



**THE NEW TECHNOLOGIES COMMISSION'S REPORT
ON
APPLICATION OF IT SOLUTIONS IN LEGAL PRACTICE**

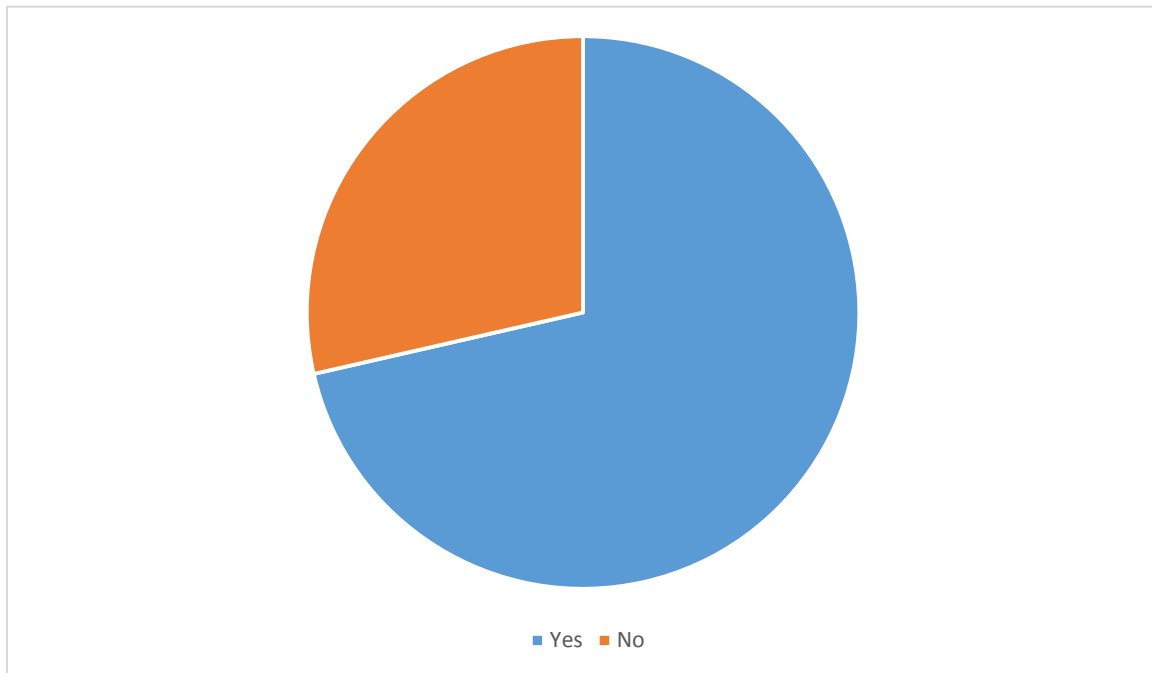
Wrocław 2016

I. The basic details regarding the survey.

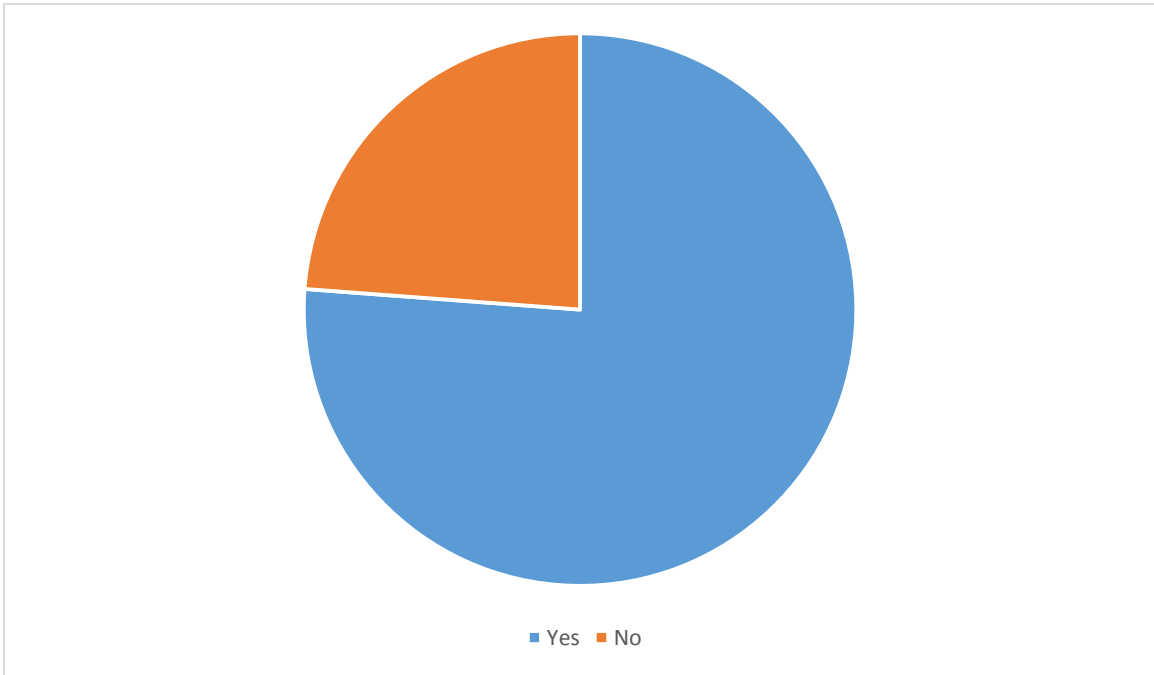
The survey has been completed by 21 attorneys, 17 of whom completed it in English and 4 in German. The respondents come from