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February
2022!

IVIR LECTURE SERIES

Empathy in Digital Government
by Sofia Ranchordás

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Speaker

Sofia Ranchordás is a Full Professor of European and Comparative Public Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Groningen in the Netherlands and a Professor of Public Law and Innovation at LUISS Guido Carli in Rome. Sofia Ranchordás conducts multidisciplinary research on public law and digital technology. Her research agenda is focused on two topics: first, the advancement of innovation through experimental regulatory instruments; second, the impact of digital transformations and digital exclusion on the position of citizens before the government. She held previous academic positions at the Information Society Project at Yale Law School, Tilburg University and Leiden University.

In this lecture Sofia Ranchordás argues that empathy, which in this context is the ability to relate to others and understand a legal situation from multiple perspectives, is a key value of administrative law deserving safeguarding in the digital administrative state. Empathy can contribute to the advancement of procedural due process, the promotion of equal treatment, and the legitimacy of automation.

Drawing on comparative examples of empathic measures employed in the United States, the Netherlands, Estonia, and France, this contribution is twofold: first, it offers an interdisciplinary reflection on the role of empathy in administrative law and public administration for the digital age, and second, it operationalizes the concept of administrative empathy. These goals combine to advance the position of vulnerable citizens in the administrative state.

Details of the lecture

Date: 4 February 2022

Time: 16.00-17.30 CET
(Amsterdam)

Place: Online via Zoom

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