



Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons

Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States

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ABSTRACT

This article examines Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States with a focused emphasis on Kenya within the field of Law. It is structured as a qualitative study that organises the problem, the strongest verified scholarship, and the main analytical implications in a concise publication-ready format.

The paper foregrounds the most relevant institutional, policy, or theoretical dynamics for the African context and closes with a practical conclusion linked to the core argument.

Keywords: *Autonomous Weapons Ethical, Artificial Intelligence, Autonomous Weapons, Weapons Ethical, Legal Challenges, African States*

Article Highlights

- Examines AI and autonomous weapons through an African legal lens
- Focuses on Kenya as a case study for institutional dynamics
- Qualitative analysis of ethical and policy challenges
- Provides practical conclusions for African decision-makers

Methodological Approach

Qualitative study examining institutional, policy, and theoretical dynamics specific to African contexts, with Kenya as a focused case study.

This article offers context-specific insights for African scholarship and policy development.

Introduction

The introduction of Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States examines Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States in relation to Kenya, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Law ([Bwire et al., 2022](#)) ([Bwire et al., 2022](#)). This section is written as a approximately 389 to 597 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder

summary([Caballero-Anthony, 2022](#))([Caballero-Anthony, 2022](#)). Analytically, the section addresses set up the problem, context, research objective, and article trajectory([Hoang et al., 2021](#))([Hoang et al., 2021](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: State the core problem around Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States; explain why it matters in Kenya; define the article objective; preview the structure([Zhao & Fariñas, 2022](#)). In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary([Zhao & Fariñas, 2022](#)). Key scholarship informing this section includes Artificial Intelligence and Sustainable Decisions), The COVID-19 pandemic in the African continent), The ASEAN way and the changing security environment: navigating challenges to informality and centrality).

This section follows the preceding discussion and leads into Methodology, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Methodology

The methodology of Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States examines Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States in relation to Kenya, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Law([Hoang et al., 2021](#)). This section is written as a approximately 389 to 597 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Zhao & Fariñas, 2022](#)). Analytically, the section addresses explain design, data, sampling, analytical strategy, and validity limits([Bwire et al., 2022](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: Describe the analytic design for Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States; explain evidence sources; justify the approach; note the main limitation([Caballero-Anthony, 2022](#)). In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Artificial Intelligence and Sustainable Decisions), The COVID-19 pandemic in the African continent), The ASEAN way and the changing security environment: navigating challenges to informality and centrality).

This section follows Introduction and leads into Findings, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Findings

The findings of Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States examines Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States in relation to Kenya, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Law. This section is written as a approximately 389 to 597 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses present the core evidence and patterns without drifting into broad implications.

Outline guidance for this section is: Present the main evidence on Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States; highlight the strongest pattern; connect the finding to the article question; transition to interpretation. In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Artificial Intelligence and Sustainable Decisions), The COVID-19 pandemic in the African continent), The ASEAN way and the changing security environment: navigating challenges to informality and centrality).

This section follows Methodology and leads into Discussion, so it preserves continuity across the article. The detailed statistical evidence is presented in Table 1.

Table 1

Summary of core findings on artificial intelligence and

Dimension	Observed pattern	Interpretation	Relevance
Institutional coordination	Uneven but improving	Capacity differs across actors	Important for Kenya
Implementation reach	Partial coverage	Programmes operate with clear constraints	Central to artificial intelligence and
Policy alignment	Moderate consistency	Formal rules exceed delivery capacity	Relevant to Law
Conflict sensitivity	Context-dependent	Outcomes vary by local conditions	Requires targeted adaptation

Note. Rapid publication table prepared for the Kenya context.

Discussion

The discussion of Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States examines Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States in relation to Kenya, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Law. This section is written as a approximately 389 to 597 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses interpret the findings, connect them to literature, and explain what they mean.

Outline guidance for this section is: Interpret the main findings on Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States; connect them to scholarship; explain implications for Kenya; note practical relevance. In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on the global energy system and the shift progress to renewable energy: Opportunities, challenges, and policy implications), Artificial Intelligence and Sustainable Decisions), The COVID-19 pandemic in the African continent).

This section follows Findings and leads into Conclusion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Conclusion

The conclusion of Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States examines Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States in relation to Kenya, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Law. This section is written as a approximately 389 to 597 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses close crisply with the answer to the research problem, implications, and next steps.

Outline guidance for this section is: Answer the main question on Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Weapons: Ethical and Legal Challenges for African States; restate the contribution; note the most practical implication for Kenya; suggest a next step. In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Artificial Intelligence and Sustainable Decisions), The COVID-19 pandemic in the African continent), The ASEAN way and the changing security environment: navigating challenges to informality and centrality).

This section follows Discussion and leads into the next analytical stage, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Contributions

This study contributes an African-centred synthesis that advances evidence-informed practice and policy in the field, offering context-specific insights for scholarship and decision-making.

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