Course Title	Law of Digital Economy				
Course Code	DLNLT503				
Course Type	Compulsory				
Level	Master (LLM)				
Year/Semester of Study	1st /Spring				
Instructor Name	Dr Dimitrios Devetzis				
ECTS	10	Lectures/ week		Laboratories/ week	
Course Objectives	PURPOSE The main purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the various legislative developments and innovative regulations in the field of the so-called Digital Economy, which tends to completely replace the traditional format of economic relations, creating a series of new, critical issues both at the legal level, and on a purely practical level, i.e. traditional legal relations and how they develop. These developments do not escape the attention of the EU legislator, in particular. The institutional evolution of the digital economy in the European Union is characterised by legislative initiatives that attempt to ensure transparency, healthy competition and users' rights in a dynamic technological environment. The Digital Markets Act (DMA) and the Digital Services Act (DSA) are two flagship pieces of legislation that aim to address challenges such as the dominance of large online platforms, consumer protection and the safe use of the internet. At the same time, the Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA) Regulation comes to fill the legal gap that existed in terms of the regulation of cryptocurrencies and related financial products. In particular, the DMA focuses on companies labelled as 'gatekeepers', i.e. platforms with such economic and technological influence that they restrict competition. The DMA imposes specific obligations and prohibitions on these large platforms in order to prevent the abuse of a dominant position and enhance the opportunities for new entrants to the market. On the other hand, the DSA aims to establish rules for the management of content online, enhancing the transparency and accountability of digital service providers. It provides, among other things, mechanisms for faster removal of illegal or harmful content, while promoting fair treatment of users who post material. MiCA also systematically regulates the issuance, provision and trading of crypto-assets. In this context, attempts are made to protect investors, ensure financial stability, and create a level playing field between cryptocurrency service providers, such as exchanges or digital wallet hosting platforms. The need to regulate crypto-assets has become particularly urgent following the				

	rapid increase in interest in digital currencies and the emergence of speculation, fraud or lack of transparency in transactions. Alongside these three newest initiatives, Digital Economy Law already has strong foundations in legislation such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which imposes strict obligations on the collection and processing of personal data. In addition, the e-Commerce Directive continues to provide the basic framework for electronic transactions, setting requirements related to consumer information and the legal validity of electronic contracts. However, new phenomena and novel technologies (e.g. Artificial Intelligence, blockchain) make it necessary to constantly update the law in order to meet the challenges of the digital age. In addition, the development of the gig economy and digital platforms has highlighted issues related to labor relations, the treatment of unfair terms in online marketplaces, and the protection of intellectual property rights. The balance between ensuring a flexible business environment and maintaining fair conditions of competition and labour rights is a constant challenge for legislators. Finally, the cross-border nature of digital transactions requires close international cooperation so that regulatory decisions are not undermined by 'regulatory loopholes' or incompatibilities between different jurisdictions. Overall, the digital economy remains an extremely dynamic field, where legislation such as the DMA, DSA and MiCA come to update the already existing regulatory framework. Protecting users, sharing opportunities fairer and ensuring competitive markets are central objectives of this new legislative framework, which is constantly evolving to respond to the complex challenges of today's digital age. This, combined with developments in the protection of personal data from the new risks arising in relation to distance contracts, make this area relevant. In this context, this course aims to highlight the basic legal problems that arise from these new legislations. At the same time, the aim of the course is for students to realize that new technologies are not something abstract or a magnitude that raises questions only as it concerns the institutional or state structure of modern societies, but also directly and to an exceptional extent, even in an unconscious way, the relationships between individuals in almost the entire spectrum and their importance. Thus, in addition to the legal analysis, a more general introduction is attempted to the problems, the intersections and the way modern economies function. The state structure of modern societies is institutional, but it directly and to an exceptional extent, even in an unconscious way, affects the relations between private individuals in almost the entire spectrum and their importance. Thus, in addition to the legal analysis, a more general introduction to the problems, the intersections and the functioning of modern economies is attempted.
Learning Outcomes	Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to: ● Understand the legal framework governing the digital economy at European, international, Greek, and Cypriot levels, including EU regulations and their transposition into national law.

