linked to privacy and includes data that directly affects a person’s identity and reputation, such as their name, educational background, work history, and personal network. On the other hand, disclosure of such personal information may fall under the constitutionally protected value of freedom of expression. Therefore, determining the lawfulness of disclosing others’ personal information without their consent requires balancing the tension between privacy and freedom of expression in the specific context of each case.

CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

- Article 10
All citizens shall be assured of human dignity and worth and have the right to pursuit of happiness. It shall be the duty of the State to confirm and guarantee the fundamental and inviolable human rights of individuals.
- Article 17
The privacy of no citizen shall be infringed.
- Article 21
(1) All citizens shall enjoy freedom of speech and the press, and freedom of assembly and association.
(2) Licensing or censorship of speech and the press, and licensing of assembly and association shall not be recognized.
(3) The standards of news service and broadcast facilities and matters necessary to ensure the functions of newspapers shall be determined by Act.
(4) Neither speech nor the press shall violate the honor or rights of other persons or undermine public morals or social ethics. Should speech or the press violate the honor or rights of other persons, claims may be made for the damage resulting therefrom.

- In this context, the Supreme Court delivered different rulings on the lawfulness of each of the network index, and the litigation success rates and expertise index. Regarding the Network Index, the majority opinion held that this service was illegitimate as it infringed the lawyers’ personal rights over their

information. This is because the Index was based on personal and private information, carried the potential of distortion in its calculation, and could negatively affect the lawyers involved. In contrast, the public benefit from such services was considered relatively minimal. In contrast, the Supreme Court did not find the offerings of litigation success rates and the Expertise Index to be illegitimate. The Supreme Court considered lawyers as public figures who are subject to scrutiny and evaluation by the public. Therefore, assessments based on these kind of information were deemed to fulfill public interest and social necessity. As such, the Supreme Court ruled that the Expertise Index falls within the protected scope of freedom of expression.

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW ACT

Article 1 (Mission of Attorneys-at-Law)
(1) The mission of any attorney-at-law shall be to defend fundamental human rights and realize social justice.
(2) Each attorney-at-law shall faithfully perform his or her duties and work to maintain social order and to improve the legal system in accordance with his or her mission.
[This Article Wholly Amended on Mar. 28, 2008]

Article 2 (Status of Attorneys-at-Law)
Each attorney-at-law shall perform his or her duties independently and freely as a legal professional of public nature.
[This Article Wholly Amended on Mar. 28, 2008]

Ultimately, the Supreme Court evaluated which legal interest—personal privacy or freedom of expression—should take precedence for each service in its specific context. This ruling exemplifies how courts assess the legal limits of information processing in the AI and legal tech era.

Summary of Decision

(1) Standards for Resolving Conflicts Between Privacy and Freedom of Expression

Disclosing personal information without an individual’s consent may constitute a violation of their personality rights. At the same time, such disclosure may be protected under the right to freedom of expression. When these two legal interests come into conflict within a single legal relationship, a careful and concrete balancing of both sides is required to achieve a fair reconciliation. Factors that should be taken into consideration include whether the individual is a public figure, the public nature and utility of the disclosed data, the legitimacy of the data

collection, the appropriateness of the purpose and procedures regarding the collection of personal information, and the degree and nature of potential harm caused by its disclosure. Taking all these factors into account, one must determine whether the personality rights protected by non-disclosure of personal information outweigh the benefits based on freedom of expression that may be realized through its disclosure, in order to assess the lawfulness of the act in question.

(2-1) Majority Opinion: Network Index Is Illegitimate

The website operator offered a service calculating and disclosing a Network Index using lawyers’ personal data. The Supreme Court saw that the Index included private and personal information that could be inaccurate and might harm lawyers’ rights. The public value or benefit that could be derived from this service was considered minimal. As such, freedom of expression in this case did not warrant constitutional protection, and the service was deemed an illegitimate infringement of personal rights.

(2-2) Dissenting Opinion by Four Supreme Court Justices: Network Index Is Legitimate

Four justices dissented, holding that the personal information used for the Network Index was public in nature, that the calculation appeared reasonable, and that the public utility of the service outweighed any potential harm. They argued that the Network Index merely quantified the likelihood of familiarity and did not guarantee actual closeness. They concluded that the service should be protected under freedom of expression.

(3) Litigation Success Rates and Expertise Index Are Legitimate

In the case of the services offering litigation success rates and the Expertise Index based on court data, the Supreme Court noted that lawyers are public figures who perform duties closely related to the public interest and whose actions affect the rights and obligations of the people, and the court records used were publicly accessible. The calculation methods had a degree of objectivity, and public demand for such services was significant. Harm to the lawyers was deemed limited. Thus, the Supreme Court found that the public interest in disclosure outweighed any privacy concerns, and that the operator’s actions were not illegitimate.

(4) Supplementary Opinion: Emphasizing Market Autonomy and Freedom of Expression

Meanwhile, two justices issued a supplementary opinion, further stressing the importance of market autonomy and freedom of expression. They viewed the proliferation of legal information in the expanding legal services market as a natural development and contended that the reliability and usefulness of such information should be left to consumer judgment, not judicial control or prior censorship. The supplementary opinion specifically noted that analyzing and

processing publicly available data to produce new information falls within the realms of both freedom of expression and business freedom, and should be legally protected absent any falsehood or malicious intent. The justices emphasized that the Network Index, like the Expertise Index, ultimately represented a subjective expression of opinion quantified numerically, and that both indexes shared an essentially similar nature. Some justices also differed from the majority in evaluating broader social implications. They acknowledged concerns that the Network Index might reinforce nepotistic practices or undermine public trust in the judiciary. However, they contended that addressing such issues should fall within the purview of the legislature or executive, not the judiciary’s case-by-case adjudication. They proposed that concerns about the Index’s social consequences be resolved through legislative amendments, revisions to privacy standards, or regulatory frameworks and guidelines specific to such services. They further emphasized that the judiciary, in resolving disputes between private parties, should refrain from restricting freedom of expression based on policy considerations or social value judgments, as such actions risk exceeding scope and limits of judiciary.