Germany, Poland, Switzerland, the UK, Belgium, Turkey, Spain, Italy and Portugal. The details of one of the respondent did not allow for its identification. The biggest number of respondents come from Spain (33 %).

II. Answers to the questions.

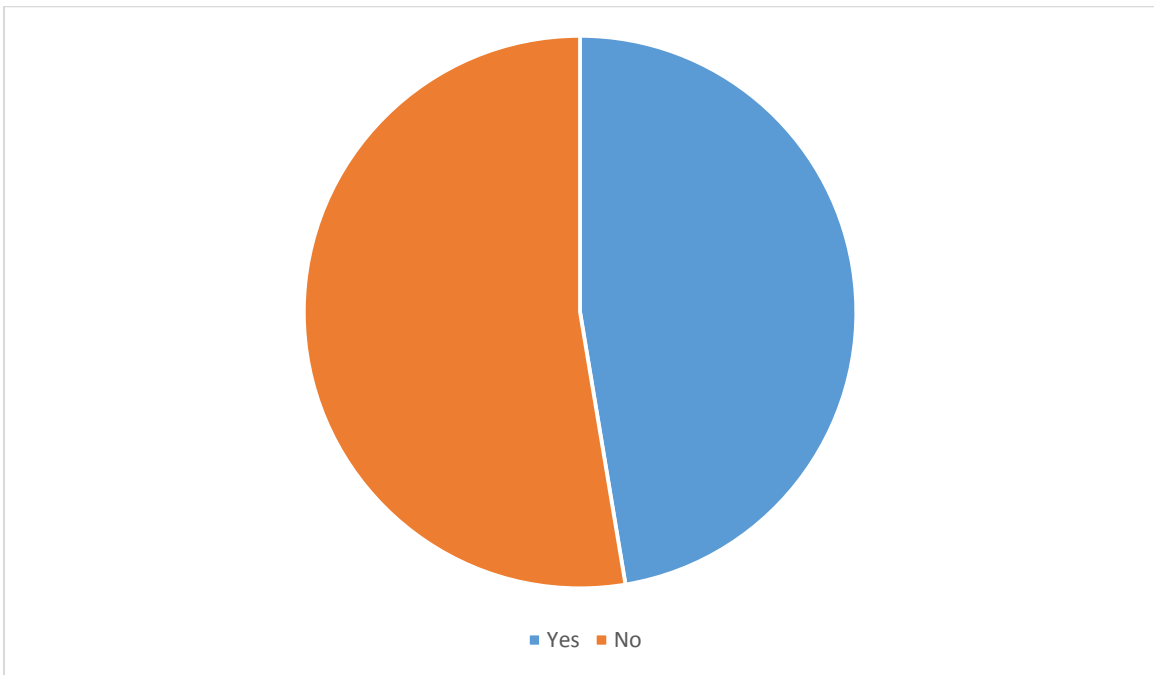
1. Can legal professionals in your jurisdiction have an online access to legal cases?



