

## DiSCourse Seminar

The Department of Legal Theory and Future of Law and the Digital Science Center would like to invite you to the following presentation:

**Dr. Clara Rauchegger**

**“Illegal content on social media: A legal perspective on the responsibilities of platform providers”**

Digital platforms such as Facebook, Twitter or YouTube offer a range of convenient services to their users. However, they can also be misused for the proliferation of illegal content such as terrorist propaganda, child pornography, hate speech or false information. This presentation examines to what extent the providers of digital platforms can be obliged to remove illegal content posted by their users.

In specific, the presentation looks at a prominent court case that involved the former Austrian politician Eva Glawischnig who was insulted on Facebook. She asked Facebook to remove the offensive user comment, but the social media platform failed to comply. The central legal question in this case was whether Facebook could be obliged by a court to remove not only the offensive comment, but also any identical or equivalent content that is uploaded by any user. The presentation analyzes the answer given by the European Court of Justice (ECJ).

In one of the most striking passages of the judgment, the ECJ declared that platform providers should be able to use automated search tools to identify offensive comments. The presentation criticizes this assumption, arguing that the existing Artificial Intelligence systems are not yet sophisticated enough to classify content as hateful in a reliable way.

The presentation is addressed to an interdisciplinary audience. Participants do not require any previous knowledge of law or Artificial Intelligence technology.

**Date and Time:** Friday, 22 January 2021, 12:00 (noon)

**Please note:** This presentation will be given **online** in [Big Blue Button](#). Participants do not need to register.