

EJLE CALL FOR PAPERS AND WORKSHOP ON “THE LAW AND ECONOMICS OF BIG DATA AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE”

Background

The digital world is becoming a fundamental part of the overall global economy, where interactions, transactions, consumption and production are made of or based on digital information, i.e., data, images, sounds. On-line platforms, applications, smartphones and many different connected objects, constantly gather, manage and process information, often through algorithms or machine-learning technologies that progressively adapt their behaviours to changing circumstances and take autonomous decisions. This trend is rapidly increasing due to the exponentially growing of on-line interactions between consumers, firms and public institutions, on one side, and the broad spreading of Machine-to-Machine communications and the Internet of Things, on the other side. Indeed, in multi-sided market contexts, large set of information and big data plays a crucial role and represents a strategic asset for companies which aim to generate and extract new value from their business, to build new businesses and markets, to enjoy a competitive advantage in those markets, and in some cases to become market gatekeepers.

Big Data is therefore a very relevant business issue, which also poses some concerns in terms of data protection and privacy, on the one hand, and in terms of impact on competition and consumer protection, on the other. Moreover, big data owners may have the ability to influence perception of facts and news conveyed by digital intermediaries, finally having an impact on freedom of information and media pluralism.

All these concerns become particularly concrete once we take into consideration artificial intelligence mechanisms, particularly machine-learning technologies and algorithms, which can analyse these very large set of data, providing useful economic insights to the dataset owners, but also in some circumstances enabling private government(s) of digital interactions by influencing socio-economic and political choices.

How to frame the analysis of these complex and multifaceted economic and social phenomena is not yet completely clear. Regulators and policy makers struggle to understand how to proceed and firstly how to approach the existing trade-offs between, on the one hand, the static and dynamic market value of information (the so-called data economy) and, on the other hand, the respect of individual and collective fundamental rights (e.g., privacy, competition and media pluralism).

Call

AGCOM, the Italian Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Media, and the **European Journal of Law and Economics (EJLE)** are interested in the BIG Data and Artificial Intelligence phenomena, both under an applied regulation and policy making point of view as well as under a theoretical approach of law and economics.

A **CALL FOR PAPERS** about “**The Law and Economics of BIG DATA and ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**” is now open.

- Papers will be selected on the base of the abstracts and discussed within a public **workshop in Rome on 3 December**
- Final papers will be selected to be published in a **special issue of the EJLE** by the end of 2019.

Organisers of the call for papers and the workshop are:

- **Prof. Angelo Marcello Cardani**, AGCOM - Chiarman.
- **Prof. Alain Marciano**, MRE - University of Montpellier and LABEX-Entreprendre. EJLE co-editor.
- **Prof. Antonio Nicita**, AGCOM – Commissioner and University of Rome “La Sapienza”. Member of EJLE Editorial Board.
- **Prof. Giovanni Ramello**, Institute POLIS, University of Eastern Piedmont. EJLE co-editor.

For any information and for abstract submission, please contact Antonio Manganelli: a.manganelli@agcom.it
Please, send the paper abstract or long abstract (max 1200 words) **by 29 July 2018**.

The Timeline

- **29 July 2018**: Abstracts' submission deadline
- **by 30 September 2018**: papers selection for the workshop
- **3 December 2018**: Workshop in Rome (venue TBD)
- **27 January 2019**: Final papers' submission deadline
- **by 30 June 2019**: Papers' selection and acceptance for publication
- **by the end of 2019**: Papers publication in the EJLE special thematic issue