As the internet has developed, this has enabled new spaces to be created in the digital domain which have pushed geographical boundaries and limits, as well as more traditional boundaries, while also creating new requirements for regulation and classification by public authorities. That is precisely why some of the papers and talks delivered at the 12th International Internet, Law and Politics Congress, devoted to the topic of ‘Building a European digital space’, have been presented in this edition.

Firstly, Hugh Beale, in his article “The future of European Contract Law in the light of the European Commission’s proposals for directives on digital content and online sales”, focuses on the Directives that were approved by the European Commission in 2015 in relation to digital content and online sales, which form a part of the strategy on the digital single market. Both Directives aim to eliminate the differences in legislation addressing current contracts between the Member States.

Likewise, in their article “Regulations governing the publication of details of tax debtors and fraudsters”, Ana María Delgado and Rafael Oliver analyse an issue connected to the regulations on personal data protection and the use of information technology and communication in the field of tax administration. In particular, they address the publication of both the list of taxpayers with certain outstanding unpaid debts and penalties, and the summary of final and non-actionable convictions and judgements for criminal offences against the Inland Revenue.

Thirdly, in the article by Antoni Rubí Puig, which addresses “El derecho exclusivo de autor a controlar la publicidad y las ofertas de venta de sus obras. Impacto en la construcción del mercado único digital” (‘The author’s exclusive right to control publicity and sales offers of their works. Impact on the construction of the digital single market’), he discusses case law developments in the European Court of Justice concerning the exclusive right to control sales offers and publicity on goods protected by intellectual property rights, as well as their consequences on the construction and development of the digital single market.

Furthermore, Marketa Trimble examines the phenomenon of geoblocking in her article entitled “The role of geoblocking in the Internet legal landscape”, and reviews the recent legal developments that relate to this subject, while reflecting on whether this issue should be regulated. Following on, Francisco Javier Puchades Arce, in his article on “La relación entre los ciudadanos y los representantes políticos a través del email: El caso del Parlamento de la Comunidad Valenciana en la VIII legislatura” (‘The relationship between citizens and political representatives via email: the case of the Autonomous Community of Valencia’s Parliament in its 8th parliamentary term’), gives an account relating to exploratory research on the attitudes of Valencian community Members of Parliament towards their virtual interaction with
citizens via email. Finally, Rosa Milà Rafel, in her article entitled “The directive proposals on online sales and supply of digital content (Part I): will the new rules attain their objective of reducing legal complexity?”, analyses the issue of cross-border sales between retailers and consumers and its regulation.

This edition also includes, on the one hand, a section which presents a selection of the new regulations, prepared by Jordi García Albero, and on the other hand, another section which compiles a summary of the latest case law rulings, created by Patricia Escribano Tortajada.

Finally, Blanca Torrubia and Ana María Delgado Garcia provide updates on the latest academic activities relating to knowledge dissemination organised by the Faculty of Law and Political Science at the UOC: 3rd Symposium on Expert Evidence and Opinion. A look towards Europe and the 8th Symposium on current taxation issues. The key factors of the General Taxation Law reforms.

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