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lecture on 25
March 2022!

IVIR LECTURE SERIES

(Ir)Responsible Legislature?
by Martin Husovec

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Speaker

Martin Husovec is an Ass. Professor of Law at The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). His scholarship deals with questions of innovation policy and digital liberties, in particular, regulation of intellectual property and freedom of expression.

Martin Husovec obtained his Ph.D. from the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition, and Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich for his work on injunctions against intermediaries (published with Cambridge University Press, 2017). Between 2015-2020, he was Assistant Professor at Tilburg University, the Netherlands, appointed jointly by Tilburg Institute for Law, Technology, and Society (TILT) and Tilburg Law and Economics Center (TILEC).

(Ir)Responsible Legislature? Speech Risks under the EU's Rules on Delegated Digital Enforcement

Countries around the world are legitimately demanding that the providers of digital spaces fix the problem of illegal content on their services. The European Union legislature is increasingly entrusting various enforcement tasks to technology firms. However, this delegation of responsibilities creates risks to freedom of expression. In their efforts to remove unlawful or infringing content, firms inevitably block innocent websites, accounts, or content. They over-block legitimate speech. These speech risks cannot be eliminated but must be controlled and minimized.

The talk looks at who and how must do this. It advances two related theses. Firstly, when law expects firms to act by removing content, the legislatures cannot leave it to firms to self-police such adverse effects; delegating states cannot avoid their responsibility. Secondly, the European Union legislature should bear enhanced responsibility to contain such risks.

Details of the lecture

Date: 25 March 2022

Time: 16.00-17.30 CET
(Amsterdam)

Place: IViR Room, REC 5.24 & online via Zoom

Please visit www.ivir.nl for more information and how to register for this lecture.