HORIZON EUROPE

PROJECT PARTNER SEARCH FORM

X I offer my expertise to participate as a partner in a Horizon Europe project.

☐ I am planning to coordinate a project and I am looking for project partners.

CALL AND TOPIC INFORMATION
Programme / Cluster
Horizon Europe, Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
Call and topic identifier
HORIZON-CL2-2027-01-DEMO-04
Topic title
Addressing the impact of artificial intelligence, cyberviolence, and deepfakes on equality, democracy and inclusive societies
Call deadline
23Sept2027
PARTNER INFORMATION
Legal entity / organisation name
Capio Ltd (as the AI creator and supplier) and The Divorce Surgery Ltd (a UK law firm acting as a development partner)
Description of the legal entity

Legal tools currently on the market cannot replicate the way a human lawyer analyses a case. We want to change that.

We have identified three initial challenges which we believe Capio's pioneering legal technology can remedy:

1. 60,000 divorcing couples in the UK each year never resolve their finances on divorce because they can't work out what's legally fair.
2. Family lawyers and Judges in the UK and EU start every new case from first principles with no means of benchmarking that analysis. Court backlogs are impeding access to justice. Firms are moving from hourly rate to fixed fee models due to client dissatisfaction with hourly rates. Tech-enabled efficiency will boost profitability and access to the courts.
3. EU-wide, businesses have no efficient and consistent way of managing employee grievances, leading to poor outcomes.

The solution:

1. Build an online AI tool which mimics the human lawyer brain and so can apply the law and deliver fact-specific legal analysis, without hallucinations. Fully auditable and accountable, and created and kept updated by human lawyers. Enable consumers to access the tool for free, ideally via government platforms, thus empowering them to work out what fair outcomes look like for them.
2. Use the same technology to develop a tool for lawyers and judges, enabling them to analyse the facts of each case, highlight the relevant law and produce precedent documents. Case law and decided case precedent banks would enable professionals and judges to 'find a case like mine', promoting consistency in outcomes.

The outcomes:

1. Better access to justice for legal consumer, using safe, auditable and accountable tools which comply with the EU AI Act, do not hallucinate and are created and updated by human lawyer, broadening the legal market materially.

2. Improve speed of judicial analysis and quality of judgments, reducing the court backlogs. Enable the judiciary to move away from Microsoft Co-Pilot onto UK/EU sovereign technology which meets the EU AI Act standards and will significantly support efficiencies, and crucially, enable judges to access precedent documents, legal analysis and factual summaries within a tool which is fully auditable and meets the high standards required by the judiciary.

3. Increase the speed and accuracy of lawyers' legal analyses, replacing expensive 'all-purpose' AI tools, and enabling junior lawyers to be trained as the outputs will be auditable and offer training opportunities.

4. Businesses will be able to manage the upswell in employee grievances efficiently, consistently and in accordance with the law.

The method:

1. Capio has a team capable of developing tools which comply with the law of England and Wales, but would like to work within a European consortium so that the technical build can also expand to other jurisdictions. Professor Katie Atkinson who leads this AI build has already worked on a project deploying a similar AI approach for the European Court of Human Rights. An ideal consortium would include other EU universities and law firms/corporates keen to work as development partners to deploy the tool commercially.

Organisation type

☐ Higher education ☐ Research organisation ☐ Public administration
X Industry / SME ☐ NGO ☐ Other: _____

Description of the research / project team

Describe the team, relevant disciplines, facilities, networks and previous experience.

- Barristers Samantha Woodham and Harry Gates co-founded Capio Ltd having already founded The Divorce Surgery in 2017, the first law firm in the UK enabling couples to share a lawyer on divorce. This is a multi-award winning business which has changed the legal landscape. In 2020 Samantha secured an Innovate UK Women in Innovation Award to build a 'Form E tool'. This new technology will build on the existing tool, and gives the business a significant head start. Samantha and Harry bring the subject matter legal and commercial expertise for the Capio family law tool.

- Legal academic Dr Natalie Byrom is one of the UK's leading experts on justice data and the digital transformation of justice systems. She has advised HMCTS, the Ministry of Justice, and the senior judiciary on open-data strategy, chairs the Civil Justice Council's Data Working Group, and served as Data Expert to the Family Transparency Implementation Group.

- Rachel Aikens is a specialist ER lawyer, qualifying as a solicitor at Freshfields. After 12 years in private practice specialising in contentious regulatory matters, Rachel moved in-house to Barclays Legal. More recently, Rachel has spent time in other in-house firms' Employee Relations teams, including the Financial Conduct Authority. Experiencing firsthand an increase in caseload and complexity of cases has emphasised the business need, in her mind, for the tool Capio is creating. Rachel brings the subject matter legal and commercial expertise for the employee grievance tool.

- The AI technical build will be led by Professor Katie Atkinson (AI Lead) who is Professor of Computer Science and Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Liverpool. She has over 20 years' experience in AI. She is a member of the Lawtech UK Panel and the Artificial Intelligence Advisory Board of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ).

PROPOSED CONTRIBUTION

Expertise offered

Explain the specific expertise, data, methods, facilities, networks or case studies offered to a consortium.

- Specialist expertise on UK family law from family law barristers (each with 20+ years experience and a strong network in the UK legal profession and judiciary)
- Specialist technical legal AI expertise (Professor of Computer Science and Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Liverpool with 20+ years' experience in AI. Member of the Lawtech UK Panel and the Artificial Intelligence Advisory Board of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ)
- Specialist expertise on justice data and the digital transformation of justice systems with a network including UK HMCTS, the UK Ministry of Justice, and the senior judiciary
- Specialist expertise on UK employee grievance (20+ years' experience and industry links including UK magic circle law firms and global investment banks and the UK FCA
- Research network and facilities at the University of Liverpool
- A development partner identified (being UK law firm The Divorce Surgery)
- Completion of a previous Innovate UK award which led to successful commercial deployment

Potential role in the project

Describe the tasks, work packages or leadership roles the organisation could undertake.

- AI technical build and commercial deployment in UK family law and employee grievance
- Supporting technical build and commercial deployment in other EU states

Indicative activity areas

X Research X Demonstration / piloting X Training / capacity building
X Communication / dissemination X Exploitation / innovation ☐ Other: _____

EXPERIENCE

Previous experience as	**Yes**	**No**
Coordinator	☐	X
Partner	☐	X
Expert / evaluator	☐	X

Relevant European or international projects

All projects to date have been UK based.

CONTACT DETAILS

Contact person	Samantha Woodham
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