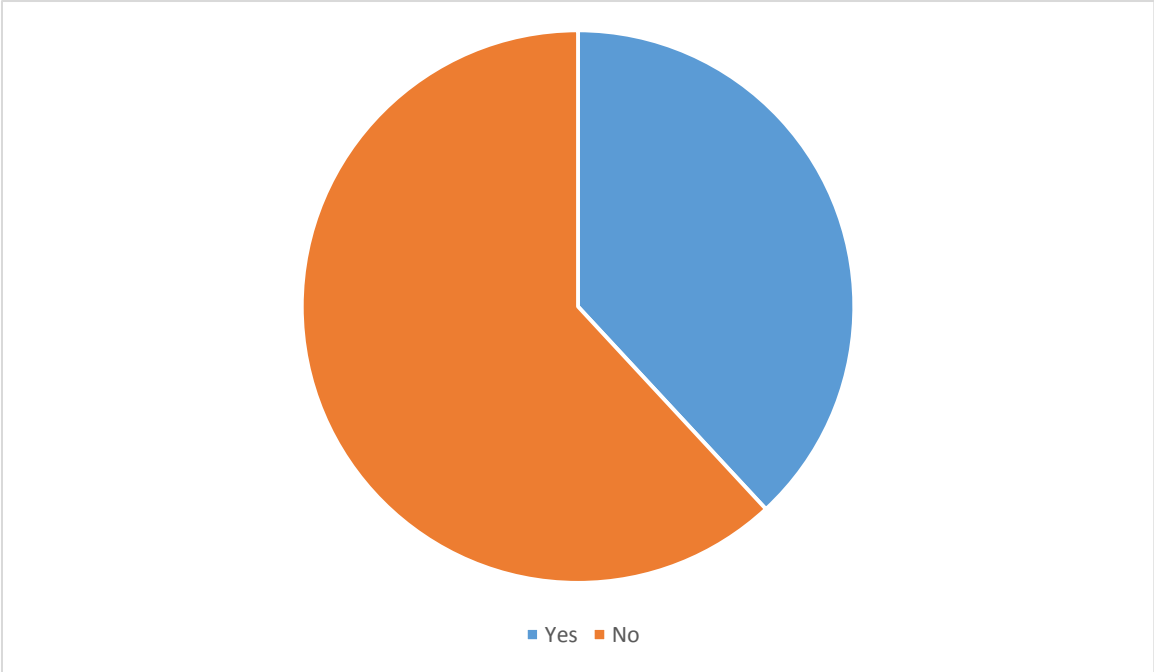
2. Can legal professionals in your jurisdiction file documents online with courts and public authorities?