Implications

Ultimately, both the dissenting and supplementary opinions maintained that the defendant’s provision of the Network Index could not be dismissed as just an illegitimate infringement of personal information. Instead, they emphasized that the service was grounded in constitutionally protected values such as freedom of expression, business freedom, consumer choice, and market autonomy, all of which warranted legitimate protection. This case is regarded as a landmark precedent in which the court proactively addressed tensions between freedom of expression and personal data protection. In particular, it sheds light on common legal conflicts arising in the legal tech industry, where AI is used to deliver legal information. For instance, legal tech companies may offer services like automated litigation success rate calculations, attorney recommendations, and Expertise Index scores based on publicly available data, such as a lawyer’s litigation history, case volume, area of practice, or awards received. While such services can offer valuable insights to consumers, they may also lead to unwanted exposure or reputational distortions for the attorneys involved. The legal challenge thus lies in striking a balance between technological capability and legal limits, making the protection of personality rights and freedom of expression a central issue. Recent legal tech regulatory debates reflect similar concerns. Key issues include the scope of anonymized data usage, the credibility and



transparency of AI-generated evaluations, and the interpretation boundaries of the Attorney-at-Law Act and Personal Information Protection Act. Controversies surrounding whether automated legal information constitutes legal practice or whether consumer reliance on such information is a private judgment or a form of commercial inducement are especially critical in shaping regulatory boundaries. This decision provides a crucial interpretive foundation for such discussions. While acknowledging potential social harms that technology may cause, the Supreme Court prioritized constitutional values such as freedom of information and market autonomy. It suggests that legal judgments on legal tech services should not be limited to personal data violations alone, but should also consider their public utility and social value. Accordingly, this case may serve as a key reference point in shaping future laws and policies governing the legal tech industry—especially regarding how to balance freedom of expression with the public nature of information.

Personal Information Protection Commission(PIPC) AI Privacy Team: Balancing AI Innovation and Privacy Protection



Koo, Minju

Director of AI Privacy Team

Q: Could you introduce the main roles and responsibilities of the Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) and the AI Privacy Team?

- The Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) was launched on August 5, 2020, as a Ministerial-level Representative Administrative agency. It serves as the control tower for personal data protection in response to the accelerating digital and AI-driven transformation.

- Its core responsibilities include enhancing and updating legal frameworks, formulating and implementing policies and plans related to personal data protection, investigating and taking action against violation on data subjects' rights, and handling grievances, providing remedies, and mediating disputes concerning the processing of personal data.
 - In addition, the Commission engages in a wide range of activities such as international cooperation, research and analysis of laws, policies, and practices, as well as education, public awareness campaigns, support for technological development, and the training of experts—contributing comprehensively to the protection of personal data.

- The AI Privacy Team, newly established in August 2023 under the 「Policy Direction for the Safe Use of Personal Data in the Age of AI」, focuses on addressing the uncertainties in the field of AI development and utilization. The team aims to establish “principle-based” standards for AI and data processing that can be practically applied in real-world settings.
- It also serves as a one-stop contact point for coordinating and addressing various AI-related privacy issues arising in both the public and private sectors, placing emphasis on field-oriented support and innovation facilitation.
- Furthermore, by leveraging its accumulated expertise and operational experience, the team is strengthening cooperation with major international data protection authorities and global organizations, aiming to lead the global AI privacy governance landscape and lay the foundation for interoperability across regulatory frameworks.

Q: What were the main reasons behind the establishment of the AI Privacy Team in October 2023?

- The emergence of AI technologies has fundamentally transformed the paradigm of personal data processing and the ways in which data is handled.
- In particular, the rapid pace of AI advancement is widening the gap between technology and existing legal frameworks for personal data protection, resulting in increased legal uncertainty and giving rise to a

wide range of risk in the context of personal data.

- Since the launch of ChatGPT in late 2022, there has been a strong push in some sectors for regulatory relaxation to support the growth of the domestic AI industry. At the same time, concerns have continued to arise over emerging privacy violations, highlighting the need for a more flexible and adaptive regulatory framework. Balancing these two opposing dynamics has become a key challenge for the PIPC.

- In response, the Commission proposed a high-level policy framework—the 「Policy Direction for the Safe Use of Personal Data in the Age of AI」—to address these evolving issues. It is now working to establish a “principle-based” regulatory system that can adapt to technological developments in AI while upholding personal data protection.
- As mentioned earlier, the AI Privacy Team was created as a dedicated task force in this field. The team serves as a central hub for communication and cooperation between the public and private sectors, helping to shape privacy-related regulations and build frameworks for international cooperation.

Q: What key measures is the AI Privacy Team taking to align with global standards on AI privacy?

- Building on Korea's innovation-oriented policies and implementation experience, the AI Privacy Team is actively working to secure leadership in global discussions on AI privacy norms and to globalize Korea's AI policy approach.
- One of the most notable achievements was the 'High-Level Roundtable' co-hosted in February 2025 as part of the 「France AI Action Summit」, in collaboration with the OECD and data protection authorities from France, The United Kingdom, Ireland, and Australia. At the roundtable, participants adopted a 「Joint statement on building trustworthy data governance frameworks to encourage development of innovative and privacy-protective AI」, reaffirming the shared importance of fostering innovation in the age of AI.
- Notably, the draft of the joint statement was initially drawn by the PIPC and was finalized through multiple rounds of consultation. This process allowed Korea's 「Policy Direction for the Safe Use of Personal Data in the Age of AI」 to be effectively projected onto the international stage.

- In addition, the team has established ongoing communication channels with key counterparts such as France's data protection authority (CNIL) and the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) to strengthen international cooperation.
- Korea will host the Global Privacy Assembly (GPA) in Seoul this September under the theme of “Personal Data Issues in the Age of AI.” Through this event, the Commission aims to enhance Korea's leadership and influence in shaping global AI governance and to contribute to the creation of a trustworthy environment for AI development.

[Note] 2025 Global Privacy Assembly (GPA) in Seoul

※ The Global Privacy Assembly (GPA) is an international forum on personal data protection, comprising 148 supervisory authorities from 95 countries.
(Date & Venue) September 16 (Tue) – 19 (Fri), 2025 (4 days), Seoul, Korea
(Participants) Over 1,000 domestic and international experts, including representatives from supervisory authorities, industry, academia, the legal community, civil society, and international organizations
(Theme) Artificial Intelligence in Our Daily Lives: Data and Privacy Issues

Q: Could you explain the 「AI Privacy Risk Management Model」, recently announced by the PIPC? What are the expected benefits of this model?

