Call for papers No. 3/2024

The Journal of Law, Market & Innovation (JLMI) is a joint initiative of the Turin Observatory on Economic Law and Innovation and the Master in International Trade Law (a post-graduate program jointly run by the University of Turin’s Law Department and the International Training Center of the ILO in partnership with IUSE, UNCITRAL and UNIDROIT).

The JLMI is an open-access journal of the University of Turin that aims at fostering research with respect to the regulatory challenges posed by markets and innovation in our times. The JLMI facilitates interdisciplinary conversation on a range of research issues across diverse legal and economic topics.

This Call concerns issue 3/2024, to be published at the end of November 2024. Deadline: 29 February 2024. This issue will be edited by the Editors-in-Chief of the JLMI (Professors Riccardo de Caria and Cristina Poncibò), along with Professor Piotr Tereszkiewicz (Jagiellonian University in Kraków and Adjunct Professor at Cornell Law School), as adjunct co-editor.

LAW, MARKET & INNOVATION OPEN CALL FOR PAPERS

The JLMI welcomes submissions on any of its areas of interest (for details, see www.ojs.unito.it/index.php/JLMI). Deadlines and publication policies are outlined below.

This thematic Call for Papers of issue 3/2024 is devoted to

CONTRACTS OF ADHESION AND THE PLATFORM ECONOMY

The Call invites contributions that explore the legal regime of contracts of adhesion (standard contracts terms in the European Union legal terminology) in the platform economy. From a European Union law perspective, the recent 30th anniversary of the Council Directive 93/13/EEC on unfair terms in consumer contracts (UCTD) justifies an inquiry into whether statutory regulations on unfair contract terms such as the UCTD are suitable as a regulatory framework applicable to transactions in the digital environment shaped by platform operators. Further, the EU Platform to Business Regulation 2019/1150 (the P2B) addresses issues of fairness in relation to contracts of adhesion between platform operators and business users, providing an interesting extension of the EU regulatory framework regarding contractual fairness with a specific focus on the platform economy.

A related question is what regulatory measures should be applied to strike a sound balance between encouraging healthy innovation and ensuring a safe digital transactional environment for all classes of users contracting with platform operators.
Specific topics within the general theme include but are not limited to:

- Regional, international and global approaches toward regulating contracts of adhesion with digital platforms’ operators - comparisons of both regulatory strategies and statutory/judicial developments

- Sector-specific regulation of online products and services versus ‘general’ consumer law EU style - normative and empirical justifications and efficacy

- Private ordering in the platform economy - normative assessment and empirical evaluations of benefits and harms for parties involved

- The function of competition law in regulating contracts of adhesion in the platform economy

The list of topics is merely illustrative and by no means exhaustive. We are soliciting submissions from scholars, policymakers, consumer advocates, legal practitioners, industry professionals from different sectors, and researchers.

The authors are invited to address questions and issues arising from the specific area of law relating to their topic. All types of legal approaches will be considered for publication. However, please note that any analysis solely limited to a national legal system will fall outside the scope of the Journal. An international, supranational or transnational legal dimension is imperative. The Board of Editors will select articles based on the quality of research and writing, diversity, and relevance of topic. The novelty of the academic contribution is also an essential requirement.

Prospective articles should be submitted in the form of abstracts (around 800 words) or draft articles (see below) to submissions.jlmi@iuse.it by 29 February 2024. Perspective authors will be notified by 10 March 2024.

Final articles shall be delivered by 10 June 2024 and should conform to the journal style guide that is based on OSCOLA.

Typically, the JLMI accepts contributions within the range of 10,000 to 15,000 words, including footnotes, but both shorter and longer articles will be considered. Submitted articles will undergo a rigorous double-blind peer-review process. For further information, or for consultation on a potential submission, you can contact us by email at editors.jlmi@iuse.it.