

# **Reconstructing Taxonomies in Law and Social Sciences: A Novel Framework through Conceptual Engineering and Intersectionality**

**Bernardo Carvalho de Mello**

*Newcastle University, Law School, United Kingdom*

## **ABSTRACT**

Taxonomies are essential in organising complex legal and social phenomena, yet traditional frameworks often reflect Eurocentric and single-axis biases, failing to capture the complexity of modern challenges. This study introduces a novel methodology combining analytical philosophy's conceptual engineering and intersectionality to reconstruct more inclusive and adaptive taxonomies. Conceptual engineering allows for the redefinition of core concepts such as “discrimination” and “identity,” while intersectionality ensures a multidimensional approach addressing overlapping systems of oppression. Using discrimination law as a case study, this paper demonstrates how this framework refines classification systems to better reflect the lived realities of marginalised groups. It further explores interdisciplinary applications across governance, human rights, and sustainability, emphasising how re-engineered taxonomies can foster epistemic justice and challenge normative assumptions. This work highlights the transformative potential of taxonomies not only as academic tools but as catalysts for systemic change in global social and legal structures.

**Keywords:** Discrimination; epistemic justice; intersectional methodology; legal frameworks; interdisciplinarity