



New-Generation Templates Facilitating the Shift from Documents to Data in the Italian Judiciary

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Abstract. The Italian judicial system may be about to make a historic transition: from the mere digitization of its documents to an activity intrinsically shaped by the possibilities that the digital environment offers (digitalization as controlled flow of data) and that allows, for the first time operationally, the use of artificial intelligence techniques.

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The paper describes the research carried out by the authors (The paper was jointly conceived by the authors. However, the introduction of Sect. 3 and Sect. 4 were written by Amedeo Santosuosso, Sects. 1 and 2 were written by Stefano D'Ancona and Sects. 3.1 and 3.2 were written by Emanuela Furiosi.) as part of the NEXT GEN UPP research project, launched in 2021 by the Italian Ministry of Justice, with the aim, among others, of enhancing the digitalization of judicial activities as a basis for the improvement of organizational processes and the application of Legal Analytics (LA) tools to legal texts.

The activity described in this paper relates to the design of a “new-generation template” that can be used by judges and lawyers in carrying out their activities.

These new templates can maximize the efficiency of judicial activity while creating an enabling IT environment for the use of the most advanced artificial intelligence technologies, both current and future.

Keywords: Digitalization of Judicial Proceedings · AI and Law · Documents vs. Data · Segmentation · Law as Data · Italian Judicial System

1 Introduction

The Italian judicial system may be about to make the historic transition from the mere digitization of its documents (that is, from the mere use of digital tools) to an activity intrinsically shaped by the possibilities that the digital environment offers and that also uses, for the first time operationally, artificial intelligence techniques.

In the previous phase, the content and mode of acquisition of documents, as well as the lawyers and judges' deeds in the process, were essentially unchanged from the past, and the only difference was the transfer in digital format of information expressed as signs impressed on paper (with pen, typewriter or computer printing makes little difference: analog mode), producing digital “documents”. In the phase now opening, information

can be directly produced and organized in such a way as to be machine-readable and have characteristics that make it directly explorable with artificial intelligence techniques (legal analytics), which by definition operate on “data” and not on documents. It is the shift *from documents to data*, long known and investigated at the theoretical level [1], that now becomes the cornerstone of a major innovation (i.e., implementation) in the judicial field.

This paper describes the research the authors carried out as part of the NEXT GEN UPP research project, that has focused on the development of templates for court deeds, with defined structural requirements, that can enable judges and lawyers to draft structurally homogeneous “digital entities”. The Italian Ministry of Justice launched the project in 2021, with the aim, among others, of enhancing the digitalization process of judicial activities as a basis for the improvement of organizational processes and, in particular, the application of Legal Analytics (LA) tools. In other words, to create a technical environment in which different disciplines, including data science, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML) and natural language processing (NLP), can converge.

The activity described in the present paper, carried out by the working group of the Scuola Universitaria Superiore, IUSS Pavia, was first aimed at designing a “conceptual template” of judicial decision making, and then a “new generation template”, able to maximize the efficiency of judicial activity, while at the same time creating an enabling computer environment for the use of the most advanced artificial intelligence technologies, current and forthcoming.

The path taken by the research group was to design a new “technological object” that can be used for the drafting of judicial deeds (judgments in the first place, but also defenders’ briefs).

2 The State of the Art in the Use of Templates

In a recent review of the publications dedicated at legal prediction the authors [2] stress the importance of a sufficient knowledge about the exact dataset the studies are based on and the awareness of researchers of the type of data they are analyzing, and conclude “unfortunately, this is frequently not the case” (p. 207). This very comprehensive review to the studies that have used machine learning techniques and claimed to be predicting court decisions, published from 2015 to 2021, shows very clearly, among other very interesting aspects of legal prediction, the importance of homogeneity of judgements and the way they are divided in sections.

It is interesting the case of ECHR judgments whose structural homogeneity derives from Rule 74 of the Rules of Court, which, precisely imposes specific obligations on the Court in the way the judgments are drafted [3–7]. It is precisely from this acquired knowledge, the Authors of this paper have moved in an attempt to provide, within the Italian court system, a template of judgment and party deed (the deeds of lawyers)¹ that can be used by legal practitioners in the context of civil judgments. The theoretical assumption is that the creation of templates of judgments makes possible to have an accurate textual analysis, reducing if not avoiding prior tagging by domain experts [8–11]. Studies in this field in Italy have not yet been provided, unless we have unintentionally missed some research.