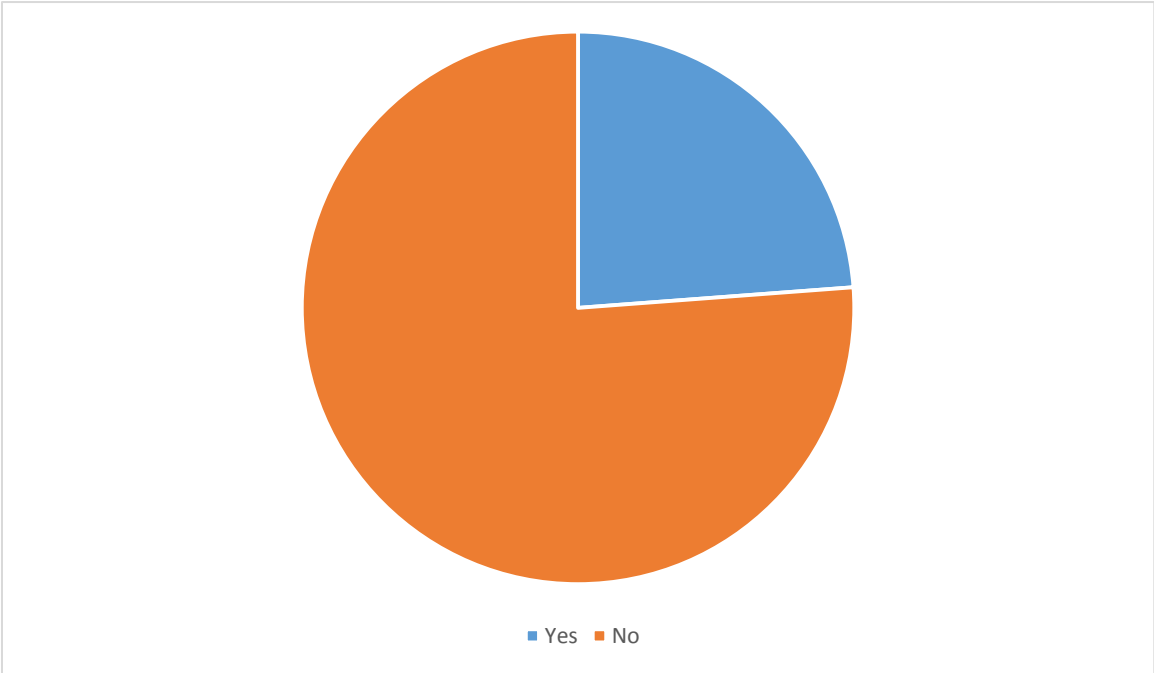
3. Can legal professionals in your jurisdiction exchange e-mails with courts and public authorities by way of specifically designed software?



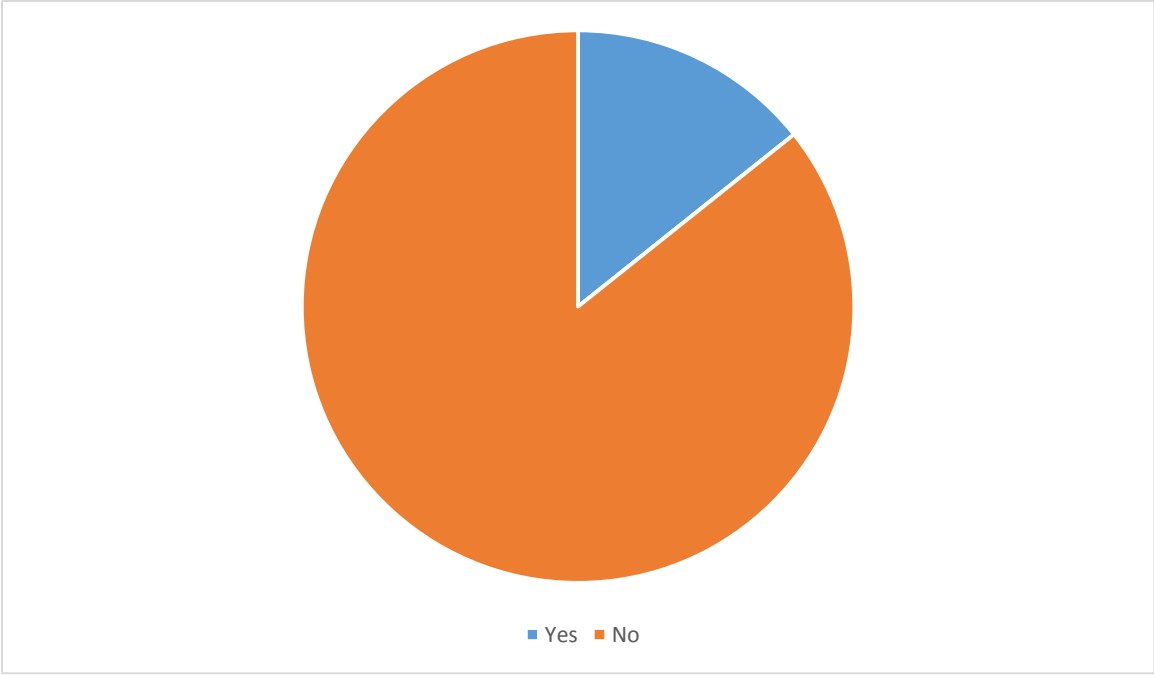
4. Can legal professionals in your jurisdiction exchange electronic documents with each other by way of specifically designed software?



