POLITICS AND POLICIES IN THE EU

A virtual lecture series of the Fulda Centre for Transnational Governance and the Jean Monet Chair, Winter term 2021/2022

27 January, 17:00-18:30:

Lecture and Discussion

Nicholas Khan, European Commission, Legal Services

Investigating and regulating Big Tech: the European Commission's enforcement of the competition against Google

The European Commission has found Google to be dominant on various internet markets and between 2017 and 2019 adopted three decisions against Google, condemning as abuses of Google's dominant position various practices relating to; the promotion of Google's own specialised services in search results, Google's exploitation of the Android operating system for mobile devices and Google's imposition of exclusivity requirements towards certain customers of its internet advertising service.

The talk will explain the conceptual and practical challenges relating to the application of EU competition law to the internet, through the process of lengthy investigations conducted by the European Commission, followed by litigation before the European Courts. The talk will also consider how competition law enforcement fits into the wider policy concerns about the dominance of internet services by a few companies, looking ahead to the regulatory initiatives now being taken in Member States and by the EU's proposed Digital Markets Act.

Please register via ∆ zhylien.kaja@sk.hs-fulda.de







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