- As AI technology continues to evolve, privacy risks are also becoming increasingly complex and dynamic. Effectively managing and mitigating such risks is a prerequisite for the sustainable development of AI. However, at the global level, AI privacy risk management remains in its early stages, making it difficult for companies to independently evaluate and manage risks based on clear principles and direction.
- In response, the PIPC published the 「AI Privacy Risk Management Model」 in December 2024, which systematizes key AI-related privacy risks discussed across industry and academia. The model is designed to support service providers in planning AI services by offering practical guidance for evaluating risks and establishing appropriate management strategies.
- With this model, companies can independently identify privacy risks specific to their AI services and adopt optimal combinations of safeguards tailored to the level of each risk. This approach is expected to promote innovation while ensuring accountability, allowing companies to secure both autonomy and trust in their AI development efforts.

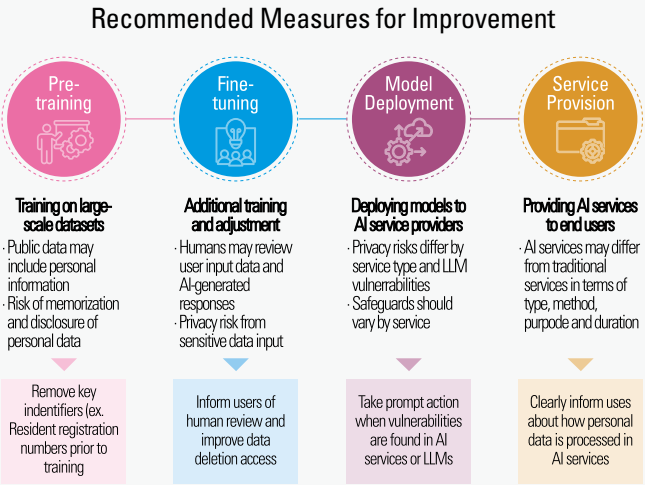
Q: In the process of applying the 「AI Privacy Risk Management Model」, what are the most frequent questions or difficulties that companies face?

- While the 「AI Privacy Risk Management Model」 provides guidance on risk management procedures, types of personal data risks in the AI context, and possible mitigation measures, many companies still seek more detailed methodologies for both quantitative and qualitative assessment of
 - The actual likelihood of risks occurring

- The severity of their potential impact on individuals, organizations, and society in case of risk occurring.
 - Globally, the development of concrete indicators and evaluation systems for diagnosing and measuring AI privacy risks remains in its early stages.
 - As a result, large tech companies—with abundant resources—are generally better positioned to adopt AI safety assessment tools and methodologies offered by international organizations. In contrast, SMEs and startups often face practical challenges in applying such tools due to limited capacity.
 - In addition, with the emergence of Artificial General Intelligence (AGI), new forms of attacks—such as membership inference and data extraction—and evolving privacy risks—such as sensitive information disclosure, memorization and exposure of personal information, and illegal cross-border transfer of data—are continuing to proliferate. Against this backdrop, there is a growing need to develop concrete AI-specific safeguards that reflect the technical nature of AI systems.
 - To that end, the PIPC is actively working to establish a regulatory foundation for systematic and data-driven evaluation of privacy risks posed by AI models.

Q: *Are there any procedures the Commission recommends for service providers to help ensure data subjects’ rights when offering AI-related services?*

- Yes. In March last year, the Commission released the results of a ‘preliminary compliance review’ of major AI services. Based on these findings, it issued recommendation of improvement to service providers that develop or deploy large language models (LLMs) or offer AI services built upon them, urging them to improve vulnerabilities in personal data protection.
- More specifically, the Commission recommended measures that can be applied at each stage of the AI life cycle, as well as more direct ways to safeguard data subjects’ rights such as enhancing transparency and improving access to opt-out functions.



- Building on these real-world cases and the Commission’s regulatory experience, the PIPC has also developed a series of interpretive guidelines to clarify how Korea’s Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA) should be applied in the context of generative AI. The guideline outlines specific measures to safeguard data subject’s rights in the age of AI.

These include:

- Guidelines on unstructured data (Feb. 2024)
- Guidelines on the use of publicly available personal data (July 2024)
- Criteria for handling video data collected by autonomous devices (Oct. 2024)
- Standards for assessing the utility and safety of synthetic data (Dec. 2024)
- The AI Privacy Risk Management Model (Dec. 2024)

- Going forward, the Commission plans to proactively monitor rapid developments in AI technology and policy, and to continuously update its data processing standards and guidelines. As part of this effort, a ‘Generative AI Development and Use Guide,’ from personal information perspective will be published in July 2025 to help public institutions and private companies to introduce generative AI across various domains.

Q: *Aside from the above, are there any procedures that the Personal Information Protection Commission (PIPC) recommends to users of AI-related services in order to ensure information security?*

- Recently, concerns have been raised over the unexpected ways in which personal data collected by AI companies during service provision is being used—such as being utilized for AI training without user consent.
- In response, the PIPC has provided guidance on how to safely use generative AI services, as follows:
 - ❶ First, before using AI services, users should carefully review the

Privacy Policy to check which types of personal data are being collected and processed.

- ❷ Second, users should refrain from entering any personal information—such as names, phone numbers, addresses, or resident registration numbers—into input fields (prompts).
- ❸ Third, if users do not wish for their personal data to be used for AI training (e.g., model improvement), they may exercise their opt-out rights through web or app settings.
- ❹ Lastly, it is recommended that users regularly delete cookies, browsing history, and other data stored in their internet browser.

- In addition, the PIPC will continue thorough inspections and monitoring to minimize any infringement on data subjects’ personal information and to safeguard their rights when using generative AI services. The Commission will also prioritize the prompt implementation of remedies in the event of any rights violations.

Q: *What is the “Preliminary Adequacy Review System(「사전 적정성 검토제」)” and what are its background and main objectives? Additionally, what are the expected outcomes and benefits of this system?*

- The Preliminary Adequacy Review System is a type of No Action Letter mechanism, under which investigations or sanctions may be waived when certain conditions are met. It is a system designed to reduce regulatory uncertainty for businesses operating in emerging sectors such as artificial intelligence (AI).
 - Specifically, when an applicant —during the planning or development phase of a new technology or service involving AI—faces difficulties in determining how to comply with the Personal Information Protection Act based solely on existing legal interpretations or enforcement precedents, they may consult with the PIPC to identify an appropriate legal compliance framework tailored to their environment. As long as the applicant implements the agreed-upon measures, the PIPC will not impose any disadvantageous actions afterward.
 - This system was piloted in October 2023 and has been in full operation since April 2024 following the enactment of official regulations.

