

Opinions of prominent figures: The Future of the Legal Profession After the Covid-19 Pandemic

Prominent figures from the Portuguese legal sector share their views on the future of Law after the Covid-19 pandemic

Domingos Cruz

Managing Partner at CCA Law Firm.

Where do you think AI will have the greatest value/ impact for lawyers going forward. What other “top” technologies do you see as critical to legal professionals’ current / future success.

Agile organizations think of technology not as a supporting capability but as being integrated with and core to every aspect of the organization. The legal landscape has shifted, and clients want more transparency, immediacy, and value for their legal providers. Concepts such as self-service client portals, contract creation and review, contact negotiation.

In fact, AI could be quite useful, for example, in contract review, as it could easily do in few minutes what lawyers

take hours to validate. Blockchain is also raising among us. The combination between Machine Learning/ Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain will open a new world to legal professionals and law firms.

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José Barroco

Senior partnet at Resende Barroco & Associados, Sociedade de Advogados, RL

What did you see as the key attributes / characteristics of resilient organizations through the crisis so far

The main attributes of the organisations that resisted the pandemic are the strong capacity to adapt and the organisations that throughout their activity were

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able to establish a strong bond of trust with their customers making them believe that we are their closest partners in overcoming the obstacles that the pandemic caused. Adaptation has required a great deal of learning and monitoring of the legislation issued daily in relation to COVID-19. It also required new services and help-desks to be set up in record time, always guaranteeing the quality of the legal support provided. Client trust has always been and always will be the greatest asset an organisation can have, and it is the difference between success and failure. The pandemic put several organisations on a state of alert, turning to those they trust the most to help them overcome the crisis that the COVID-19 pandemic caused. This is perhaps one of the key attributes that an organisation can have since the relationship between lawyer and client is not only based on results but also on trust.