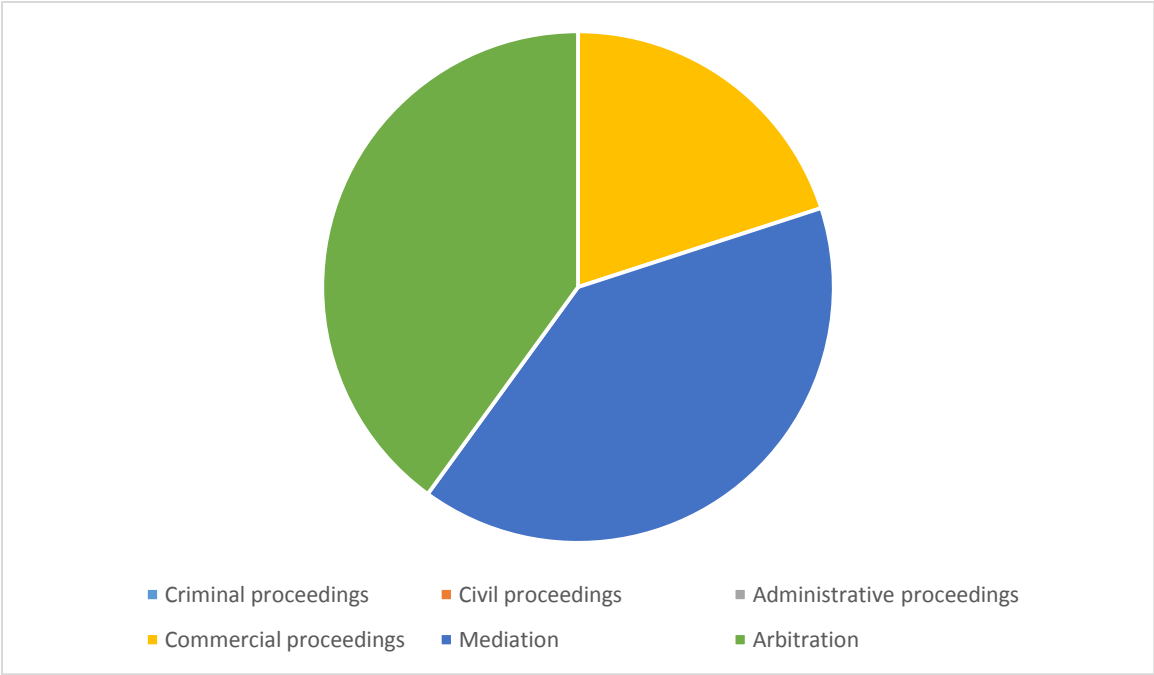
5. Do courts in your jurisdiction use social media for service of documents?