- As for key achievements, recent cases reviewed under the system include Meta’s “Celebrity Impersonation Ad and Account Blocking Service” and Kakao’s “AI Service Kanana”. These examples illustrate how the system functions as a mechanism to both alleviate business uncertainty during AI service implementation and reduce public concern, while laying the

groundwork for fostering innovative industries.

- As such, the system plays a highly meaningful role in the era of digital transformation and the data-driven economy. It proactively and preemptively assesses compliance with the Personal Information Protection Act in increasingly complex and diverse data processing environments, thereby promoting the safe use of data.
- Furthermore, it is expected to help build a trustworthy data protection environment across society and facilitate the growth of innovative services.

Q: *Beyond the Preliminary Adequacy Review System, we understand that various efforts are being made to address on-the-ground challenges in the AI era. Could you elaborate on these initiatives?*

- The PIPC has been pursuing various initiatives under a pro-innovation approach, aiming to preemptively respond to the AI era while simultaneously ensuring public trust in personal data processing and supporting the development of emerging industries.
- To begin with, in response to industry demands for the use of original footage captured during actual driving scenarios to advance autonomous driving technologies, the PIPC has enabled such usage through the regulatory sandbox system since last year. This allows businesses to utilize original video data, provided that certain safety measures are strictly followed.
 - ※ As of June 2025, five companies—Woowa Brothers Corp., Neubility Corp., Kakao Mobility Corp., 42dot Corp., and Hyundai Motor Company Corp.—have received approval.
- Additionally, in the field of advanced biotechnology, the PIPC granted demonstration exemptions for the use of pseudonymized data without consent during international collaborative research projects, on the condition that sufficient safeguards are in place.
 - ※ Seoul National University Hospital received such approval in June 2024.

- Furthermore, to cope with voice phishing, a major financial crime causing significant harm to the public, the PIPC supported telecom providers in developing AI models for voice phishing prevention.
- By signing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with relevant ministries and agencies, a sustainable cooperative framework was established. Through the regulatory sandbox, telecom providers were allowed to develop AI trained on actual voice data, operating in on-device environments, thereby enhancing the level of personal data protection.
- In addition, the PIPC operates a One-Stop Innovation Support

Desk, reporting directly to the Chairperson, as a dedicated external channel for businesses to communicate easily with the Commission. In principle, applicants can expect an initial response within five business days.

Q: *From the perspective of the AI Privacy Team, what do you consider to be the most critical privacy issues related to AI in the future, and what measures is your team preparing in response?*

- Given the rapid pace of development in the field of artificial intelligence, it is difficult to predict the trajectory of future changes. As such, it is not easy at this point to definitively identify specific privacy issues that will emerge in the AI landscape.

- However, we believe that in order to establish a safe and reliable foundation for data utilization in the AI era, while actively supporting corporate innovation and simultaneously minimizing risks to the rights and interests of data subjects. It is essential to continuously monitor new AI trends and to engage in ongoing reflection and improvement.

- Although we cannot foresee the future, two of the most widely discussed AI-related privacy issues—both domestically and internationally—are AI agents and open-source AI.

- * AI agents refer to AI systems capable of autonomously analyzing problems, making decisions, and carrying out tasks in order to achieve specific goals.

- ** Open-source AI refers to making source code or design blueprints for AI development publicly accessible to all.

- We are currently focusing in particular on AI agents (AI assistants), as a wide range of services are expected to be launched over the next one to two years. Our team is examining whether such AI assistants truly provide meaningful and helpful support to individuals, and how to effectively manage and mitigate any negative side effects that may arise.

- Regarding open-source AI, although it may lack large-scale AI infrastructure, with high-quality data accumulated in areas such as healthcare and finance, and a strong pool of talented AI professionals, South Korea has the potential to capitalize on emerging opportunities.

- To this end, we are exploring various ways to support the development of an open-source-based AI ecosystem. At the same time, we are considering strategies to minimize personal data processing risks that may arise during the commercialization phase involving additional training and techniques such as Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG).

Q: *Would you like to share a message with domestic and international readers who are encountering the PIPC AI Privacy Team for the first time through this journal?*

- The AI Privacy Team will continue to focus on ensuring the safety and trustworthiness of personal data processing across the entire AI lifecycle—an area characterized by high data dependency—while maintaining an innovation-friendly approach.

- AI is not a short-term trend; it is expected to remain a core technology for years to come, bringing fundamental changes to the field of personal data protection.

- In order to respond promptly to this policy paradigm shift, we are closely monitoring changes in AI technologies and policies, while simultaneously reforming Korea’s personal data protection legal framework. These include developing special provisions for the use of original data in AI development and legal grounds for the lawful processing of personal data for purposes of public interest. By doing so, we aim to support a harmonious advancement of innovation and safety based on public trust and to deliver tangible innovations that can be felt in the industry.

- As we anticipate the emergence of even more AI-related policy issues in the future, we kindly ask for your continued interest and support as the PIPC strengthens its role as the central authority for personal data protection and a key data governance institution.

Navigating the AI Era in Korea: Healthcare, Finance, Commerce, and Mobility

Transforming Healthcare with AI

Republic of Korea’s digital healthcare market is growing faster than global and regional averages, driven by advanced 5G infrastructure, the world’s second-highest growth in medical imaging patents, and vast amounts of healthcare data. The scope of the healthcare industry has expanded to include tools that assist physicians in screening, diagnosis, treatment, and prescription through imaging technologies, as well as tools that promote wellness through disease prevention, health improvement, and post-treatment care for the general public.

A leading AI healthcare company in Korea provides AI-assisted imaging interpretation as well as AI-based biomarker solutions to support cancer diagnosis and treatment. Its diagnostic support tool utilizes deep learning and pixel-level data analysis to detect ten major abnormalities in chest X-rays with high accuracy, significantly reducing the false negative rate—cases where a disease is present but not detected in the test. The biomarker solution uses AI to quantify biological indicators—such as immune cell distribution in tumors, blood proteins, genetic mutations, and metabolites—helping predict a patient’s immune response and treatment effectiveness. This enables medical professionals to develop personalized treatment strategies.

Major Korean telecommunication firms are leveraging their accumulated lifestyle data and AI infrastructure to offer personalized health management services, aligning with the medical paradigm toward prevention and individualized care. For instance, a telecom company offers

a service where users can take photos of their meals and AI analyzes them to identify food types, nutritional components, and calorie content, supporting dietary management for individuals with chronic conditions like diabetes or those on a diet. Furthermore, the three major telecommunication firms are employing ‘Multimodal AI’, which processes and learns the relationships among diverse data types. Unlike traditional language models that are specialized in processing and generating only text data, multimodal AI can also handle images, audio, and video. This enables them to analyze various inputs such as voice, facial expressions, and emotional diary, facilitating mental healthcare services tailored to vulnerable groups, including individuals grieving the loss of a pet and elderly people living alone.

