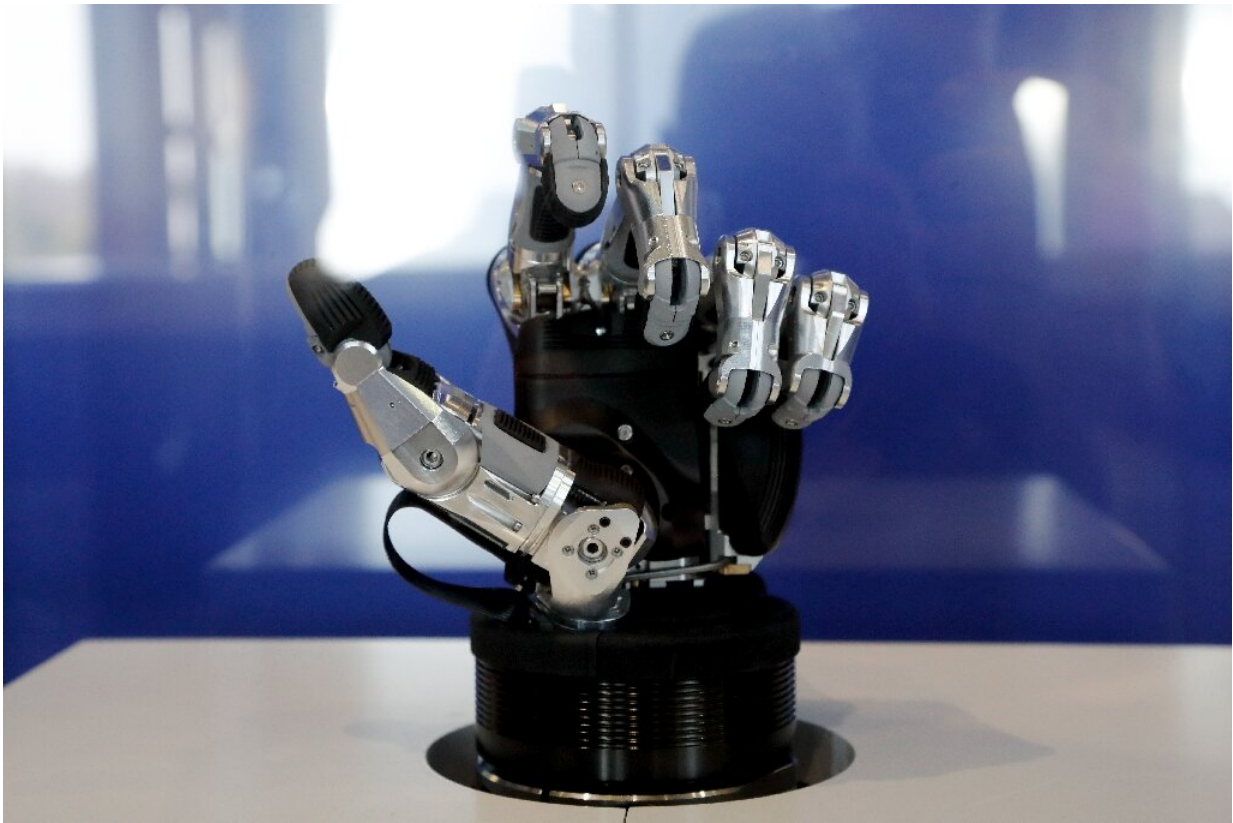


New laws of robotics needed to tackle AI: expert

May 16 2019, by Charles Onians



The world has changed since sci-fi author Asimov in 1942 wrote his three rules for robots

Decades after Isaac Asimov first wrote his laws for robots, their ever-expanding role in our lives requires a radical new set of rules, legal and

AI expert Frank Pasquale warned on Thursday.

The world has changed since sci-fi author Asimov in 1942 wrote his three rules for robots, including that they should never harm humans, and today's omnipresent computers and algorithms demand up-to-date measures.

According to Pasquale, author of "The Black Box Society: The Secret Algorithms Behind Money and Information", four new legally-inspired rules should be applied to robots and AI in our daily lives.

"The first is that robots should complement rather than substitute for professionals" Pasquale told AFP on the sidelines of a robotics conference at the Vatican's Pontifical Academy of Sciences.

"Rather than having a [robot](#) doctor, you should hope that you have a doctor who really understands how AI works and gets really good advice from AI, but ultimately it's a doctor's decision to decide what to do and what not to do."

"The second is that we need to stop robotic arms races. There's a lot of people right now who are investing in war robots, [military robots](#), policing robots."

No humanoids

Pasquale, a law lecturer at the University of Maryland, says it's important that any investment in military robotics or AI should provide some advantage that's "not going to be just immediately cancelled out by your enemies."

"It's just depressing, it's money down a hole, you build a robot that can tell if my robot can tell if your robot can tell if my robot is about to

attack. It just never ends."

The third, and most controversial, rule is not to make [humanoid robots](#) or AI, says Pasquale, citing the example of a Google assistant called Duplex that would call people to confirm hotel reservations without telling them they were talking to a computer.

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