Project summary

Digital transformation and human rights: EU perspective (DIGIRIGHTS), Project number: 101175695

The Jean Monnet module DIGIRIGHTS represents an innovative and multidisciplinary legal approach that introduces human rights and its digital transformation from an EU perspective at the University of Niš, Faculty of Law in Serbia.

DIGIRIGHTS aims to promote a European way to digital transformation in human rights, which puts people at the center and is built on European values and EU fundamental rights. The module's work program relies on three main pillars: 1) teaching, 2) research and 3) events. The main teaching activity is structured as a 15-week module comprising 115 hours of classes and 5 hours of students research seminar.

DIGIRIGHTS provides 5 tailor-made courses: Digital Rights and Principles-People at the Centre of Digital Transformation, Solidarity and Inclusion-Economic and Social Rights in the Digital Age, Safety and Security, Property Rights in the Digital Era, Intellectual Rights and Consumer Protection and E-justice. Considering the project theme's complexity DIGIRIGHTS includes three experts from Croatia and North Macedonia experienced in Jean Monnet activities.

The target groups are law students on the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level, young researchers, lawyers and other interested legal professionals from Serbia and partner universities in neighboring countries. On completion of this Module, the participants will be able to understand the specificities and challenges of human rights, their enjoyment and enforcement in the context of Digital Transformation, to become familiar with European standards and the fundamental values of the EU and their impact on the internal legal order.

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The project's main component is the teaching activities in the five courses and student research seminar. The lecturers at the Module are professors of the Faculty of law-University of Niš, the Faculty of Law, University of Osijek (Croatia) and the Faculty of Law University of Shtip (N. Macedonia). Considering the project theme's complexity, enhancing our collaboration with professors from other European universities experienced in Jean Monnet's activities would be advantageous. The purpose of introducing this course is to make students aware of the impact of digital technologies on the exercising and protecting human rights. A few other auxiliary activities are included in the module, such as workshops, roundtables and conference that should foster the dialogue between the academic community and society, including local and state-level policymakers, IT lawyers and civil society members. In this way, we will put into practice an educational work that will spread the knowledge of EU law to the broader society.

The general DIGIRIGHTS objectives are:
● to contribute to the promotion of the European approach to digital transformation in human rights, putting people at the centre;
● reaffirming universal human rights and providing benefits to all individuals, businesses, and society as a whole;
● to support educational, professional and personal developments of law students, graduate lawyers, and researchers in the area of protection of human rights in the digital space, contributing to their quality jobs;
● to contribute to the promotion and greater visibility of European values and ideas on the international level, attracting attendants from Serbia and the region;
● to support the development of a high-performing digital education ecosystem by building capacitates and acquiring competencies of the normative framework of IT law and applying legal knowledge to complex social relations in the digital society.