European law, (big)
data and artificial
intelligence seminar
Pr. Dr. Pieter Van Cleynenbreugel

The seminar

• A new course

• Course objective: stimulate dialogue, create mutual
  awareness of challenges, opportunities and risks
  • Data technologies – big data – artificial intelligence
  • EU law – initiatives taken or considered at European
    Union level

The seminar

• Organisation
  • Two main parts:
    • Overview of EU’s reflections on whether and how
      to regulate big data and artificial intelligence and
      work in progress on that level
    • Prepare a report on one of five themes, discuss
      the report and take part in class discussions
  • Your active participation is required
    • First part: sit back and listen
    • Second part: write a report, present the report
      and take part in discussions
    • No exam during exam period
The seminar

• Part I: three podcasts
  • 23/09: today: introduction + regulating artificial intelligence, challenges and what to do?
  • 30/09: when and how to regulate AI? The EU’s approach
  • 07/10: setting the scene: zooming in on the course themes: gaps, challenges and opportunities of AI and big data in five different contexts

The seminar

• Part 2:
  • Choose three themes among 5 and you will be allocated one
  • Write a short report on what constitutes, after research, the most relevant technical or legal challenge within this field
  • Back up your report with references to the literature
  • Present your report and discuss it with the other class participants

The seminar

• Part 2:
  • Theme 1: self-driving cars
  • Theme 2: privacy in household robots
  • Theme 3: algorithmic decision-making in the public sector
  • Theme 4: algorithmic (non-)discrimination
  • Theme 5: copyrightability of artificially-generated works of art
The seminar

• Part 2:
  • Read the introductory document on eCampus
  • For each theme, you will find a series of technical and legal challenges
  • Choose the three themes that interest you most. Within each theme, choose one challenge you would function on
  • That challenge may be one listed or another one of your choice but needs to be in your field of study
  • Engineering – Informatics students: choose a technical challenge
  • Law students: choose a legal challenge
  • Interdisciplinary questions are meant for presentation and discussion sessions
  • Political science students: choose a policy/societal challenge

The seminar

• Part 2:
  • 30 September: three themes of choice + preferred challenge within each theme need to be sent to M. Benjamin Jan and M. Jérôme de Cooman (themes may be reallocated in case of over- or undersubscription)
    • Jerome.DeCooman@uliege.be
    • Benjamin.jan@uliege.be
  • You will hear from them soon with your allocated theme + challenge
    • You will have to write your report on that theme/challenge

The seminar

• Part 2:
  • The written report:
    • Make a title page with your name, student number, chosen theme and chosen challenge
    • Report may contain 6 pages max: Times New Roman, 12, interligne 1,15, standard MS Word margins
    • You show that you understand the challenge and that you have thought about (technical, legal, societal) ways to overcome it
    • Report has to be written in such a way that a non-expert (non-engineer, non-lawyer…) can understand and follow it
The seminar

• Part 2:
  • Week of 7 October: online meeting with tutor regarding the preparation of the written report – your tutor will schedule an appointment with you via Lifesize
  • Week of 14 October: writing of first drafts of the written report
  • 16 October at 11.00 am at the latest: submission of first draft of the report via eCampus
  • Week of 30 October: feedback on first drafts, either in writing or through an online individual meeting with your tutor

The seminar

• Part 2:
  • Written first draft, followed by individual feedback and presentations, in light of which report can be finalised
  • Presentations
    • Presentations may last for 6 to 8 minutes, no ppt, just you and your voice
    • State the challenge clearly and ask whether a solution to it has been found or not
    • Again, a layman needs to understand what your presentation is about
    • Discussion is also meant as a way for your colleagues to ask you to clarify certain issues

The seminar

• Part 2:
  • Week of 30 October: feedback on first drafts, either in writing or through an online individual meeting with your tutor
  • 4 November: presentations and discussions on theme I (class session, organised online)
  • 18 November: presentations and discussions on theme II (class session, organised online)
  • 25 November: presentations and discussions on theme III (class session, organised online)
  • 2 December: presentations and discussions on theme IV (class session, organised online)
  • 9 December: presentations and discussions on theme V (class session, organised online)
  • 11 December at 11.00 am at the latest: submission of final version of the report via eCampus
The seminar

• Evaluation
  • Written report: 12 points (quality of analysis (2), clarity of analysis (2), understandable (not necessarily fully correct) English (2), use of references and demonstration of ability to find the relevant literature on your challenge (4) and ability to think out of the box (2)
  • Presentation: 4 points (clarity of presentation (2) and structure of presentation (2))
  • Participation to discussion: 4 points (asking at least one question in one of the five sessions (1 pt), asking more questions of relevance and use, will have you obtain more points)