

ICAIL 2013
International Conference on AI and Law
Rome, 10-14 June 2013

Workshop Proposal
IRSIG – CNR

“Cross-border e-justice and e-Codex”

Abstract

European integration is more and more associated with the establishment of a genuine European area of justice. Cooperation among judicial systems of different countries is crucial to strengthen justice, freedom and security, support the common market and stimulate the mobility of citizens and businesses.

A European area of justice requires legal frameworks enabling cross-border litigation and judicial cooperation, but also technological infrastructures and applications to allow the exchange of data, information and documents across member states. Therefore, judicial cooperation must rely on e-Justice to facilitate the interactions between national systems, European institutions, citizens and companies. This is everything but easy, since the digital era poses new cross-border challenges related to the use, for example, of standards, protocols, e-identities, electronic signatures, which are quite different in the various countries..

What needs to be done by the national justice systems to become more integrated and capable of ‘talking’ to one another? Should technical, functional and legal interfaces be designed or should a kind of “Pan-European electronic jurisdiction” be created encompassing the national systems? How to build a shared technological and legal infrastructure supporting the European area of justice and the interoperability between national judicial systems?

These questions entail theoretical and practical dimensions and a dialogue between scholars and practitioners is much needed to better understand the emerging problems and opportunities. E-government and e-justice scholars are suggesting new interpretative schema, aimed at capturing and mastering the complexity embedded the challenge. Practitioners and policy makers are actively experimenting workable solutions. In particular, in the large scale pilot project e-CODEX (e-Justice Communication via Online Data Exchange), co-funded by the European Commission, 15 European Ministries of justice and other partners, including the National Research Council of Italy (through two of its institutes - IRSIG-CNR and ITTIG-CNR), are, for the first time, piloting a platform to support cross-border exchange of information in judicial proceedings.

Format

The workshop is thought as an opportunity for researchers and practitioners in e-justice and related fields, to focus on such issues, exchange information and compare perspectives.

The workshop will be introduced by two lectures that will single out key issues and outline the theoretical and practitioner perspectives. Then a panel of experts – both researchers and practitioners - will debate and stimulate the dialogue with the audience. The strategy for the publicity of the workshop mainly rests on electronic media (web-site, direct e-mailing, mailing lists), and will take advantage of the professional networks in which the organizers are involved.

Provisional Program

9.15 am – *Introduction*, Marco Fabri, Director of IRSIG-CNR

9.30 am – *The circulation of agency in trans-border e-justice*, Giovan Francesco Lanzara, Professor of Organizational Studies and Political Science, University of Bologna, Italy

10.00 am – *E-Codex: piloting applications for cross border judicial proceedings*, Natalie Nickel, Ministry of Justice of North Rhine Westphalia

10.30 – 11.00 am *Coffee Break*

11.00 – 13.00 pm *Panel Discussion*

Chairman – Marco Fabri, Director IRSIG - CNR

Invited Speakers:

- Jean-Marc Pellet, Ministry of Justice, France
- Ronald Smit and Ernst Steigenga, Ministry of Security and Justice, the Netherlands
- Giulio Borsari, Ministry of Justice, Italy
- Francesco Contini, Researcher, IRSIG-CNR
- Federica Tanlongo, GARR

Organizing & Program Committee

Nadia Carboni – Researcher, IRSIG-CNR

Pompeu Casanovas - Director of the UAB Institute of Law and Technology, University of Barcelona, Spain

Marco Fabri – Director, IRSIG - CNR

Enrico Francesconi, ITTIG - CNR

The Research Institute on Judicial Systems of the Italian National Research Council (IRSiG-CNR) has been founded in 1992. IRSIG-CNR's mission is to study and carry out research in the field of justice, both as a scientific endeavour and as a service for policies and actions to be undertaken for a better administration of justice. At the European level IRSIG-CNR's scientific effort is also directed at facilitating a convergence of the features of the justice systems within the European Union. Research activities are not confined to merely studying the law that formally regulate the structure and the functioning of the justice systems, but they are directed primarily to analyze and evaluate the "law in action", the actual working practices and performance of legal institutions, the path of innovation and change in the justice reform processes.

The Institute of Legal Information Theory and Techniques (ITTIG) belongs to the Italian National Research Council. The Institute's activities include research, specialized training, consultancy and technical-scientific transferal in the field of information and communications technology applied to law and public administration. The Institute produces and distributes data bases of national and international importance and makes specialized tools and software available for the searching of legal information on the Web.

Contatti

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