Access to Justice and Technology Summit

17 Jun 2019
9:00 AM - 7:00 PM
DLA Piper UK LLP
160 Aldersgate Street
London
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United Kingdom

Access to Justice and Technology Summit organized by DLA Piper and PILnet.

Access to justice is a basic principle of the rule of law and underpins the full and free enjoyment of all other rights. While technology has fundamentally reshaped our lives and the way we access information and services, access to justice remains an inaccessible or protracted process for many. DLA Piper and PILnet hosted the Summit on 17 June to examine the possibilities that technology may provide to improve access to justice around the world, and to find innovative and workable solutions so that people in need have access to effective remedies, regardless of ability to pay.

Participants from government and UN officials, tech industry experts, civil society, technology funders, academia, pro bono lawyers and social entrepreneurs came together to explore and think about novel technology solutions to access to justice challenges on a global scale.

The Summit featured remarkable speakers from all over the world including Richard Susskind (IT Adviser to the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales), Margaret Hagan (Director of the Legal Design Lab, Stanford University), Dame Hazel Genn (Former Dean of Laws and Co-Director of the University College of London Judicial Institute, UK), Shannon Salter (Chair of the Civil Resolution Tribunal in British Columbia), Lance Bartholomeusz (Principal Legal Adviser, Head of Legal Affairs Service at UNHCR), Jim Sandman (President of the Legal Services Corporation, USA), Professor Tanina Rostain (Georgetown University Law Center), Matthew Stubenberg (Associate Director of Legal Technology, Harvard A2J Tech Law), Vincent Richardson (International CTO, Tech for Social Impact, Microsoft Philanthropies), Fiona McLeay (CEO and Commissioner at Legal Services Board in Australia), Professor Dan Katz (Illinois Tech, Chicago Kent Law) and more.

Utilizing a framework of four pillars, the A2J & Technology Summit examined:

- **The Digital Divide:** Economic and social inequality in access to technologies is causing a digital divide. Is access to justice using technology a remote possibility for them?
- **Legal Empowerment:** How can technology increase people's ability to understand and make use of the law?
- **Access to advice and assistance:** How do legal aid lawyers, boards, pro bono lawyers, bar associations, government legal aid providers, etc., use technology to improve their impact and reach more people?
- **Online Dispute Resolution:** How can technology not only break down the barriers and provide open access to dispute resolution for all but also innovate in the justice system?

A list of participants, speaker bios, photos and video recordings of the morning and closing sessions can be found below. Stay tuned for a report on the Summit which will be posted below when it becomes available.