



Call for Papers

Young Scholars Workshop on “European Law and Digital Technologies”

Udine, 4-5 September 2025

University of Udine - Department of Legal Sciences

In recent years, the European Union has adopted an increasing number of Directives and Regulations aimed at governing various digital technologies, introducing new principles, liability rules, classifications, etc.

It is well known how in this way the EU wants to assume the role of a leading legal system, a model at which other jurisdictions should look when choosing whether and how to regulate technological innovation. It is also well known that, according to the now famous “Brussels Effect” formula coined by Anu Bradford, the EU has in fact been able to pose itself if not as a model, at least as a source of inspiration for numerous regulatory innovations outside its borders. This is yet another demonstration of the theory of circulation of legal models, a theme dear to comparatists, albeit a debated one.

Building on these considerations, the workshop aims to investigate the role of the EU in the regulation of digital technologies, in the past, present and future, analyzing such role with the methodology tools of comparative law.

To this end, the Call invites young scholars (*Ph.D. students, postdoctoral fellows, young researchers that earned their PhD not earlier than 2020*) to present their research on the following, non exhaustive list of topics:

- the neglected limitations and unexpressed potential of EU regulatory initiatives in the field of digital technologies
- the measurability of the impact of European regulations on digital technologies



- the circulation of EU Court of Justice case law on the subject within and outside EU borders
- the impact of EU regulations on the subject on fundamental rights
- the role of the EU in regulating ethical aspects related to digital technologies
- the influence of EU law on digital technologies on the legal systems of African, Asian, and South American countries
- the ability of EU law to push or, conversely, to limit technological innovation
- the peculiarities of EU law on new technologies, in comparison with other systems
- the historical reach of EU regulations on digital technologies

Abstracts (in English), of no more than 700 words in their entirety, should have a title and a final bibliography; they should also indicate qualification and institution of the Author(s), as well as an e-mail address for communications.

Abstracts must be submitted, by **February 28, 2025**, as .pdf files, to the email address: federica.giovanella@uniud.it.

Proposals will be selected by a scientific committee composed of faculty members from the Department of Legal Sciences, University of Udine.

The outcome of the selection process will be notified by March 31, 2025. Selected Authors will be asked to send by July 31, 2025 a first version of the paper that will be discussed during the workshop, organized at the Department of Legal Sciences of the University of Udine on September 4 and 5, 2025. The paper, in PDF format, should not exceed 65,000 characters, including notes and spaces (excluding bibliography).

The organizing committee will edit a publication collecting the papers presented during the workshop.

There is no registration fee. Participants will be offered the dinner on the night of September 4th and one night's stay. Other expenses will remain the responsibility of the participants.

Summary of the deadlines:

- February 28, 2025 - Submission of abstract
- March 31, 2025 - Notification of the outcome of the selection process
- July 31, 2025 - Delivery of the first version of the paper
- September 4-5, 2025 - Workshop

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