

## Call for a PhD fellowship in Law at UCLouvain

UCLouvain's JURI (Institut pour la recherche interdisciplinaire en sciences juridiques) is looking for a PhD student (M/F) in Law to work on the interdisciplinary H2020 project "INTERLINK", in the field of CivicTech.

### The INTERLINK Project

The project funded under the H2020 program is entitled "Innovating goverNment and ciTizen co-dELiveRy for the digital sINgle market" (INTERLINK).

INTERLINK aims to overcome the barriers preventing administrations to reuse and share services with private partners (including citizens) by developing a novel collaborative governance model that merges the enthusiasm and flexibility of grassroots initiatives with the legitimacy and accountability granted by top-down e-government frameworks. The core premise of the project is that a solution incorporating the strengths of these two approaches will be able to overcome their individual limitations, namely lack of involvement of private actors, transparency and trust for "top-down" and lack of sustainability, accountability, and legitimacy for "bottom-up" initiatives. To enable this, INTERLINK will provide a set of digital building blocks, called "Interlinkers", that implement the defined governance model and standardize the basic functionalities needed to enable private actors to co-operate in the delivery of a service (organization, communication, scheduling, monitoring, etc.). In this way, the new shared service will maintain the effectiveness of digital solutions adopted in grassroots initiatives to support self-organization and make collective decisions, and at the same time fulfill the technical and legal requirements necessary for adoption by Public Administrations (PAs). The INTERLINK multidisciplinary consortium will deliver the new governance model and Interlinkers within a technological framework and operational platform based on an open software system leveraging on mobile communications, facilitating the co-production of services between PAs and private stakeholders. The solution will be customised, deployed and evaluated on three use-cases within the partner PAs. Lessons learned in the three use-cases will be generalized to deliver a reusable solution across Europe.

In addition to UCLouvain, the other partners of the project are: "Fondazione Bruno Kessler" (Leader), Universidad de Deusto (Spain), Tree Technology Sa (Spain), Radboud University (The Netherlands), Cloud'N'Sci Ltd (Finland), Dedagroup Public Services (Italy), Ministero di Economia e delle Finanze (Italy), Vides Aizardzibas un Regionalas Attistibas Ministrija (Latvia), Ayuntamiento de Zaragoza (Spain).

### Job description

The successful candidate will conduct part of the legal analysis underpinning the INTERLINK project. Issues to be researched will center around data sharing and governance models for shared public services, focusing in particular on data privacy and non-personal data sharing aspects.

The candidate will also support the UCLouvain team in guaranteeing the ethical and privacy compliance of the project activities.

The candidate is expected to participate to research meetings and contribute to project outputs (e.g. drafting of report, presenting her/his work at seminars and conferences). The researcher will be hired full-time for a period of two years, which is extendable to three years depending on a positive evaluation after the first two years. The position is available on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. In case it is needed, we will help the candidate in finding additional funding. The net salary is of an order of 2000 euros per month. The recruited person benefits from the complete Belgian social insurance scheme (health care, etc.) without additional expenses. The selected candidate will attend the programme of the doctoral school in law (common to UCLouvain, UNamur, USaint-Louis and ULiège). The program consists of 180 ECTS, divided among the writing, editing and defense of a doctoral dissertation (about 120 ECTS), and research workshops and other scientific activities (about 60 ECTS). The position does not come with any teaching duties, but if the PhD researcher is interested, he/she will be invited to participate in courses or seminars.

## Profile

Candidates should:

- Hold a Master's degree in law (preferably including courses covering data protection, IP/IT law, competition law);
- Be fluent in spoken and written English;
- Be ready to collaborate with researchers from other disciplines (in particular computing science, engineer, public administration studies);
- In addition to good knowledge of the law, display a genuine interest for reflexive thinking and the capacity to deal with complex issues.

## APPLICATION PACKAGE

- A complete CV, with a transcript of records.
- A short essay (maximum 1000 words) describing your views about the research project INTERLINK and demonstrating your motivation for the PhD position;
- A recommendation letter, to be sent directly by the person recommending you.

Interested candidates should send their application file by email to Prof. Alain Strowel ([alain.strowel@uclouvain.be](mailto:alain.strowel@uclouvain.be)). Applications should be received before December 11, 2020 COB. Interviews are expected to be held online on December 21, 2020

For additional information about the project, please contact directly Prof. Strowel by email.