

A South African Perspective on Artificial Intelligence and Legal Personality

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Abstract : The concept of moral personhood extending from the moral status of an artificial intelligence system has been explored - but predominantly from a Western conception of personhood. African personhood, however, is distinctly different from Western personhood in that communitarianism is central to the underpinnings of personhood - rather than Western individualism. Personhood in the African context is not an inherent property that a human is born with; rather, it is an ontological journey that one goes on in his or her life with the hopes of attaining personhood. Given the decolonization, projects happening in Africa, and the law-making that is happening in this space within South Africa, it is of paramount importance to consider these views.

Keywords : artificial intelligence, bioethics, law, legal personality

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