In paragraph 3 the bidirectional path from a mere conceptual template toward a new-generation template is described and the basic structure of new generation template is designed in a way which might be workable by technicians. Finally, in paragraph 4 further research steps and practical applications are outlined.

3 From Conceptual Templates to New Generation Templates

The design of “new-generation templates” for use in civil judgments (of first and second instance) has been conceived as a tool having a twofold nature: a fundamental junction of the various aspects of the proceedings and a catalyst for broader change in the transition from the analog to the fully digital era.

Just to give a few examples, a process conceived as a flow of data and not as a mere accumulation of documents produced by judges and the parties’ lawyers implies significant technological support, which concretely means a reengineering of the current Italian Telematic Civil Process (PCT), not to mention the necessary changes in the tools the lawyers use in their judicial and non-judicial activity. In addition, in the background, several prejudices against technology are still present among both judges and lawyers and need to be faced.

As it is often the case in information technology, technical activities require prior clarification of the logic and sequence of the process. Thus, the first step for designing “new-generation templates” is a clear understanding of the logical and legal ideas the currently used templates are based on: i.e., a conceptual template reproducing in an ordered way what legal practitioners assume when they use them simply through a word processor (such as Word or Google Docs and similar). Of course, this is a bidirectional path, starting from a mere conceptual template (which could also be totally analog) and moving toward a new-generation template (i.e., a fully digital entity), which then can retroact on the same basic conceptual structure if a way emerges that is better suited to the digital context and is therefore clearer and more efficient. In some sense the new generation templates can be considered as the technological and conceptual evolution of the templates that already exist in a basic form within the library of the Judge’s and

¹ In Computer science, *template* is: «A document or file having a preset format, used as a starting point for a particular application so that the format does not have to be recreated each time it is used» (American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright © 2016 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company), at <https://www.thefreedictionary.com/template>.

Assistant's Console, accessible through the PCT. The difference stands in technology and, mostly, in the mindset: rather than trying to adapt the digital environment to the old analogic structure of the documents, we have now the possibility to shape procedural rules according to what the digitalization of the legal environment makes possible.

3.1 Conceptual Templates

In designing the conceptual models for both court documents and pleadings, two aspects were considered. Firstly, the minimum content required by the Code of Civil Procedure (Article 132 for judgment and Articles 163 and 167 for pleadings) was taken into account. Secondly, inputs from judges and lawyers who collaborated on the project, including their best practices and reported needs, were also considered [13]. The work started from the conceptualization of the civil judgment template of first instance. Fifty judgments from first-instance courts, covering various domains of civil law, have been gathered, selected for their structural interest and quality.

These judgments were subjected to meticulous analysis and a process of reduction to a scheme, in which essential elements were saved and semantic contents (i.e., legal concepts and arguments) were removed. Figure 1 shows the transition from a *17-pages judgment* (first column on the left) to an essential *1-page scheme* where only sections of the judgement are highlighted (second column). The third column shows the same *1-page scheme populated* with cross-references to other documents within the legal proceeding, in compliance with the provisions of Article 132 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

