

Requirements Profile

Professorship for Business, Law and Digital Innovation

Strategic positioning (profile)

Digitalisation is leading to far-reaching changes in the economy, society, administration, politics, law and communication. It raises fundamental structural questions for existing private law, such as how private law deals with platform companies as new super players or how private law relates to the newly emerging data order.

Against this background, the professorship focuses on the interdisciplinary analysis and research of innovation-led concepts in private law, including in particular European and international regulations on issues of digitalisation and digitalisation development. In addition to legal qualifications, fundamental knowledge of the economic and socio-technological foundations of digitalisation is required.

This professorship should therefore also contribute to the “Smart Regulation” field of excellence in particular and be able to connect to interfaculty research activities in the field of digitisation such as the IDea_Lab. It should play a leading role in the identification of relevant topics and issues – based on Austrian private law in the broader sense (civil law or special disciplines of private law). The establishment and continuation of existing interdisciplinary and international cooperation partnerships are particularly preferred.

The applicant will conduct research on current and future private law framework conditions of new technologies and scenarios, but also on the control of the behaviour of economic actors and the multitude of new legal issues arising from this with links to commercial law and social developments.

Employment requirements

- Austrian or equivalent foreign higher education degree corresponding with the position (doctorate/PhD)
- Habilitation or equivalent qualification in private law (civil law or special disciplines of private law)
- Outstanding academic qualifications in research and teaching in the relevant discipline and for the profile of the professorship (commensurate with stage of academic career)
- Experience in attracting subject-specific project grants, particularly where competitively awarded third-party funds are concerned
- Skills in higher education didactics and online teaching
- Skills in the supervision and guidance of early career researchers (commensurate with stage of academic career)
- Professional experience abroad during professional career
- Management and leadership experience
- Gender mainstreaming skills
- Good knowledge of German and English
- Knowledge of the economic and socio-technological foundations and implications of digitalisation
- Willingness to actively and innovatively shape teaching - with a focus on private law in the broader sense, in particular in close connection with digitalisation/digitalisation developments and links to commercial law and social developments - including teaching in the doctoral programmes

We plan to conduct a Teaching Skills Assessment including a lecture as part of the applicant's presentations.

Expected qualifications profile (portfolio)

	Criterion	Objective
Research	Research profile	Ability to establish/further develop an independent field of research in the field of private law, digitalisation/digitalisation development with links to commercial law and social developments
	Publications	Description of publication performance, in particular preferred subject-specific publication forms; listing of the five most important publications
	Third-party funds	Experience in attracting research project grants, in particular those that are awarded competitively (Austrian Science Fund (FWF)/EU/Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) etc.)
Teaching	Knowledge transfer	Experience in teaching courses at least at bachelor's and master's/diploma levels Competence in the use of different languages (good knowledge of German and English)
	Final papers	Experience in supervision of final papers at bachelor's and master's/diploma levels
	Higher education didactics	Skills in higher education didactics
	Teaching (optional)	Experience with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - Teaching outside the home university (e.g. guest lecture, deputy professorship) - Use of new media
Leadership	Promotion of junior researchers	Experience in the supervision/guidance of early-stage researchers (according to stage of academic career)
	Leadership	Employee leadership skills or experience (Department or projects)
	Gender Mainstreaming	Activity in relevant committees or relevant training or continuing education
Additional criteria	Academic networking	Experience in local/national/international networking within the specialist community (e.g. committees, expert panels, function with journals) (according to stage of academic career)
	Professional experience abroad	Occupation at a university/research institution outside the home country during the professional career Experience in international networking during the professional career

Job description and role responsibilities

	Criterion	Operationalisation
Research	Research	Participation in the "Smart Regulation" field of excellence Ability to represent Austrian private law in the broader sense, including European and international regulations in matters of digitalisation and digitalisation development. Links to commercial law and social developments. Networking with and strengthening existing field of research at the Department of the Foundations of Law. Establishment and continuation of existing interdisciplinary and international cooperation partnerships.
	Publications	Publication performance corresponding to the upper quartile of the academic discipline
	Third-party funds	One competitively awarded (FWF/EU/FFG etc.) project applied for within three years
	Open Access (optional)¹	
Teaching	Courses	Establishment/further development of the cross-sectional field of Business, Law and Digital Innovation; Generally, 8 semester hours/semester of courses (including digitalisation and digitalisation development)
	Final papers	Proportionate supervision of final papers
	Teaching (optional)	Application of new/modern forms of teaching and learning
	Promotion of junior researchers	Supervision and instruction of young researchers. Participation in structured doctoral training.
	Higher education didactics	If the post holder has no relevant qualification, teaching portfolio or teaching project, otherwise further training in higher education didactics is expected
Additional criteria	Reputation	A contribution to increasing international visibility in research and teaching (e.g. projects, guest professorships, symposia)
	Leadership	Assumption of leadership responsibilities, Participation in academic self-administration and Participation in UNISTART leadership training
	Gender mainstreaming	Contribution to the implementation of the University of Graz equal opportunities strategy or Measures to promote junior female researchers or Participation in improving equality of opportunities
	Transfer	Participation in socially-relevant debates/discourse Contributions to increase public awareness (e.g. lectures within the framework of the Academy of Monday or the seventh faculty, presentations within the framework of the Long Night of Research, science in pubs or cinemas, etc.) Integration in regional networking

¹ The University of Graz advocates publications in open access journals. These should therefore also be appropriately described during the appointment procedure.