

Abstract

This research provides a critical analysis of predictive policing systems within Germany and Netherlands, as part of the larger European Union (EU), where the focus is on biases and issues within processes that need to be addressed using a human security approach to help improve and redesign these systems to integrate them into a normative framework such as the EU AI Act. As case studies, location-based and person-based predictive policing practices in Germany and Netherlands were identified and chosen for analysis through a deductive analytical approach using a relevant theoretical framework. Qualitative analysis was employed on information collated from interviews with researchers and industry experts from the respective regions, as well as published journals in the field of predictive law enforcement in EU. The literature review has information on the data collected from journals as part of the analysis, which was later employed extensively within the empirical analysis section. Unlike most literature reviewed; this research explicitly applies human security as a theoretical approach to predictive policing practices as well as applying relevant theories to explain the probable solutions provided by experts. By employing a human security approach integrated with algorithmic bias theory, the results of the data analysed showed that although there are positives that need to be considered in these systems, with the probable development and introduction of the EU AI Act it is highly likely these systems will need to be revised and, in some cases, abolished, due to the inherently biased processes and datasets. It is possible to improve the systems though however that will require strong collaboration with external stakeholders, disaggregated collection and analysis of data to curb bias in datasets, and the introduction of a standardised, independent auditing body and frameworks. However, even with all these steps there can be issues with standardisation from individual states.