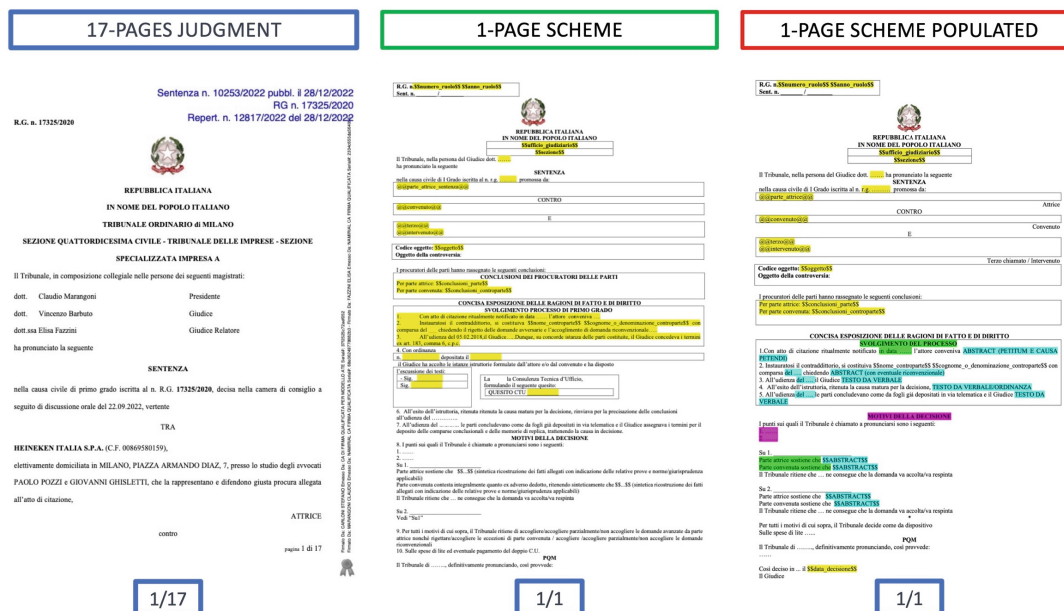


Fig. 1. Representation of the conceptualization process: from a common full judgement to the conceptual template. The picture is intended to show the logical development and not to be readable in the content.

3.2 New Generation Templates

The new generation templates have been designed as native digital objects capable of collecting structured data and organizing them in dedicated repositories (such as data warehouse -DWH- and data lake -DL-), which allow the creation of datasets that can be exploited with retrieval tools and artificial intelligence techniques. The design of new generation templates assumes a proper digitalization of the process and the centrality of data, in a way which modifies how judges and lawyers write and structure their documents and reshape how data and information interact with each other.

In this context, the judge essentially has the task of organizing data and information within the decision according to his/her institutional position. Figure 2 represents the sources of data and the place that AI may take within the judgement (document builder).

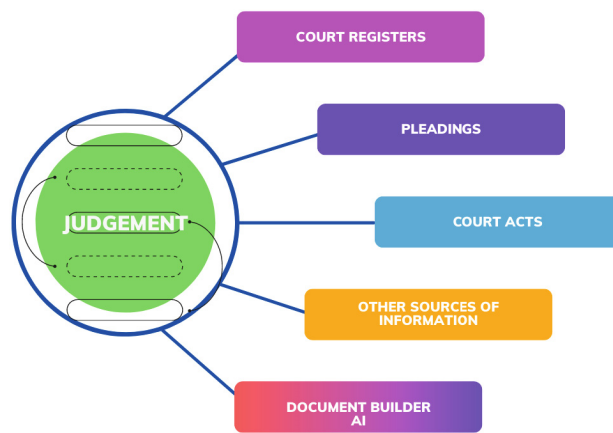


Fig. 2. Representation of the judgement as a space where information and data from multiple sources are organized.

New generation templates are rooted in previous research and experience that has undergone significant acceleration due to the innovations introduced by the so called Cartabia Reform [14] for the digitalization of civil processes. This reform follows the direction already undertaken by the experiment addressed in this paper, explicitly mandating the electronic filing of documents, the use of native digital files, electronic signatures, and the adoption, precisely, of computerized templates for legal documents.

Hereinafter we present the main acts of the parties' lawyers and how they are related to the final judgement. In Fig. 3 are shown the writ of summons and the response of the opposing lawyer: in green are the sections that are automatically filled in using the available technology, in yellow are abstracts derived from plaintiff pleadings, in pink are abstracts derived from defendant pleadings.

Figure 4 aims to give an idea of the combination of data having different sources and origins in the creation of final judgment. In green are sections that are automatically filled in using the available technology, in yellow are sections derived from plaintiff pleadings, in pink are sections derived from defendant pleadings, in light blue are sections derived from the court minutes.

