

*This is a translation of "["Algorithmen treffen bessere Entscheidungen als Menschen"](#)", first published in Der Tagesspiegel on February, 9 2019.*

## **Within the framework of the Berlinale discussion about artificial intelligence hosted by Hollywood law firm Morrison & Foerster, ethics and jurisprudence were discussed.**

**By Elisabeth Binder**

Who is in submission to whom? That was one of the opening questions on the theme of “artificial intelligence” for the Berlinale discussion hosted by Hollywood law firm Morrison & Foerster at Potsdamer Platz. Partner Christiane Stützle brought together a top-class panel. The most impressive example was brought along by the head of the company Volucap, Sven Bliedung. On the side video wall, which, to improve visibility, showed a view of the podium, there suddenly stood between the participants a rotund man with red suspenders. Dumbfounded, the real participants tried to catch hold of him – and grasped at empty space. He was only virtually there, magically conjured up with the Smartphone of the founder of the “Virtual Reality Berlin-Brandenburg Association.”

With such possibilities, Christiane Stützle saw all sorts of new fields of application for media and film lawyers. At the start, U.S. Embassy Cultural Attaché David Mees remarked that new technical possibilities had always been the subject of films, and named Fritz Lang’s “Metropolis” as an example. Derek Wax had brought with him eerie scenes from the series “Humans.” What if artificial humans receive consciousness and are nevertheless kept as slaves by people? There, too, a vast field opens up with regard to ethics and jurisprudence.

### **A press pass of "Robert Robot"**

[Algorithms make better decisions than people](#), the managing director of the Voluntary Self-Regulatory Body of the German Film Industry, Christiane von Wahlert, postulated provocatively. “People must first cope with this humiliation.”

Artificial intelligence is superior to human beings when driving an automobile, and it also is better, for example, when trying to avoid accidents; of this, BMW representative Nicola Brüning was certain.

Just how deeply artificial intelligence has already taken root, was summarized by media scientist Klaus Goldhammer. He began his presentation by showing a painting that at an auction had recently gone under the hammer for 432,000 dollars – a picture created by algorithms. Already now, he is certain that 90 percent of the news in the year 2026 will be

written by computers, and he referred in this respect to, for example, the 70,000 soccer news reports that are already composed by artificial intelligence.

Accordingly, so-called ‘gut feeling’ is in a nosedive. Where formerly a manuscript was judged emotionally, artificial intelligence takes over with considerably better prognosis rates. Even in the area of composing, computers are gaining ground.

And just as with flight prices, computers know best just when which movie ticket must cost how much. As an example, he brought an excerpt from a Chinese news broadcast with a quite handsome artificial human being at the microphone. And a press pass for “Robert Robot.”