AI-Driven Automation in the Financial Sector

The integration of AI into the financial sector is enhancing the accuracy of credit assessments and enabling the automation of personalized asset management services. Traditional credit evaluation methods have relied heavily on standardized data—such as financial transaction history, credit card usage, and delinquency records—which made it difficult to assign appropriate credit scores to so-called “Thin filers,” including young adults, freelancers, and self-employed individuals with limited financial history. However, with machine learning and deep learning technologies, unstructured data can be utilized in credit evaluation, promoting financial inclusion and effective risk management.

A Korean Fintech company has developed an alternative credit scoring model by pseudonymizing and integrating various data types, including consumer’s spending patterns, lifestyle information, and fund transfers. This model has significantly improved the ability to differentiate creditworthiness for mid- to low-credit individuals and thin filers, whose credit scores were difficult to evaluate using traditional models. The company actively incorporates Explainable AI (XAI) technologies to ensure the reliability and safety of its AI models. By following the guideline “AI-Based Credit Scoring Model Validation Framework,” it has established a system that makes AI-generated credit scores understandable, even to



non-experts. Furthermore, while the volume of loans has increased, the delinquency rate has declined due to improved accuracy in repayment probability analysis, enhancing both risk management capabilities and asset quality.

Meanwhile, digital investment advisory services based on advanced algorithms and big data, commonly known as “Robo-advisors”, are rapidly expanding in Korea. In its early stages, the domestic robo-advisory market was largely centered on product recommendation-based services. Since 2020, however, discretionary investment-type robo-advisors have also been showing steady growth. Banks and securities firms analyze clients’ asset preferences, investment goals, and risk appetite to provide customized portfolio construction and financial advice. Clients can choose between advisory-type services, which require manual trade approvals, and discretionary-type services, where AI executes account opening, product purchases, and asset management. The minimum investment amount and fees vary depending on the service type, so it is advisable for clients to select a robo-advisory service that aligns with one’s investment expertise and asset size.

Trends in AI-Driven Consumer Experiences

As AI technology rapidly advances, it is becoming more deeply integrated into the consumer sector, bringing notable changes to how people shop and make purchasing decisions. In particular, e-commerce has adopted AI in areas such as chatbot services, personalized product recommendations, and consumption pattern analysis, all contributing to improved convenience and satisfaction.

One notable example is in the early stages of the consumer journey, especially in product selection. A major domestic retail company uses a deep learning-based image analysis system to evaluate the quality of fresh food. The system can assess sugar content, moisture, and ripeness, as well as detect internal browning without cutting the fruit open, helping maintain consistent product quality. Since the adoption of this technology, the company has seen increased produce sales and fewer consumer complaints. AI is thus playing a role in improving consumer satisfaction even before the purchase is made.

Personalized shopping experiences on online platforms are also evolving with AI. From women’s fashion retailers to large marketplaces, many Korean shopping platforms now operate hyper-personalized recommendation systems based on users’ search history, purchases, and click patterns. Some platforms offer “AI image search” functions, where users can upload a reference photo and receive similar product suggestions. These go beyond simply ranking products by popularity or sales and create shopping experiences tailored to individual preferences.

Such personalization is now expanding into beauty, home essentials, and products aimed at middle-aged consumers.

Customer service is changing rapidly as well. Major e-commerce platforms now use 24/7 Chatbots and Voicebots to handle basic service requests, including returns, refunds, and delivery updates. Some mobile shopping apps have adopted generative AI into conversational chatbots that can understand users’ questions and even recommend relevant products. One large domestic platform reported significant improvements in customer satisfaction after implementing an AI-based customer service system.

While AI enhances convenience and personalization, concerns over data privacy and algorithmic bias remain. Recommendation systems rely on data such as purchase history, search records, and location, raising risks of data being shared across services without user consent. Moreover, algorithms may reinforce narrow user profiles or promote impulsive purchases. With AI increasingly guiding how people browse and buy, occasional reflection on their own patterns may help consumers keep a healthy balance.

The Rise of Autonomous Vehicles

As AI technology continues to evolve, the development and deployment of autonomous vehicles equipped with advanced AI systems are accelerating. This trend involves not only large corporations but also startups specializing in AI software for autonomous driving, contributing to the global market growth.

In countries such as the United States and Germany, Level 3 and 4 autonomous vehicles, which operate with minimal or no human intervention under most conditions, are already in commercial operation. At the heart of autonomous driving is AI technology. Through machine learning, computer vision and natural language processing, AI enables a vehicle to perceive its surroundings, make decisions, and drive itself. It processes real-time data from cameras, radar, GPS, and other sensors, enabling faster and more precise analysis than a human driver. As AI is central to autonomous driving, understanding both global trends and regulatory challenges is essential. The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) classifies autonomous driving into five levels. As the level increases, the control and operational responsibility shift from the human driver to the AI system. Vehicles at Levels 4 and 5 operate with full autonomy, with AI making most driving decisions. In Korea, Level 3 vehicles, which still require driver involvement, have been commercialized. Under government support, development of Level 4 and 5 vehicles is also underway.

So how far have other countries progressed in adopting autonomous vehicles? In the U.S., there is no unified federal regulation for Level 4 vehicles, leaving rules to individual states. For instance, some cities in



California permit Level 4 autonomous taxi services under specific conditions. Germany has legalized Level 3 and 4 driving under certain circumstances, enabling operation without driver intervention. Japan has revised its Road Traffic Act to allow Level 4 vehicles, introducing regulations for remote monitoring, on-board safety personnel, and operational permits.

In Korea, the autonomous vehicle market is projected to grow from KRW 150.9 billion in 2025 to KRW 26.2 trillion by 2035, with an average annual growth rate of 40%. This year, Seoul began pilot operations of Level 4 vehicles in the Sangam district, signaling broader adoption in the near future. However, current traffic laws remain focused on Level 3 standards, assuming a human driver is present. Regulatory reform will be necessary to support higher levels of autonomy. In particular, existing legal issues such as liability, insurance, and data management become more complex in the context of autonomous driving. A balanced legal approach, one that promotes technological advancement while safeguarding public safety, is needed.