New-generation templates operate on two fronts: on one hand, they simplify the drafting of individual decisions; on the other hand, they contribute to the creation of

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> §§judicial_office§§ WRIT OF SUMMONS </div> <p>In the interest of: §§plaintiff§§ (tax code), residing in City, Street... Attorney(s): ____ c.f. ____ pec ____ fax ____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">VERSUS</p> <p>§§defendant§§ (tax code), residing in City, Street... Attorney(s): ____ c.f. ____ pec ____ fax ____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> "SUBJECT OF THE CLAIM" (art. 163, c.3, n. 3 c.p.c.): ABSTRACT art. 163, c.3, n. 3 c.p.c. </div> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT AS A CONDITION OF PROCEDABILITY: it is declared that as per the attached document </div> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FACT (art. 163, c. 3, n. 4 c.p.c.: statement of facts)</p> <p>1. 2.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LAW</p> <p>Claim 1 ABSTRACT art. 163, c.3, n. 4 c.p.c., claim1 (Clear and specific exposition of the law elements constituting the grounds for the claim).</p> <p>Claim 2 ABSTRACT art. 163, c.3, n. 4 c.p.c., claim2 (Clear and specific exposition of the law elements constituting the grounds for the claim).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CITES</p> <p>§§defendant§§ CITES to appear in court before §§judicial_office§§, Section and Judge designated for the hearing of/.., ritual hours, with an invitation to enter an appearance within the term of seventy days prior to the aforementioned hearing, pursuant to and in the forms established by Article 166 c.p.c., and to appear at the aforementioned hearing before the judge to be designated pursuant to Article 168-bis c.p.c., with the warning that constitution beyond the aforementioned terms will result in the forfeitures referred to in Articles 38 and 167 c.p.c. and that, in the absence of constitution, he will be proceeded in his declaranda contumacia, and also with the warning that the technical defense by lawyer is mandatory in all judgments before the court, except for the cases provided for in Article 86 or by special laws, and that the defendant, if the legal requirements exist, may apply for admission to legal aid.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONCLUSIONS</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> May it please the Court, rejecting all contrary requests, exceptions, requests and deductions both on the merits and on the record, so rule: On the merits: 1. 2. In investigation: 1. 2. </div> <p>The value of this case is and the unified contribution is € The following documents are produced: DATE _____</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> §§judicial_office§§ G.R. n. §§case_number§§ / §§year§§ §§judge§§ </div> <p style="text-align: center;">APPEARANCE AND ANSWER WITH COUNTERCLAIM</p> <p>§§defendant§§ (tax code), residing in City, Street... Attorney(s): ____ c.f. ____ pec ____ fax ____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-defendant-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN THE ACTION BROUGHT BY</p> <p>§§plaintiff§§ (tax code), residing in City, Street... Attorney(s): ____ c.f. ____ pec ____ fax ____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-plaintiff-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p>1. The plaintiff, by means of a summons served on, has brought an action before this Honorable Court, requesting: ABSTRACT art. 163, c.3, n. 3 c.p.c. The initial appearance hearing of the parties scheduled for has been confirmed (or has been adjourned to)*</p> <p>Given all the foregoing, with this present filing, §§defendant§§ enters appearance in the proceedings, submitting a counterclaim - as specified in detail below - and opposing all that has been alleged, objected, and submitted by the opposing party. It is requested that all claims made by the plaintiff be dismissed as inadmissible, unfounded, and otherwise without merit for the following factual reasons.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FACT</p> <p>1. 2.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LAW</p> <p>Procedural and substantive preliminary objections (art. 167, c.2, c.p.c.) 1. The opposing party's claim is inadmissible/unfounded because: ABSTRACT art. 167 c. 2 c.p.c. In particular... 2.</p> <p>Against plaintiff's claim 1. The plaintiff has used Mr. §§covenante§§ claiming ABSTRACT art. 163, c.3, n. 4 c.p.c., claim1 The opposing party's claim is inadmissible/unfounded because ABSTRACT art. 167, c.3, n. 1 c.p.c., claim1 In particular...</p> <p>Against plaintiff's claim 2. ...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p>Counterclaims. The defendant requests this Honorable Court to: 1. Counterclaim1. 2. Counterclaim 2.</p> <p>Counterclaim 1. ABSTRACT art. 167, c. 2 c.p.c., count.cl1 (Exposition of the legal grounds for the claim). Counterclaim 2. ABSTRACT art. 167, c. 2 c.p.c., count.cl2 (Exposition of the legal grounds for the claim). ***</p> <p>Based on the foregoing, the defendant, reserving any further arguments and evidence, submits the following</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONCLUSIONS</p> <p>May the Honorable Court, after rejecting contrary arguments, render the following judgment: As a preliminary matter: ... On the merits: ... Regarding evidence: ... In relation to the counterclaim: ...</p> <p>DATE _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DIGITAL SIGNATURE _____</p>
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Fig. 3. Visual comparison of the “writ of summons” (left) and “appearance and defense/answer” (right) new generation templates. The picture is intended not to be readable in the content.

