Dory Reiling

Technology for Justice

How Information Technology can support Judicial Reform



Technology for Justice examines impacts of information technology (IT) on the administration of justice. Court users all over the world complain mainly about long delays, lack of access to justice and court corruption. Drawing on a broad variety of sources – comparative studies, statistics, case law and jurisprudence, studies on IT use and on court usage – this study examines how IT can help to remedy these complaints. The study, contributing to knowledge about information use and IT in proceedings, analyzes how automated case registration systems have revolutionized thinking about case management and significantly reduced court disposition times. It also explores Internet technology's potential for increasing access to legal information, predicted by Richard Susskind in 1996, as a means for self help with settlement and support for court access. Providing the first systematic analysis of court corruption, it analyzes IT's contribution to reducing corruption. It closes by providing insights into the Internet's new challenges for judiciaries.

Dory Reiling, judge at the Amsterdam first instance court, was formerly the IT policy officer for the Dutch judiciary and a senior World Bank judicial reform expert. Her previous publications include Doing Justice with IT (2006) and Justice Sector Assessments Handbook (2007).

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