Ministry of Justice Held 18th Together Day Ceremony

The 18th Together Day ceremony, hosted by the Ministry of Justice, was held under the slogan “Dream Together, Korea Soars Higher” in Gwacheon Citizen Hall on May 20. Together Day was designated as a holiday by law in 2007 to foster a social environment where Korean nationals and foreign residents respect each other’s cultures and traditions. Since its inception in 2008, the ceremony has been held annually on May 20.

More than 500 participants, including diplomatic representatives from 18 countries stationed in Korea, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) Korea Representative, and the Director of the Bureau of Immigration of Philippines, gathered to celebrate this meaningful occasion.

The ceremony featured a screening of a thematic video, a commemorative speech by the then Minister of Justice, congratulatory remarks by the Australian Ambassador to the Republic of Korea and the Charge d’Affaires of Poland to Republic of Korea, and presentation of government awards recognizing individuals and organizations contributing to the integration and support of foreign residents. Performances by multicultural groups, including the ‘Hello?! Orchestra,’ multinational K-POP group ‘XODIAC,’ and the ‘Happy Start’ choir from Suwon Immigration Office, further adding to the festive and harmonious atmosphere of the event.

During the awards ceremony, a total of 17 government commendations, including Presidential Citation and the Prime Minister’s Citation, were presented to those recognized for their long-standing dedication to supporting foreign residents’ settlement and social integration.

The presidential Citation for Individuals went to Sister Marianna, for her over 30 years of volunteer service in rural and mountainous communities, assisting migrants with their adaptation to Korean society. Dr. Byun Young-nam, a dentist, was honored with the Presidential Citation for providing free dental care for unsheltered homelesses, including foreign workers and the underprivileged in our society for 34 years.

The Presidential Citation for Organizations went to the Gumi Catholic Worker Culture Center, led by Director Song Yang-up. For more than 50 years, it assisted foreign workers in the Gumi and Gyeongbuk regions through counseling, medical welfare support, and emergency financial aid, thereby contributing to supporting the successful integration of foreigners and advancing their rights and welfare.

For those unable to attend in person, the ceremony was broadcasted live on the Ministry of Justice’s official YouTube channels (MOJ TV, Korea Immigration Service) and the Together Day website.

In his commemorative speech, then Minister of Justice Sungjae Park highlighted the Ministry’s ongoing commitment since announcing the “New Immigration and Entry-Exit Policy” last September, designed to prepare for an era of three million foreign residents. He emphasized the introduction of a sophisticated and systematic foreign workforce management system and visa system reforms reflecting the demands of local governments and the business community, pursuing a balanced and open immigration policy.



Minister Park further expressed the Ministry’s dedication to “realizing a society where immigrants’ human rights and values are respected and establishing an immigration administration foundation to lead Korea as a global leader.” He underscored the critical importance of social integration, stating that “as Korea enters a multicultural society, sustainable development requires mutual understanding and coexistence between Korean nationals and immigrants more than ever.”

Meanwhile, during Together Week (May 20–26), various cultural festivals were held nationwide in cooperation with local governments, including the ‘Global Gathering 2025’ in Busan, ‘Korean Traditional and World Folk Costume Fashion Show’ in Suwon, ‘Multicultural street events’ in Jeju, and ‘Korean language speaking contests’ in Jeonju, promoting cultural exchange between residents and foreign nationals.



Ministry of Justice Hosts HCCH Asia Pacific Week Seoul 2025



The Ministry of Justice, in collaboration with the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH), the Judicial Policy Research Institute, the Korea Institute of Criminology and Justice, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the National Center for the Rights of the Child, the Korean Private International Law Association, and Seocho District Office, hosted the HCCH Asia Pacific Week Seoul 2025 from June 25 to 27 at Some Sevit, Seocho-gu, Seoul. This marks the first time in eight years that Korea has rehosted this prestigious event since it was last co-hosted by the Ministry of Justice and the Judicial Research and Training Institute in 2017.

The HCCH, established in 1893, is an intergovernmental organization aimed at the progressive harmonization and unification of private international law. Its members are currently consisted of 91 states and the European Union. Korea became a member state in 1997. The HCCH focuses on areas such as international family and child protection,

transnational litigation, and international commercial, digital, and financial law. Korea is a signatory to key conventions including the Apostille Convention, the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, and the Hague Service Convention, and is scheduled to implement the Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption starting October 1, 2025.

Over 300 government officials, scholars, and experts from countries including the United States, The United Kingdom, Japan, China, Singapore, and Brazil attended the event. The participants engaged in comprehensive discussions on the implementation status of various HCCH conventions across the Asia-Pacific region and the latest developments in private international law.

The three-day event featured in-depth discussions on a wide spectrum of

legal topics. On July 25, the program opened with a focus on international family law, exploring key instruments such as the 1993 Adoption Convention, 1980 Child Abduction Convention and 2007 Child Support Convention. Continuing on July 26, the spotlight shifted to civil procedure, with sessions delving into the 1965 Service and the 1970 Evidence Conventions. Bringing the event to a close on July 27, the event concluded with forward-looking discussions on emerging issues in private international law, including carbon markets and digital tokens.

The event was officially opened with a keynote speech by the then Acting Minister of Justice Seokwoo Kim, followed by welcome addresses from the HCCH Secretary General Christophe Bernasconi, Tae-ak Roh, the President of the Korea Private International Law Association and Supreme Court Justice, Director Seung-ryun Lee of the Judicial Policy Research Institute, Director Woong Seok Jung of the Korean Institute of Criminology and Justice, Director Ick-Joong Chung of the National Center for the Rights of the Child, and Seocho District Mayor Sung Soo Jun.

In his opening remarks, then Acting Minister Kim emphasized that “the growing tide of national self-interest in today’s international community has put the trust-based and consensus-driven framework of global cooperation to the test.” He went on to express his hope that “this event would serve as an opportunity to reaffirm the ultimate goals and values of private international law, promotion of international peace and stability, the protection of human rights, and the adherence to international legal norms.



The HCCH Asia Pacific Week Seoul 2025 is expected to play a significant role in establishing Korea as a hub for private international law in the Asia-Pacific region and enhancing its leadership in shaping global legal standards.



Mobile Cards Introduced for APEC Business Travel

The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea and the Korea International Trade Association have begun issuing the APEC Business Travel Card(ABTC) in a mobile format as of April 21, 2025.