G.R. n. **§§case_number§§ / §§year§§**
 Judg. n. ____ / ____

ITALIAN REPUBLIC
 IN THE NAME OF THE ITALIAN PEOPLE
§§judicial_office§§
§§section§§

The Court, represented by Judge Dr. ..., has rendered the following

JUDGMENT

In the civil case of First Instance registered under number **§§case_number§§ / §§year§§** brought by:
§§defendant§§

VERSUS

§§plaintiff§§

Case caption: **§§case_caption§§**

CONCLUSIONS OF THE PARTIES' ATTORNEYS
 Plaintiff's: **§§plaintiff_conclusion-art. 189 C. 1, n. 1 cpc§§**
 Defendant's: **§§defendant_conclusion-art. 189c. 1, n. 1 cpc§§**

CONCISA ESPOSIZIONE DELLE RAGIONI DI FATTO E DI DIRITTO

1. By writ of summons ritually served on, the plaintiff sued **§§defendant§§** claiming that **ABSTRACT art. 163, c.3, n. 4 c.p.c., claim1 + claim2 + claimn**

2. After the cross-examination was established, **§§defendant§§** constituted himself by appearance of ____ requesting **ABSTRACT**
 With supplementary brief **§§plaintiff§§**: **ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 1, §§defendant§§** **ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 1**
 With supplementary brief **§§plaintiff§§** **ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 2, §§defendant§§** **ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 2**
 With supplementary brief **§§plaintiff§§** **ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 3, §§defendant§§** **ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 3**

3. At the hearing of, Judge **MINUTES ART. 183 cc. 1,2,3 c.p.c.**

4. By Order No. _____ filed on _____ the Judge **ORDER ART. 183 co. 4 c.p.c.**

5. Considered the case ready for decision, **MINUTES ART. 189 c.p.c.**

6. The parties filed briefs: **§§plaintiff§§**: **ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, n. 2** **§§defendant§§**: **ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, n. 2**
§§plaintiff§§: **ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, n. 3** **§§defendant§§**: **ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, n. 3**

7. At the hearing of, Judge **MINUTES-189, c. 3 c.p.c.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The issues on which the court is asked to rule are as follows:
§§issue§§

About Issue 1.
 The plaintiff argues that **§§ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, nn. 1 e 2§§**.
 The defendant argues that **§§ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, nn. 1 e 2§§**.
 The Court considers that ...REASONING... as a result, the claim is to be granted/dismissed.

About Issue 2.
 The plaintiff argues that **§§ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, nn. 1 e 2§§**.
 The defendant argues that **§§ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, nn. 1 e 2§§**.
 The Court considers that ...REASONING... as a result, the claim is to be granted/dismissed.

*

For all the above reasons, the Court decides as follows **FTR**

The Court, in final judgment, thus rules:

 Thus decided in ... on **§§date_decision§§**
 The Judge

Fig. 4. Judgement new-generation template. Scheme readable only for the color code, the picture is intended not to be readable in the content.

datasets, enabling the use of artificial intelligence systems to further help of judges' work.

Regarding the first aspect, new-generation templates are designed considering the complex structural and content-related connections between the exchanged documents throughout the legal process and the judgment. The focus was on maximizing those interconnections between information and data contained in those documents, organizing them into interoperable databases, to be reorganized by the judge within the judgment. Figure 5 represents the section of judgement dedicated to the case facts and their legal ground.

