

Preface

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The ‘Legal Perspectives on the Internet’ Conference made its debut in 2017 as a part of the anniversary celebrations the Faculty of Law holds in October to mark the occasion of its founding in 1830. The conference's goal was to create a discussion forum for academics, PhD students, practitioners, and computer scientists concerned with the legal side of their work in order to come up with solutions for the challenging interdisciplinary connections caused by the use of the Internet. The Faculty of Informatics had been an ‘ally’ of the conference from the beginning.

Starting with the third edition in 2019, the conference's organizers have decided on one subtitle for each of the following editions as a way to both condense the range of topics that can be covered in this vast field and to keep up with technological advancement. As a result, the conference's 2019 theme, ‘Evolution of Law through Technology’, also signified the conference's expansion to a worldwide audience. In that edition, a novel strategy was introduced: lawyers attempted to trace the evolution of conventional legal institutions by incorporating a variant, the Internet, with the assistance of their computer scientist colleagues.

The sub-theme of the conference in 2020 was ‘The Ubiquity of Law in Cyberspace’, where it was argued that regardless of how admirable the attempts at self-regulation of cyberspace have been and are, the rules are consistently broken and those whose rights were/are ignored or violated look for solutions. Laws must be followed whether they are wished for or not. Legal experts cannot handle everything on their own when it comes to interpreting the current norms, trying to adapt them to the new circumstances (sometimes like on a Procrustean bed [1]), or developing new norms. This conference's edition placed a strong emphasis on the necessity of a partnership between computer scientists and attorneys in order to address current technological concerns.

At the 2021 edition, ‘Cyberspace, The Final Frontier? Concluding and Performing Agreements’, the starting point was the premise that cyberspace is becoming more and more like a jungle, with rules imposed by the strongest. Regardless of the risks of ‘living’ online, it cannot be avoided because it is a space that has become important to all of us, from public state authorities to international organizations and private players, whether professionals or simple users, consumers, or employees. Non-human additional participants, such as algorithms, make the environment more unpredictable and tough, similar to actual hunger games [2].

In 2022, the sixth edition of the conference, with the subtitle ‘COPEJI 6.0. The Right to the Confluence of Two Universes: Where to?’ had as its core focus new technological advances, with an emphasis on metaverses. We have admitted that the growth of technology leads to pessimistic conceptions of the human being's present and future, whether he or she

lives in a physical world or ‘enjoys’ the promises of the metaverse [3]. The law has the resources to meet the needs of both worlds and to safeguard both the participant in the flesh in social life and his avatar. In this 6th edition of the conference, the aim was to find smart ways to reconcile the two worlds for the benefit of all their inhabitants.

All in all, the conference has evolved into an international conference with great potential, which combines legal issues with tech ones, more from the legal point of view.

The volume of the 6th edition of the *International Conference Legal Perspectives on the Internet*. ‘COPEJI 6.0. *The right to the confluence of two Universes: where to?*’, comprises articles written by academics and doctoral students. It covers the subjects from four panels of the conference: *Legal Dimensions of Businesses in the new Digital World*, *Legal Aspects of the Emergence and Use of New Technology*, *Virtual Criminality and Criminal Proceedings in the context of the Digital World*, *The Consumer and the Data Subject in the Digital World*.

We are confident that the volume will contribute to a better understanding of the intricate legal issues triggered by Internet and its new metamorphosis. In the same time, we are expecting the conference to continue to grow and attract more specialists from different fields interested in legal tech.

References

1. R. Buxton, *The Complete World of Greek Mythology* (Thames & Hudson, 2004)
2. S. Collins, *Hunger Games* (2008)
3. N. Stephenson, *Snow Crash* (1992)