The APEC Business Travel Card was introduced in 1997 to promote cross-border mobility among businesspeople within the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation member economies. Cardholders are granted visa-free entry into other member economies and can access fast-track lanes at international airports, allowing access to expedited immigration procedures. Currently, ABTC can be used in 19 out of 21 APEC member economies, including Korea, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, China, and others. While the United States and Canada do not provide visa waivers under this program, cardholders may still benefit from fast-track immigration clearance when entering these states.

Eligibility for the card is based on business credentials. Applicants must be executives of companies with annual import or export records exceeding one hundred thousand US dollars, or companies that have invested a similar amount overseas directly. Executives of companies with international construction contracts or those affiliated with major economic organizations such as The Federation of Korean Industries, Korea Enterprises Federation, The Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Korea International Trade Association, and the Korea Federation of SMEs are also eligible. For further details, please refer to the ABTC issuance system on the Korea International Trade Association website (<https://abtc.kita.net>) or consult the APEC Business Travel Card Issuance and Management Regulations (Ministry of Justice Directive) available on the Korean Law Information Center website.

The card is valid for five years and requires an application fee of 30,000 Korean won. As of the end of March 2025, over 59,000 valid ABTCs were held by Korean nationals, ranking Korea third among APEC member economies in the number of active cardholders.

The newly launched mobile version replicates the functions of the physical

card and can be accessed through a secure smartphone application. It enables cardholders to check their status real time and allows immigration officers to verify the card's authenticity using various embedded security features, thereby significantly reducing processing time. While the physical card typically takes up to six months to be issued, the mobile version shortens this period to approximately two months, offering a more efficient process for users. Applications for the mobile card can be submitted through the ABTC portal in the Korea International Trade Association website.

To further support applicants, the Korea International Trade Association has updated the online ABTC application platform. The system now includes a simulation tool that allows individuals to verify their eligibility in advance. Applicants can also receive detailed consultation and support through a dedicated call center.

With this transition to mobile issuance, the Korean government expects to further facilitate the mobility of Korean businesspeople and strengthen regional economic cooperation within the APEC framework.



Foreign Nationals to Gain Easier Access to Non-Bank Financial Institution Through Expanded ID Verification System



2025 for selected non-banking sector that opted to participate. The service was officially introduced at seven non-bank financial institutions in May. From June onward, it has been gradually expanding to additional financial institutions nationwide through the KFTC.

As of May 2025, a total of 20 institutions including 13 in the banking sector and 7 in the non-bank sector have adopted the system. A complete list of participating institutions is available on the Korea Immigration Service of Ministry of Justice's website (www.immigration.go.kr) and the Hi Korea portal(www.hikorea.go.kr).

With this expansion, registered foreign nationals in Korea will be able to more easily access a wide range of financial services including banking, credit cards, insurance, and securities through both physical branches and digital apps on equal terms with Korean citizens. The system is also expected to strengthen financial security by helping prevent financial accident caused by the use of forged or stolen identification.

The Ministry of Justice and KFTC stated that they remain committed to improving financial accessibility for foreign residents and will continue working to eliminate practical barriers in the financial sector.

The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Korea, in partnership with the Korea Financial Telecommunications and Clearings Institute(KFTC), is expanding its Foreign Residence Card Verification Service to non-bank financial institutions, making it easier for registered foreign residents to use basic financial services.

This service allows financial institutions to verify the authenticity of foreign residence documents including permanent resident card and overseas Korean resident card, by comparing personal and photo information with those registered in the database of the Ministry of Justice, thereby confirming the data real time and returning a verification result. It is used when foreign residents apply for financial services that require ID verification, whether at in-person financial branches or through mobile and web platforms.

The foreign residence card verification service, initially launched for banking sector on September 18, 2023, began a pilot program in January

The 14th Asia-Pacific ADR Conference

The Ministry of Justice (MOJ) co-hosts the 14th Asia-Pacific ADR* conference on October 29, 2025, in collaboration with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board (KCAB), under the theme of the event “Unveiling Excellence in Arbitration.”

The Special Session, held by the International Legal Policy Division of MOJ and UNCITRAL Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RCAP), will discuss the directions of development for recently drafted international norms and systems.

Further details about the event will be announced in due course. More

information and updates also can be found on the MOJ website (<https://www.moj.go.kr>)

*Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR): Arbitration, mediation, and other processes to resolve disputes without reliance on litigation

2025 ICN Cartel Workshop



The Ministry of Justice will host the 2025 International Competition Network (ICN) Cartel Workshop in November 2025 over a three-day period. The event is expected to bring together approximately 300 participants, including scholars, practitioners, and legal professionals from around the world.

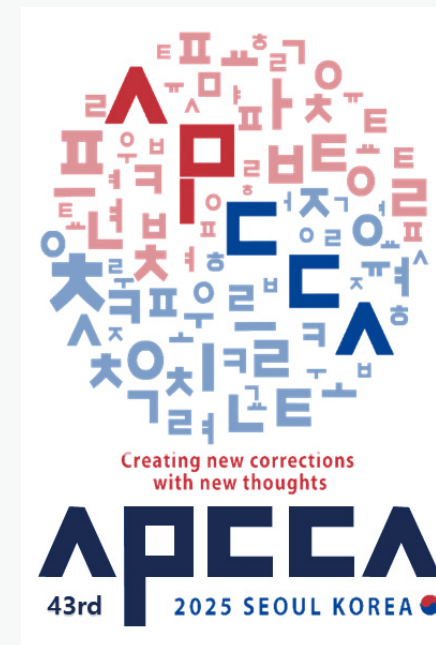
The ICN Cartel Workshop serves as a platform to explore key issues related to structures, operations, and impacts of cartels. The theme for 2025 ICN Cartel Workshop would include variety of emerging topics such as Anti-

Cartel Enforcement, environmental issues as well as international cooperation.

Drawing on Korea's active involvement in global competition law community and its ongoing efforts to strengthen domestic enforcement mechanisms, the Ministry of Justice is committed to making the event not only be a successful, enriching, and memorable event for all participants, but also be an accessible, diverse, and above all, safe and secure event.

Further updates and relevant details such as program schedule and agenda will be available on the ICN official website at <https://www.internationalcompetitionnetwork.org/>.

43rd Asian and Pacific Conference of Correctional Administrators



The Korea Correctional Service of the Ministry of Justice will host the 43rd Asian and Pacific Conference of Correctional Administrator (APCCA) from November 9 to 13, 2025, at the Shilla Hotel in Seoul. This international conference is expected to bring together approximately 150 participants from 27 countries, together with international organizations including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI).

