Innovative technologies: Recent EU initiatives

Sjef van Erp

Maastricht University



Recently, the EU took several initiatives regarding new technologies

- A first, brief, overview
- Some comments from the perspective of land registration

- Societal problems
 - Rapidly expanding data economy
 - Growing need for ex ante checks on algorithms
- Societal relevance
 - Climate change: wild fires, restoring homes, woods etc. (who is entitled to financial government support?)
 - The need to analyse existing land registration data available as pdf's



- Overview of proposals, documents
 - 1. <u>Digital finance package</u>
 - 2. Study on the use of innovative technologies in the justice field
 - 3. Digital Services Act
 - <u>European Parliament</u> (platforms: 'fake' news, algorithms)
 - <u>European Commission</u> (platforms: responsibility and ex ante rules)
 - 4. Data Act (Communication on data strategy)



 New project by EAPIL (European Association of Private International Law)

- Working group on international property law
- Drafting a regulation which codifies EU private international law
 - Discussion: Disconnect the existence of property rights from the situs, connect with registration
 - Impact of EU internal market law

- Ongoing work regarding access to digital assets, including judicial enforcement:
 - ELI
 - UIHJ (judicial enforcement officers)
 - UNCITRAL
 - UNIDROIT

- Digital finance package (1)
 - Draft regulation on a pilot regime for market infrastructures based on distributed ledger technology
 - Although primarily relevant for fintech, still important because of the various definitions and distinctions between market structures. The more digital land registries become, the closer they come to online intermediary platforms.

Digital finance package (2)

- Draft regulation on markets in crypto-assets
 - Art. 3(2): "crypto-asset' means a digital representation of value or rights which may be transferred and stored electronically, using distributed ledger technology or similar technology;"

- Key policy areas of the European Council:
 - Digital sovereignty
 - Digital services
 - Data economy
 - Artificial intelligence
 - Enabling technologies (e.g. cloud computing)
 - Connectivity
 - Cybersecurity
 - European digital identification
 - E-Health
 - Digital skills and education
 - Digitalisation of Justice



- Fundamental human rights
 - Access to Justice means access to the Internet and IT services
- Fundamental principles for a data economy
 - Privacy and data protection
 - A human gatekeeper
 - Algorithm transparency and neutrality (ex ante assessment)



Innovative technologies: Recent EU initiatives

Prof. dr. J.H.M. (Sjef) van Erp <u>s.vanerp@maastrichtuniversity.nl</u> <u>sjef.vanerp@kpnmail.nl</u>

