

New Cooperation with DGRI

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Since its launch in 2010, JIPITEC has been funded by a grant of the German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft - DFG). The aim of JIPITEC is to provide a forum for in-depth legal analysis of current issues of intellectual property, information technology and E-commerce law with a key emphasis on European law. Unlike the more traditional law reviews, JIPITEC seeks to develop an information platform that allows authors and users to work closer together. JIPITEC is a peer-reviewed Open Access journal, which connects academics and legal practitioners from all EU Member States, as well as from contributors world-wide.

In order to financially secure the continuation of JIPITEC, the decision was taken to team up with a scientific association in the field of IT. The ideal partner for this cooperative endeavor was found in the German Association for Law and Informatics (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Recht und Informatik - DGRI).

DGRI is the leading professional association in the area of IT law in Germany. It addresses issues that lie at the intersection of informatics and computer technology on the one hand, and law and business, on the other hand. The objective of DGRI is to promote interaction between academia, research, and practice in the following areas: legal issues relating to the processing of information; the use of information technology within the legal system; and shaping the legal framework conditions for information technology. Within its area of interest, DGRI attracts both academics and practitioners seeking an exchange of knowledge, experiences and views.

DGRI resulted from a merger of the German Association for Informatics and Law (DGIR) and the Association for legal and administrative informatics (Gesellschaft für Rechts- und Verwaltungsinformatik - GRVI). After 40 years of existence, DGRI currently has some 750 individual and corporate Members. Further information is available at <http://www.dgri.eu/>.

Beyond benefitting from a greater array of contributors through this partnership, JIPITEC shall become even more European. To this effect, it is planned as a first step to enlarge the board of editors – already international in its composition – by including an editor from the United Kingdom. Furthermore, JIPITEC could serve as a participatory platform for scientific associations from other EU Member States. At the same time, JIPITEC will assist the DGRI in broadening its contact base within Europe.

The cooperation between JIPITEC and DGRI is initially limited for a trial period of two years. It is, of course, very much hoped that this cooperation will prove to be a solid basis for a flourishing future for both JIPITEC and DGRI as well as for IT law as such.

On behalf of the editors

Thomas Dreier

Axel Metzger