1. By writ of summons ritually served on the plaintiff sued **\$\$\$defendant\$\$** claiming that **ABSTRACT art. 163, c. 3, n. 4 c.p.c., claim1 + claim2 + claimn**
2. After the cross-examination was established, **\$\$\$defendant\$\$** constituted himself by appearance of ____ requesting **ABSTRACT**
 With supplementary brief **\$\$\$plaintiff\$\$**: **ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 1, \$\$\$defendant\$\$ ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 1**
 With supplementary brief **\$\$\$plaintiff\$\$** **ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 2, \$\$\$defendant\$\$ ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 2**
 With supplementary brief **\$\$\$plaintiff\$\$** **ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 3, \$\$\$defendant\$\$ ABSTRACT ex art. 171-ter c.p.c. n. 3**
3. At the hearing of, Judge **MINUTES ART. 183 cc. 1,2,3 c.p.c.**
4. By Order No. _____ filed on _____ the Judge **ORDER art. 183 co. 4 c.p.c.**
5. Considered the case ready for decision, **MINUTES ART. 189 c.p.c.**
6. The parties filed briefs: **\$\$\$plaintiff\$\$**: **ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, n. 2 \$\$\$defendant\$\$ ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, n. 2;**
\$\$\$plaintiff\$\$: **ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, n. 3 \$\$\$defendant\$\$ ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, n. 3**
7. At the hearing of, Judge **MINUTES-189, c. 3 c.p.c.**

Fig. 5. Section of the judgement new-generation template regarding the concise statement of the case facts. The close interconnection of the judgement with the pleadings is highlighted. In green are sections that the existing system automatically fills in; in yellow are sections derived from plaintiff pleadings; in pink are sections derived from defendant pleadings; in light blue are sections derived from the court minutes.

Using new-generation templates the judgement is almost automatically compiled in those sections related to events and facts (see Fig. 5), and in sections where the dialogue between the parties is summarized (see Fig. 6). This is also made possible by the elaborate structuring of the pleadings, which involves the drafting of specific abstracts that are designed to be transposed (unaltered) into the judgment.

This structure reduces the laborious task of reconstructing the procedural facts and provides the judge with a clear synoptic overview where the parties' procedural positions are faithfully reproduced. Of course, the judge is still responsible for the decision-making part of the judgement, determining the order of issues to be addressed (see Fig. 6), making decisions on individual issues and drafting the corresponding reasoning (see Fig. 7). The content of party briefs drafted based on the template should also achieve appreciable levels of clarity.

New generation templates are both a model for the construction of individual court deeds and a guide to their drafting at the various stages of the trial. In the progress of each specific judgment, new data are inserted and combined with existing data, shaped according to the different trial position of the writer (lawyer, judge and more). For example, an appointed expert writes his report by taking data provided by the parties,

REASONS FOR DECISION

The issues on which the court is asked to rule are as follows:

1.
2.

About Issue 1.
The plaintiff argues that **\$\$ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, nn. 1 e 2\$\$**.
The defendant argues that **\$\$ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, nn. 1 e 2\$\$**.
The Court considers that ...REASONING... as a result, the claim is to be granted/dismissed.

About Issue 2.
The plaintiff argues that **\$\$ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, nn. 1 e 2\$\$**.
The defendant argues that **\$\$ABSTRACT ART. 189, c.1, nn. 1 e 2\$\$**.
The Court considers that ...REASONING... as a result, the claim is to be granted/dismissed.

*

Fig. 6. Excerpt from the judgement new-generation template regarding the reasoning section.

CLAIM STATEMENT	DEFENSE	JUDGEMENT
Claim 1. \$\$ABSTRACT Claim1\$\$ plus a clear and specific presentation of the legal elements constituting the grounds of the claim.	Against Claim 1. The defendant challenged the admissibility and merits of the claim \$\$ABSTRACTagainst claim1\$\$	About Claim 1. The plaintiff argues that \$\$ABSTRACT Claim1\$\$ The defendant argues that \$\$ABSTRACTagainst claim1\$\$ The Court considers that ... REASONING ..., the claim is to be granted/dismissed.

Fig. 7. A Representation of the procedural dialogue structured by the new generation template, which includes AI support in the ‘reasoning’ section.

organizing them in a way that is functional to the task he is called upon to perform, and adding the technical data. At the end of the process, the judge will similarly proceed by adding the evaluations proper to his decisional function. And so on. The proceeding as a flow in which data are added along the various stages of the trial is shown in Fig. 8.