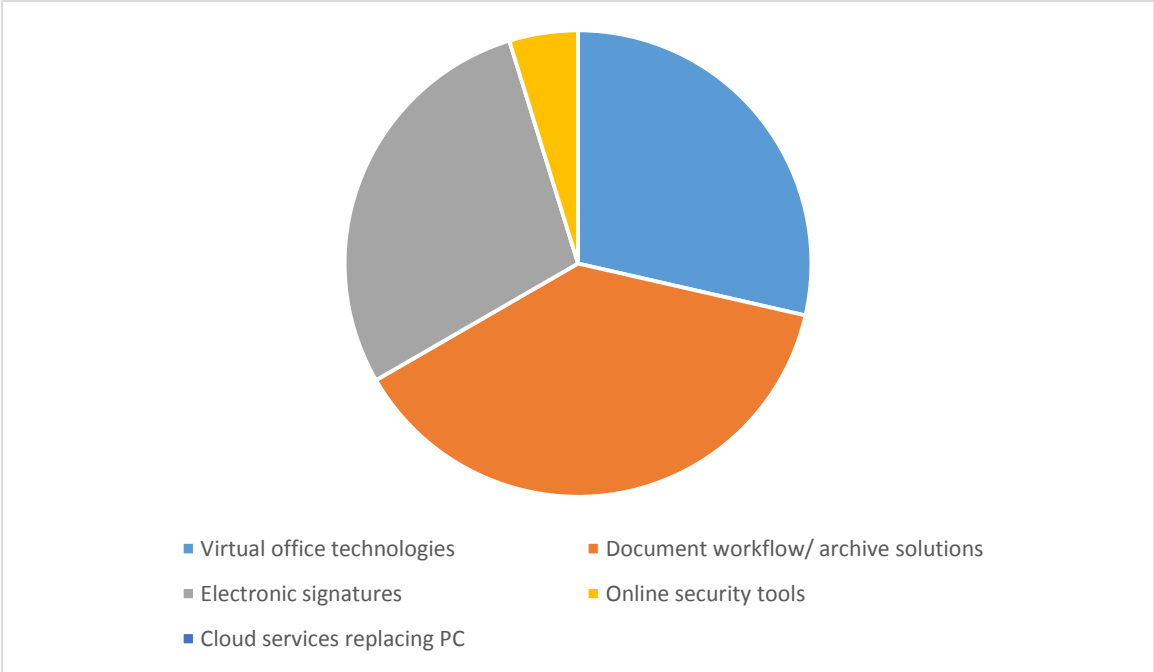
6. Is it possible to have online court or online dispute resolution proceedings in your jurisdiction?



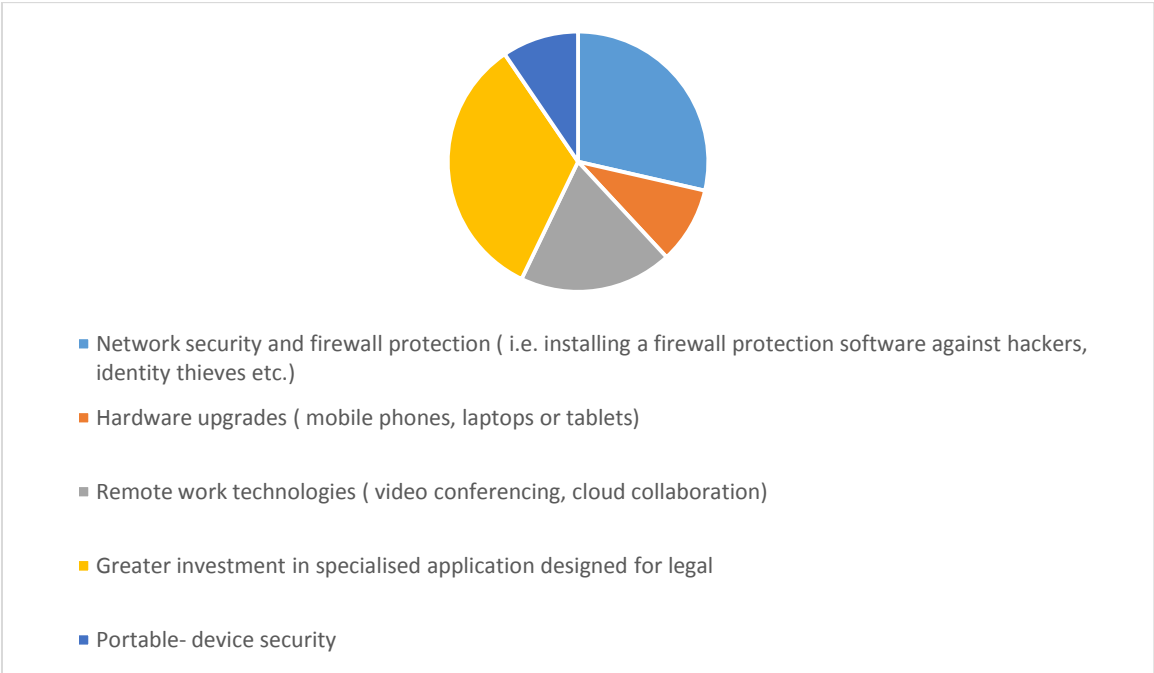
7. If so, what type of proceedings are these?



