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ONISILOS



How can one currently navigate the concurrent regulatory frameworks and conduct lawful TDM? This is ultimately the research question which fuelled the intellectual curiosity for this Marie Skłodowska-Curie ONISILOS COFUND Fellowship programme with an aim of providing a map for this complex web of legal rules which govern TDM.

Dr Giorgos D. Vrakas is a postdoctoral researcher under the ONISILOS COFUND Fellowship programme - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Grant at the University of Cyprus. His research interests lie where law and technology intersect. Giorgos's research interests began at an early stage of his academic journey. For his undergraduate dissertation at the University of Dundee, Giorgos examined how the private use of drones may interfere with one's human right to privacy. As part of his LLM thesis in Intellectual Property Law at the University of Edinburgh, Giorgos carried out research looking at whether the UK copyright exceptions support musical creativity in a remix era. Giorgos took this research further with his AHRC funded PhD research at the University of Edinburgh, which empirically examined whether the UK copyright framework promotes user creativity in the realm of derivative works of music, focusing on cover songs and remixes that are disseminated on YouTube.

Giorgos's postdoctoral research empirically examines how one can legally conduct text and data mining (TDM). TDM is a process, typically automated, that looks for patterns in data that may otherwise remain unnoticed, often transforming raw data into more understandable and useful information. In a world where data driven solutions play a progressively more important role, TDM has become a vital tool in sectors ranging from research institutions to commerce, gaining widespread attraction. However, regulatory frameworks often not specifically attuned towards regulating TDM continue to apply concurrently. Most notably, copyright and data protection regulations each respectively regulate the act of TDM. Copyright frameworks regulate how a range of cultural goods can be used. Similarly, data protection frameworks regulate the collection, storage, and processing of personal data. Hence, to conduct lawful TDM users must navigate a complex web of legal rules which when coupled with automated tasks and complex authorisation processes may often restrict lawful TDM from taking place.

The supervisory team for this interdisciplinary research project is made up of Professor Eleni-Tatiana Synodinou, (Primary Supervisor, Department of Law) and Associate Professor Georgia (Zeta) Kapitsaki (Secondary Supervisor, Department of Computer Science). How can one currently navigate the concurrent regulatory frameworks and conduct lawful TDM? This is ultimately the research question which fuelled the intellectual curiosity for this Marie Skłodowska-Curie ONISILOS COFUND Fellowship programme with an aim of providing a map for this complex web of legal rules which govern TDM.