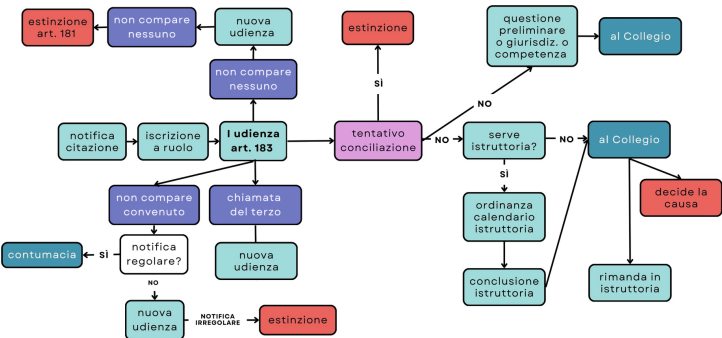


Fig. 8. Diachronic representation of the phases of a specific judgment and related data flow.

From a different point of view (and this is the *second aspect*), the use of new-generation templates, as previously mentioned, enables the collection of good quality data and the creation of datasets that facilitate the use of cutting-edge technologies to further support the judge’s and lawyers’ activities.

On this repository can work an AI system as a document builder [15]. Specifically, the same new-generation template includes the contribution of the so-called document builder. The document builder is an AI evolving technology, capable of querying the well-organized dataset fed with good quality data, created and organized based on the new-generation templates, assisting the judge in making decisions and motivating them by suggesting the most relevant legal precedents for the specific case at hand. The same dataset can also be queried by artificial intelligence (AI) to make visible those pieces of information that may not be immediately seen by the judge.

4 Final Considerations. Achievements and Prospects

At the beginning of the research, the Authors set the goal of designing a new generation template to be provided to the judiciary for two essential purposes.

The first was to maximize the efficiency of the justice service. The second, to be achieved in the medium to long term, was to create an enabling IT object for the use of the most advanced AI technologies. At the conclusion of the research, it is necessary to compare the aims with the achieved results, as well as any identified limitations.

From a theoretical point of view, it is possible to deepen the analysis of best practices among lawyers and judges, trying to reduce prejudices about the use of technology in the legal field. The potential introduction of judgment templates through the Judge's Console and the Assistant (especially for judgments) would imply that judges would have to adapt to new working methods. Currently, judges have complete discretion in structuring the judgment as they see fit, including merging sections that, as shown in the model, would be better kept distinct.

From a practical point of view the Authors offer this work to the attention of the Ministry of justice hoping in a decision to start a close interaction with the technical offices and experiment some templates within the Italian Telematic Civil Process (PCT). This would also be an opportunity to overcome the difficulties and misunderstandings occurred in the first phase of application of the Article 46 Civil Procedural Code (Implementing provisions). This rule establishes “*The Minister of Justice, in consultation with the Superior Council of the Judiciary and the National Bar Council, defines by decree the computerized templates of judicial acts with the structure of the necessary fields for entering information in the process registers*”. This would be the best development moving from the research published in this paper.

[AQ2]

[AQ3]

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12. Regarding the U.S.A. see Matt Perez, *Why A Stanford Law Project Aims To Standardize Court Forms*, in *Law360*, referring to Stanford’s Law and Policy Lab’s Filing Fairness Project
13. Several Judges from the Specialized Section for Business Matters of the Milan Court and some civil sections of the Monza Court were involved. For the legal profession, meetings were held with groups of lawyers from highly qualified law firms in Milan and at a national level, such as those from the Milan office of LCA Law Firm and those from Grimaldi Alliance (with both in-person and remote participation from Rome, Parma, Verona, Treviso, Padua, Naples, Bari, and Turin)
14. Santosuosso, A.: From documents to data, in *JuLIA Handbook. Artificial Intelligence, Judicial Decision-Making and Fundamental Rights*, Scuola della Magistratura (ed.) (in preparation)
15. The development of the document builder is being carried out by the Department of Computer Science at the University of Milan, led by a working group headed by Professor Silvana Castano, as part of the NEXT GEN UPP research project, launched in 2021 by the Italian Ministry of Justice (2021)