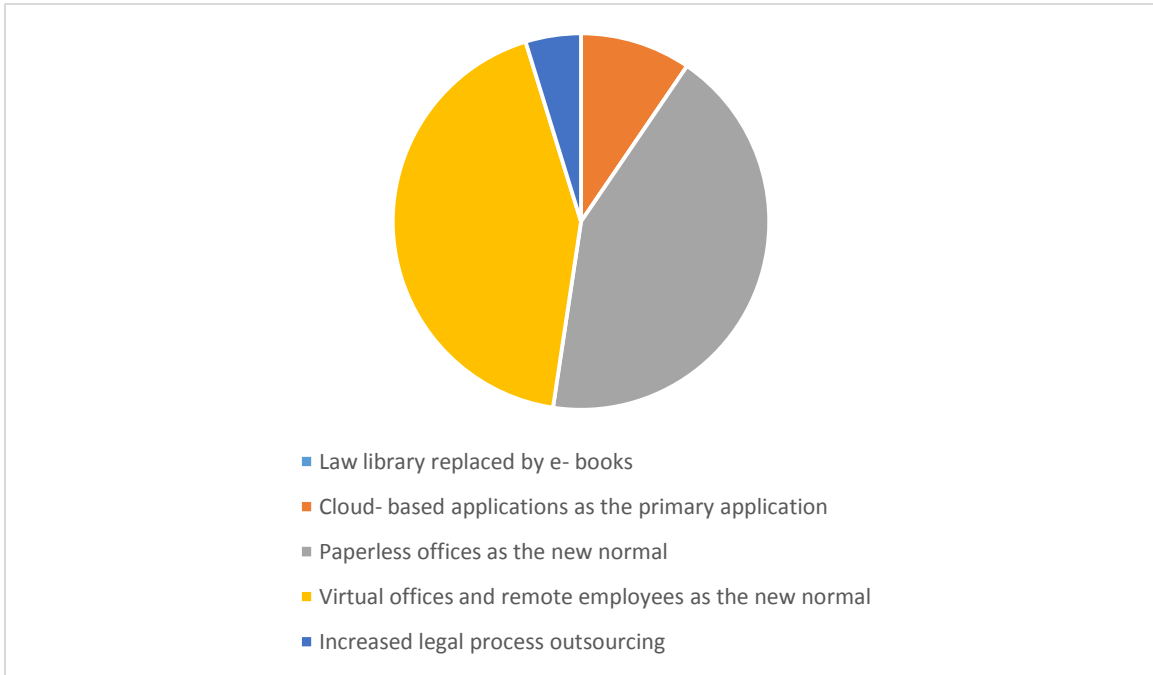
8. What technology advances have had the biggest impact on your practice over the past 5 years?



