

ADDRESSING THE DATA PROTECTION CONCERNS IN THE USE OF ROBOTS AND AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES IN THE CONVOLUTED WORLD OF BIG DATA

ABSTRACT

Robots and autonomous vehicles have evolved from being mere myths/elements of science fiction into a reality (with) which we now live. Since existing laws have been put in place without an express consideration of robots and autonomous vehicles, it is necessary to examine the compatibility of robots and autonomous vehicles with applicable law, which for the purpose of this article is data protection law. There is no doubt that big data (which includes personal data) is the fuel with which robots/ autonomous vehicles are powered and it is this use of personal data from big data that brings robots/autonomous vehicles within the purview of data protection law. This article seeks to identify the extent to which the extant data protection laws are capable of protecting the right to data protection of data subjects in their use of robots/autonomous vehicles while also making recommendations on how compliance can be best achieved where possible.