APCCA was first established in 1980 in Hong Kong and serves as a key platform for discussing shared challenges and exchanging expertise in the field of correctional administration. Since becoming a member in 1983, Korea has actively participated in the conference and previously hosted it successfully in 1986 and 2005. Hosting the 2025 conference reflects Korea's commitment to advancing international cooperation in correctional reform and enhancing its leadership role in the global correctional community.

The conference will include five major agenda topics including the evolving challenges and issues in correctional administration, resource and budget efficiency, international cooperation in corrections, inclusive and effective treatment of vulnerable groups within correctional institutions, and strategies for reducing recidivism among inmates suffering from addiction to drugs, alcohol or gambling.

Korea's hosting of the 43rd APCCA is expected to contribute significantly to the advancement of correctional policies and practices among member states. It will serve not only as a platform for policy dialogue but also as an opportunity to highlight Korea's human rights-centered correctional administration.

Government Departments

Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission

<http://www.acrc.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-44-200-7151~6

Constitutional Court of Korea

<http://english.ccourt.go.kr/>
82-2-708-3460

Fair Trade Commission

<http://eng.ftc.go.kr>
82-44-200-4326

Financial Services Commission

<http://www.fsc.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-2-2156-8000

National Assembly Law Library

<http://law.nanet.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-2-788-4111

Judicial Research & Training Institute

<http://jrti.scourt.go.kr/>
82-31-920-3114

Korea Communications Commission

<http://eng.kcc.go.kr/user/ehpMain.do>
82-2-500-9000

Korea Consumer Agency

<http://english.kca.go.kr/index.do>
82-43-880-5500

Korea Customs Service

<http://english.customs.go.kr/>
82-1577-8577

Ministry of Food and Drug Safety

<http://www.mfds.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-43-719-1564/ 82-1577-1255

Korean Intellectual Property Office

<http://www.kipo.go.kr/kpo/user.tdf?a=user.english.main.BoardApp&c=1001>
82-42-481-5008

Korea Law Service Center

<http://law.go.kr/LSW/main.html>
82-2-2100-2520
(Ministry of Government Legislation)/
82-2-2100-2600
(Legislative Research Services)

Korea Meteorological Administration

<http://web.kma.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-2-2181-0900

Korean Bar Association

<http://www.koreanbar.or.kr/eng/>
82-2-3476-4008

Korean Library Information System Network

<http://www.nl.go.kr/kolisnet/index.php>
82-2-590-0626

Korean National Police Agency

<http://www.police.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-182

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

<http://english.mifaff.go.kr/main.jsp>
110 (from Korea) / 82-2-6196-9110 (from overseas)

Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism

<http://www.mcst.go.kr/english/index.jsp>
82-44-203-2000

Ministry of Education

<http://english.moe.go.kr/enMain.do>
82-2-6222-6060

Ministry of Employment and Labor

<http://www.moel.go.kr/english/main.jsp>
82-52-702-5089 (National Labor Consultation Center)
82-44-202-7137 (International Cooperation Bureau)
82-44-202-7156 (Foreign Workforce Division)

Ministry of Environment

<http://eng.me.go.kr/>
82-44-201-6568 / 82-1577-8866

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

<http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-2-2100-2114

Ministry of Gender Equality and Family

<http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-2-2100-6000

Ministry of Government Legislation

<http://www.moleg.go.kr/english>
82-44-200-6900

Ministry of Health and Welfare

<http://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-44-202-2001~3

Ministry of Justice

http://www.moj.go.kr/moj_eng/index.do
82-2-2110-3000

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

<http://www.molit.go.kr/english/intro.do>
(Day) 82-44-1599-0001, (Night) 82-44-201-4672

Ministry of National Defense

<http://www.mnd.go.kr/mbshome/mbs/mndEN/>
82-2-748-1111

Ministry of the Interior and Safety

<https://www.mois.go.kr/eng/a01/engMain.do>
82-2-2100-3399

Ministry of Economy and Finance

<http://english.moef.go.kr/>
82-44-215-2114

Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy

<http://www.motie.go.kr/language/eng/index.jsp>
82-2-1577-0900 / 82-44-203-4000

Ministry of Unification

https://www.unikorea.go.kr/eng_unikorea/
82-2-2100-5722

National Assembly Library

<http://www.nanet.go.kr/english/>
82-2-788-4211

National Intelligence Service

<https://eng.nis.go.kr/>
82-111

National Research Foundation of Korea

<https://www.nrf.re.kr/eng/index>
82-2-3460-5500 / 82-42-869-6114

National Tax Service

<http://www.nts.go.kr/eng/>
82-2-397-1200 / 82-1588-0560

Network of Committed Social Workers

<http://www.welfare.or.kr/>
82-2-822-2643

Public Procurement Service

<http://www.pps.go.kr/eng/index.do>
82-70-4056-7524

Ministry of SMEs and Startups

<https://www.mss.go.kr/site/eng/main.do>
82-1357

Statistics Korea

<http://kostat.go.kr/portal/english/index.action>
82-2-2012-9114

Supreme Court Library of Korea

<https://library.scourt.go.kr/base/eng/main.jsp>
82-31-920-3612~3

Supreme Prosecutors' Office

<http://www.spo.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>
82-2-3480-2337

The Board of Audit and Inspection of Korea

<http://english.bai.go.kr>
82-2-2011-2114

The Supreme Court of Korea

<http://eng.scourt.go.kr/eng/main/Main.work>
82-2-3480-1100

The National Assembly of the Republic of Korea

<http://korea.assembly.go.kr/index.jsp>
82-2-788-3656

National Library of Korea

<http://www.nl.go.kr/english/>
82-2-535-4142

VOD Service for Conferences

<http://na6500.assembly.go.kr/>
82-2-788-3056/2298

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The Rule of Law for Fairness and Compassion

Emblem

The government of the Republic of Korea has changed its official “government identity.” The new logo conveys the dynamism and enthusiasm of the country with the three colors of blue, red and white. It echoes off Korea’s national flag *Taegeukgi* with the *taegeuk* circular swirl and the blank canvas embodies in white. The typeface

was inspired by the font used in the “*Hunminjeongeum*” (1446), the original *Hangeul* text, in consideration of the harmony embodied in the *taegeuk* circle. The new logo began to be used by all 22 ministries, including the Ministry of Justice and 51 central government agencies from March 2016.



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