

Editorial

Ana María Delgado García

Published: October, 2014

This issue includes three conference papers presented at the Tenth International Conference on Internet, Law & Politics (IDP 2014) that took place in Barcelona on 3 and 4 July 2014 and was organised by the UOC's Law and Political Science Department.

In its ten-year history, this conference has become a leading international academic forum on the impact of the information and communications technologies on the fields of law and political science. Topics addressed over the years have included the freedom of expression on the Internet, intellectual property challenges posed by the Internet, privacy protection in digital networks, the right to be forgotten, e-commerce and consumer protection, cybercrime, e-government, and the use of new technologies in politics and citizen participation.

From a law perspective, the conference has, over its various editions, analysed the friction created owing to the current legislation – drafted for the pre-digital era – and provided formulas for resolving the new conflicts arising on the Internet, seeking a fair balance between the different interests involved. From a political science standpoint, the conference has examined the appearance of new channels for political participation and the improved possibilities for political transparency and accountability.

Thus, in the first of the conference papers included in the issue, “Civilian direct participation in cyber hostilities”, François Delerue analyses the application of the international humanitarian law concept of direct participation of civilians in hostilities to cyber warfare. The article by Argyri Panezi “Legal challenges for online digital libraries” explores the legal challenges arising from the creation of online digital library collections. Lastly, the third conference paper included is “Website blocking: evolution or revolution? 10 years of copyright enforcement by private third parties” by Ellen Marja Wesselingh, which examines the caselaw on the enforcement of copyright by internet access providers in Europe and the evolution of intellectual property protection.

In addition to the monograph, we have included six other articles in this issue. Firstly, Sergio Castel Gayán's article “Normative and institutional framework for the emerging law on participation and the ICTs: analysis of experiences in Spanish regional governments”, examines the gradual appearance of e-participation regulations and the application and the political and social effects of e-participation in recent strategies implemented by regional governments in Spain. The article “Open data principles in Spanish law” by Agustí Cerrillo Martínez analyses the characteristics of the public data made available to citizens and how this translates into the data websites set up by the Spanish Government in recent

years. This issue also contains an article published by Francisca Ramón Fernández titled “The creation of audiovisual material for massive open online courses (MOOCs): unresolved legal questions on intellectual property”. We have also included Gloria González Fuster’s article “How uninformed is the average data subject? A quest for benchmarks in EU personal data protection”, which analyses the birth and evolution of information obligations as an element of EU personal data protection law. The fifth article, “Child pornography on the Internet: main aspects of the transposition of Directive 2011/92/EU” by Isabel García Noguera, looks at the introduction of a definition for child pornography and the making it an offence to merely access such material using the information and communications technologies. Lastly, Julián Valero’s article “From digitization to technological innovation: legal assessment of the modernization of Spanish public administrations in the last decade (2004-2014)” reviews the legal reforms made to implement e-administration in Spain.

This issue also includes recent regulatory changes compiled by Jordi García Albero and a review of the latest caselaw rulings by Patricia Escribano Tortajada. We have also included a rundown of the dissemination activities organised by UOC’s Law and Political Science Department, namely: VII International Conference on Conflictology and Peace; I Conference on Civil, Commercial and Bankruptcy Mediation; VI Conference on Current Taxation Problems on practical considerations for tax professionals; and a conference on the future challenges for Catalan governments arising from the new directives on public contracting.

Dr Ana María Delgado García
Editor-in-chief

<http://journals.uoc.edu/index.php/idp/article/view/n19-editorial/n19-editorial-en>
<http://dx.doi.org/10.7238/idp.v0i19.2421>