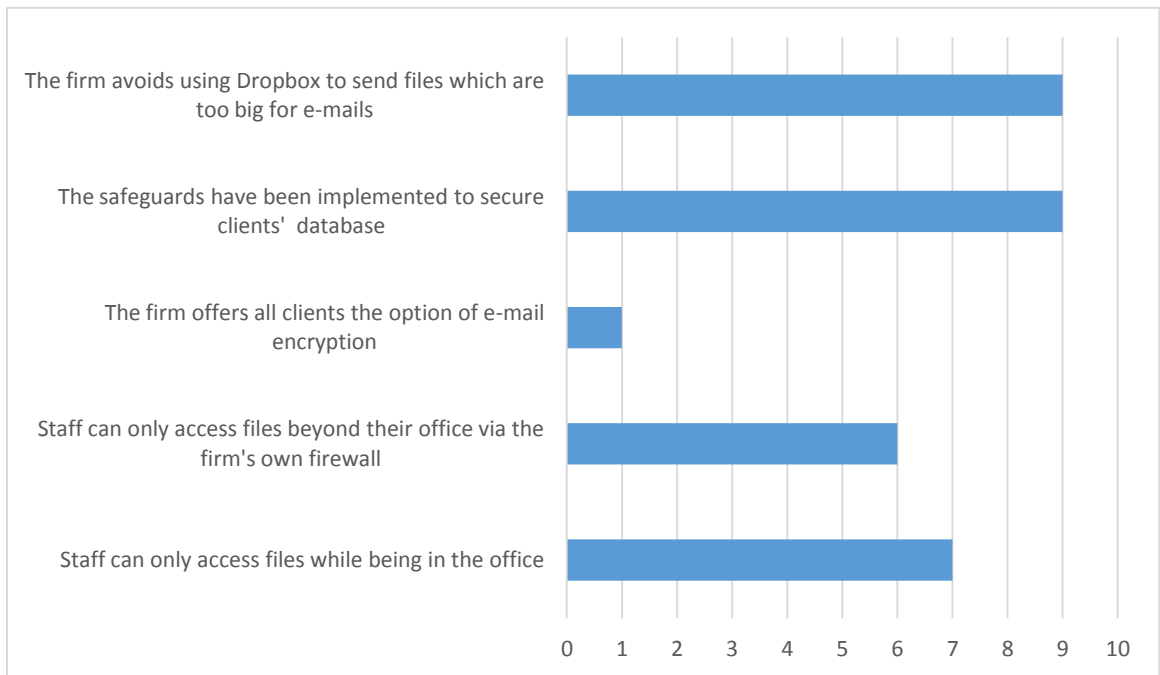
9. What are your top technology initiatives?



10. What is the biggest change you think lawyers will see over the next decade?



11. How does your law firm protect sensitive clients’ data?



III. Conclusions

The access to the court’s files is available in most countries the respondents come from. Most of the respondents have confirmed the possibility of on-line filing of documents with courts and other state authorities. In several countries there are specifically designed software which allow lawyers to communicate with courts. The software also can be used by legal professionals to send e-mails and other documents to court. This option, however, is not available in all the countries represented by respondents. More than 70 % of respondents stated that the service

of court documents via Facebook is not possible. Notably the respondents from Germany and Spain have confirmed that service of documents via social media is possible in their countries. On the other hand other respondents coming from the same countries denied a possibility of such document's service.

Court proceedings' and other types of proceedings are not usually conducted online. Only 15% of respondents have indicated such possibility and in most cases this would apply to mediation and arbitration as well as resolutions of commercial disputes.

As far as technology advances are concerned most of the respondents emphasized that the system of documents workflow and new archive solutions had had the biggest impact on their practice over the past 5 years. Nevertheless 28 % of the respondents pointed out that the most significant advances that had the biggest impact on their practice were virtual offices and electronic signatures.

It also worth mentioning that as the top technology initiatives the respondents indicated specialised application designed for legal professionals and network security and firewall protection (i.e. installing a firewall protection software against hackers, identity thieves etc.). According to the respondents the biggest changes affecting the practice of legal profession in the nearest future will follow out of the increasing number of virtual offices and remote employees as well as paperless offices.

All respondents have answered the questions regarding different ways of clients' data protection what proves the significance of this topic for lawyers.

In most cases the files are accessible only in the law firm, the lawyers avoids using Dropbox to send files which are too big for e-mails, the safeguards have been implemented to secure clients' database by e.g. providing training to the employees.