



The project aims to investigate the meaning and extent of effects or ‘effect-analysis’ required in the context of Articles 101 and 102 TFEU. The interplay of the law and economic reality when it comes to the application of competition law provisions is especially challenging and the extent of effect analysis required with respect to the legal assessment of facts has ever since been a highly debated topic. This is more and more the case when considering digitalisation and its impact on competition, society, economics etc. In this light, the thesis aims to especially shed light on the role of economic developments due to digitalisation and phenomena as, for example, the evolvement of digital markets and, for example, multi-sided markets (*i.e.* platforms, such as Facebook, Amazon, Netflix and Google). Therefore, it shall *inter alia* be scrutinised whether and to what extent the role of effects and digitalisation are intertwined or have been shaped by one and another. Moreover, it shall be analysed whether principles applicable in the offline world similarly apply in the context of a digital or online environment. The title of my project is

### **Infringements in EU Competition Law and the Digital Age**

*A critical analysis of the meaning of 'effects' in the establishment of prima facie infringements of Article 101 and 102 in light of the impact of changes in the economic environment and reality due to digitalisation.*

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