



Criminal responsibility and predictability

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The Italian Civil Protection has developed a set of technologies and rules for issuing early warnings. The right to be protected from natural disasters is felt intensely by people. The evaluation of the size of the target areas and of the severity of events is subject to inherent uncertainty. Victims in areas and at times where early warnings are not provided for are possible. This causes, not always, but more and more frequently, people complaining in courts against civil protection decision makers. The concept of real time uncertainty and conditional probability is difficult to be understood in courts, where the timeliness and effectiveness of the alert is under judgement. A reflection on scientific and technological capabilities is needed.