YEARBOOK of ANTITRUST and REGULATORY STUDIES

Call for papers YARS 2026 vol. 19(34)



The Editorial Board of the Yearbook of Antitrust and Regulatory Studies (YARS) invites academics and practitioners to submit research and critical papers that refer to law & economics of competition and regulation concerning free flow of information in the Digital Single Market for YARS 2026 vol. 19(34).

YARS (ISSN 1689-9024) is a double peer-reviewed, open-access academic journal, focusing on legal and economic issues of antitrust and regulation. YARS is published by the Centre for Antitrust and Regulatory Studies (CARS) of the University of Warsaw since 2008. YARS is indexed on SCOPUS, HeinOnline, DOAJ, ERIHPLUS, CEJSH, SSRN, and has been awarded "Classe A" status by Italy's research agency ANVUR.

Submission deadline: by 30 June 2026 for vol. 19(34).

We kindly encourage you to express your interest to publish before submitting your contribution by sending an e-mail to yars@uw.edu.pl.

Please submit your articles via <u>YARS</u> submission system.

Contributions may focus on:

- single market, media information and law;
- content circulation, moderation and curation, including transparency in content creation and distribution of information, countering manipulation or disinformation, as well as responsibilities for healthy information ecosystems online;
- interplay between the Digital Services Act and other acts addressing media (such as the European Media Freedom Act), creative content (such as the Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market) and AI tools for content production and moderation (including the Artificial Intelligence Act);
- interplay between EU competition law, the Digital Markets Act and the free flow of information;
- general objectives of competition law, the DMA (or similar acts in other jurisdictions) and their impact on free flow of information;
- specific platforms' and gatekeepers' obligations and their performance impacting free flow of information on core platforms;
- consumers in digital single market, and challenges they face on online platforms;
- the nascent Digital Fairness Act;
- rights of online platform users, both business- and end-users, under the digital single market legislation, as well as effectiveness of those rights within public and private enforcement

architecture.

YARS volume 19(34): The Digital Single Market and the Free Flow of Information

In this issue of YARS, we aim to situate the legislation of the Digital Single Market and competition law within the broader context of the free flow of information.

In recent years, we have witnessed rapid developments in the European Commission's and the Court's case law applying competition law to digital markets. These developments have demonstrated that the objectives of competition law extend beyond fostering innovation or the development of particular services, they also encompass ensuring plurality within a democratic society, particularly in the context of online platforms.

At the same time, EU law has been enriched not only by the antitrust-inspired Digital Markets Act, but also by the Digital Services Act, the Artificial Intelligence Act, the Data Act, the European Media Freedom Act, and the Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market. In addition, consumer law remains subject to major 'digital' reforms, including the recently announced proposal for a Digital Fairness Act. Although these instruments primarily belong to the internal market framework, they also pursue broader, less market-oriented objectives, such as content moderation, combating misinformation, and regulating the use of artificial intelligence in the public sphere.

Concurrently, the concepts of freedom of information and the free movement or free flow of information and data are gaining prominence. These are increasingly viewed as constituting a 'fifth freedom', complementing the four classic freedoms of the internal market. Like the other internal market freedoms, this one also entails specific rights for market participants, most notably, users of online platforms.

Accordingly, contributions to this issue will adopt a twofold perspective. First, a general and horizontal one, aimed at identifying the objectives of the Digital Single Market legislation that align with the principle of free flow of information. Second, a more specific perspective, focusing on concrete elements of this emerging legal architecture that may be regarded as safeguarding and specifying the freedom of information and the corresponding rights of platform users.

This Call for Papers builds upon (though is by no means limited to) discussions held during the international conference "Digital Single Market and Free Flow of Information," which took place on 16-17 June 2025 at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, as part of the Jean Monnet Chair #dig INFlow initiative at the Faculty of Law and Administration (2022-2025).

YARS Volume 19(34) invites submissions exploring the legal and regulatory challenges and interdependencies among the various components of the Digital Single Market legislation and competition law, particularly those that seek to, or effectively do, safeguard the free flow of information and the rights of platform users. We anticipate that the contributions selected for this issue will offer a cross-field overview and foster a dialogue among different legal disciplines engaged in this increasingly complex and dynamic area of law.

We welcome contributions offering both theoretical and practical insights, empirical research, and comparative analyses. Scholars, researchers, and practitioners specializing in the digital single market, media and information law, artificial intelligence, data protection, consumer protection, and competition law are particularly encouraged to submit their original papers. This issue of YARS seeks to promote intellectual exchange on the pressing legal challenges emerging at the intersection of these rapidly evolving domains.

As the topic of this call resonates with themes explored in previous YARS issues, authors are encouraged to situate their analyses against the background of existing scholarship published in the journal.

YARS volume 19(34) will be edited by Dr. Miłosz Malaga (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań). In case of any doubts, please do not hesitate to reach him out: m.malaga@amu.edu.pl.

YARS accepts

- articles (the focus is on critical review of both speculative research and practice-based research in law & economics)
- reviews of national legislation and jurisprudence in antitrust in 2024-2025
- comments to crucial judgments or antitrust/regulatory decisions issued in 2024-2025 including EU courts case-law
- book reviews
- reports of research and academic activities in 2024-2025 (e.g., conferences, seminars, research projects).

Submission of papers

The final papers for YARS volume 19(34) should be submitted by **30 June 2026**. Submissions must include: author's name, home institution, title of the paper, table of contents, abstract, keywords, JEL classification and full text of the article.

The minimum length of an article is 5,000 words and the maximum is 10,000 words. All articles must adhere to the OSCOLA referencing system. Please use our article's submission template. For further information on the submission process, please refer to the Author Guidelines available on the YARS website.

Review process

Submitted articles will undergo double-blind peer-review by two independent reviewers, followed by language and format review.

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