

European Civil Procedure with an Emphasis on Digitalisation of Court Proceedings

1st International conference held within the framework
of the DIGI-GUARD project

19 and 20 May 2023

Portorož, Slovenia and Opatalj, Croatia



DIGI-GUARD

Digital communication and safeguarding the parties' rights:
challenges for European civil procedure

1. 6. 2022 – 31. 5. 2024

European Civil Procedure with an Emphasis on Digitalisation of Court Proceedings

International conference

19 and 20 May 2023; Portorož, Slovenia and Opatj, Croatia

The conference addresses emerging trends and selected issues of cross-border civil (court) proceedings. The challenges posed by the ongoing digitalisation of society need to be discussed to find solutions that prioritise the protection of parties' legal rights while also ensuring cost-effective and timely trials. Arguably the most relevant aspects in this regard are the taking of electronic evidence and electronic service of documents, which can help streamline the legal process, improve efficiency, and reduce costs for the parties involved. The interdisciplinary presentations from different national and EU perspectives will provide valuable insights into the opportunities and challenges of electronic evidence and electronic service of documents, helping legal practitioners and judges to make informed decisions about the appropriate use of these tools in their cases. The digital era has not only facilitated the taking of evidence processes but has also inflated opportunities for illegally obtained evidence and increased the vulnerability of evidence to intentional or accidental alteration, damage, or destruction, which also needs to be addressed in this context. The rules on the service of documents in different Member States will be presented in a way to better understand the obstacles to efficiency.

DAY 1: FRIDAY 19 MAY, PORTOROŽ, SLOVENIA

1st session; General overview and service of documents

Moderator Prof. Dr. Vesna Rijavec (Maribor)

9:00 – 9:30	Prof. Dr. Geert van Calster (Leuven)	<i>New Trends In EU Civil Procedure</i>
9:30 – 10:00	Sabina Valek Derganc, (European Commission)	<i>The efforts of the European Commission in the area of digitalisation of justice with an emphasis on civil proceedings</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Prof. Dr. Christian Wolf, Lissa Gerking (Hannover)	<i>Impact of Digitalisation on practicing Lawyers</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Prof. Dr. Jacek Gołaczyński, Judge Court of Appeal (Wrocław)	<i>The functioning of the electronic management in civil cases in Poland (with emphasis on European dimensions)</i>
11:00-11:20		Coffee break



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11:20 – 11:40	Prof. Dr. Eric Bylander, Prof. Dr. Marie Linton (Uppsala)	<i>Service of documents and Evidence regulation - Delimitation between judicial and extrajudicial matters</i>
11:40 – 12:05	Prof. Dr. Verica Trstenjak (Vienna)	<i>Human rights in the digital age: Robot as a judge?</i>
12:05 – 12:30	Dr. Damjan Kukovec, Judge (CJEU-General Court)	<i>The jurisdiction of the General Court</i>
12:30 – 13:00	Prof. Dr. Bettina Nunner Krautgasser, Mag. Wolfgang Braza (Graz)	<i>Differentiating the multiple methods of service, the task of identifying acts that should be served according to stricter standards of service of documents under Austrian Law</i>
13:00 – 14:30		Lunch

2nd session: On the taking of evidence

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Tjaša Ivanc

14:30 – 15:00	Prof. dr. Tjaša Ivanc (Maribor)	<i>Impact of the new technologies on taking evidence</i>
15:00 – 15:30	Prof. Dr. Tomaž Keresteš (Maribor), Prof. Dr. Jose Gomes (Porto)	<i>The disruptive effects of AI Technology on civil procedure</i>
15:30 – 16:00		Coffee break
16:00 – 16.30	Bojan Muršec, Director of Center for Information Technology at Supreme Court of RS	<i>Technology in the support of judges and e-Codex as one of the enablers of electronic support</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Denis Baghrizabehi (Maribor), Maria Dymitruk (Wroclaw)	<i>Issues of videoconferencing in Civil procedure: the experiences of Slovenia and Poland</i>
17:00 – 17:30	Vigintas Višinskis, Judge of the Court of Appeal of Lithuania	<i>Lithuanian experience</i>
17:30 – 18:00	Prof. dr. Jona Israël (Maastricht)	<i>The notion of Civil and Commercial matters in the new case-law of the CJEU</i>



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DAY 2: SATURDAY 20 MAY, OPRTALJ, CROATIA

9:00-13:00	<p>Round table: Introduction of new technologies in civil court proceedings Moderator: Prof. Dr. Eduard Kunštek (Rijeka)</p> <p>The round table will take the form of an expert discussion but the panellists are asked to cover specific topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Prof. Dr. Ivana Kunda (Rijeka) (TBA)</i>- <i>Prof. dr. Jasnica Garašić (Zagreb) E-form in civil substantive law and procedure</i>- <i>Prof. dr. Jerca Kramberger Škerl (Ljubljana) (TBA)</i>- <i>Prof. Dr. Wendy Kennett (Cardiff) Definitions and Terminology</i>- <i>Prof. Dr. Boštjan Kežmah (Maribor) Technical aspects of electronic service of documents</i>- <i>Prof. Dr. Sara Tonolo (Trieste) Evidence Regulation from Italian Perspective</i>- <i>Doc. Dr. Katja Drnovšek (Maribor) On the Improperly Obtained Evidence in Civil Litigation in the digital era</i>- <i>Others (TBA)</i>
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For further information and registration please consult dekanat.pf@um.si.

Organizational matters and accompanying programme:

<p>1st social event on Thursday, May 18, 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- tasting of seaside wines and dinner accompanied by music, starting at 20:00 on the terrace of the Metropol Hotel.
<p>2nd social event on Friday, May 19, 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- takes place at Kmečki turizem Mahnič (tourist farm), Dragonja 111, 6333 Sečovlje, starting at 20:00. The contribution for attending the event is 35,00 EUR per participant.
<p>Round table on Saturday, May 20, 2023 in Oprtalj (Croatian Istria)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- An accompanying program with a tour of Istrian cultural attractions (Motovun) will be organized for all attendees on this day. Transportation will be arranged by bus (in front of the Hotel Metropol) and a return trip will be organised in the evening. For transportation with lunch, the contribution is 45,00 EUR per participant.



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