

Lucerne, 16 July 2021

Call for Papers

9th Law and Economics Conference, University of Lucerne, 8-9 April 2022

Law and Economics of the Digital Transformation

Keynote Speakers: **G. Marcus Cole**, The Joseph A. Matson Dean and Professor of Law, Notre Dame Law School
Niva Elkin-Koren, Professor of Law, Tel-Aviv University Faculty of Law, and Faculty Associate at the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University

Digitization is the process of changing data from analogue to digital form. Digitalization refers to enabling or improving processes by using digital technologies and digitized data. Digital transformation, finally, is the transformation of the economy and society by Digitalization.

Digitization and Digitalization have led to dramatic declines in transaction and other costs, such as search costs, replication costs, transportation costs, tracking costs, or verification costs. Digital transformation is leading to economic and social changes, bringing with it both opportunities and risks. With the innovations associated with digital transformation and their accompanying structural economic changes, previous jobs are being destroyed or globalized on the one hand, while new jobs are being created on the other. The demands on people's qualifications and on the educational system are changing as well. On an even more fundamental level, our understandings of work and the workplace, trade, consumption, and more, are constantly forced to evolve.

The state and regulation are also affected, and, in particular, new demands are made on the law and jurisprudence. This raises questions regarding the extent to which extant legal frameworks are still sufficient and whether there is a need for new or additional regulation in the affected areas. At other times, it is unclear if a given area can or should be regulated at all, as in the case of decentralized systems such as the distributed ledger technology. Finally, the evolution of digital technologies concerns not only the private sector but also the functioning of the government and the public sector.

Some of the relevant topics include data protection, blockchain technology, smart contracts, copyright, as well as e-government, e-voting, and much more, since ultimately, just about every area of law is affected by the ongoing digital transformation, from private law to public law to criminal law. Therefore, the aim of this conference is to analyze from a law and economics perspective – both theoretically and on the basis of concrete applications – some of the issues the digital transformation raises across the law. The contributions will be published in an edited volume.

Schedule

15 September 2021	Submission of proposals
30 September 2021	Selection of proposals
15 March 2022	Submission of draft papers
8-9 April 2022	Conference
30 April 2022	Submission of final papers
Fall 2022	Publication of volume

Submission of Proposals

If you would like to submit a paper for this conference, you are kindly requested to send a brief description of your topic (1-2 pages) and a short CV no later than 15 September 2021 to Prof. Dr. iur. Klaus Mathis (klaus.mathis@unilu.ch).

Speakers' Expenses

Speakers' expenses for accommodation will be covered by the organizers. Speakers are kindly requested to apply to their home institution for their travel expenses.

Organization

Organized by Prof. Dr. Klaus Mathis, University of Lucerne, in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Avishalom Tor, Notre Dame Law School.

<https://www.unilu.ch/fakultaeten/rf/professuren/mathis-klaus/mitarbeitende/klaus-mathis/>

<http://law.nd.edu/program-on-law-and-market-behavior/>