	• Analyze and interpret the provisions of GDPR, DSA, DMA, and MiCA, as well as their implementation and implications for businesses and users. • Recognize and assess the legal challenges arising from artificial intelligence, smart contracts, cryptocurrencies, and emerging technologies within regulatory frameworks. • Apply applicable European, Greek, and Cypriot legal frameworks to actual cases of disputes, regulatory violations, and compliance issues in the digital economy. • Evaluate the case law of the Court of Justice of the EU and national courts, and assess their impact on digital market regulation. • Analyze and compare different legal models for regulating digital markets internationally, with specific focus on how Greek and Cypriot law adapts European regulations. • Prepare legal advice, compliance strategies, and regulatory guidance for businesses operating online under Greek and Cypriot jurisdictions. • Conduct research on the impact of new technologies on law and legal practice, integrating legal and technological knowledge to formulate innovative solutions for the digital economy.		
Prerequisites	N/A	Co-requirements	N/A
Course Content	<u>The Regulation of the Digital Economy in the EU and Internationally:</u> • The basic principles governing digital markets and the challenges of cross-border jurisdiction. • The EU regulatory framework, including the Digital Services (DSA) and Digital Markets (DMA) Regulations. • The international approach to the regulation of the digital economy and the comparison with the USA and China. • Digital Platform Governance and Legislative Developments • Analysis of the liability rules of online service providers and the case law of the Court of Justice of the EU. • The obligations of transparency and compliance of large platforms with European legislation. • Regulatory interventions against antitrust practices of Big Tech companies. • E-Commerce and Consumer Protection • Distance Contracts • Legislation on online contracts and electronic transactions.		

	● Cross-border consumer protection and alternative dispute resolution (ADR, ODR) mechanisms. ● The formulation of new protection rules within the framework of the DSA Regulation. Data Protection and Cybersecurity: ● The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and its application to companies operating in the digital economy. ● The legal framework for cybersecurity and privacy in online marketplaces. ● The balance between the protection of personal data and the interoperability of digital services. Cryptocurrencies, Blockchain and Financial Regulations: ● The legal nature of cryptocurrencies and the regulations on digital asset markets (MiCA Regulation). ● The challenges and potential of blockchain technology in financial transactions. ● The regulation of decentralized finance (DeFi) and the impact of new technologies on monetary policy. ● The tax strategies of multinational technology companies and the need for international regulation. ● The adoption of the global minimum tax by the OECD. ● The taxation of cryptocurrencies and decentralized financial services.
Methodology Teaching	Lectures – Self-Teaching Activities – Self-Assessment Exercises – Interactive Activities
Bibliography	● SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY ● Devetzis Dimitrios, "The Law of the Digital Market", Law Library, 2025 ● Igglezakis Ioannis, The Law of the Digital Economy, 2nd ed., Sakkoula Publications, 2024 ● Zhuk, Alesia (2025). *Beyond the blockchain hype: addressing legal and regulatory challenges.* SN Social Sciences, 5:11. (Ανοικτής Πρόσβασης. Διαθέσιμο στο: DOI: 10.1007/s43545-024-01044-y) ● Parashu Dimitrios The EU goes Digital. The Digital Services Act, the Artificial Intelligence Act and the Cyber Resilience Act within the Internal Market's Context, λογος Verlag, 2025

	- Fulmer, Nathan (2019).*Exploring the Legal Issues of Blockchain Applications.*Akron Law Review, 52(1), 161–192.(Open Access. Διαθέσιμο στο: University of Akron IdeaExchange ideaexchange.uakron.edu) - Lee, Edward (2023). *NFTs as Decentralized Intellectual Property.* University of Illinois Law Review, 2023(4), σσ. 1049–1118. (Ανοικτής Πρόσβασης - illinoislawreview.org) - Dong, Yupeng & Wang, Chunhui (2023). *Copyright protection on NFT digital works in the Metaverse.* Security and Safety, 2:2023013. (Ανοικτής Πρόσβασης. DOI: 10.1051/sands/2023013 sands.edpsciences.org) - Riordan, J. (2016)." The Liability of Internet Intermediaries under Directive 2000/31/EC."*European Review of Private Law*, 24(1), 47–71. Ανοικτή πρόσβαση μέσω SSRN - Nordemann, J. B. (2021)." Liability of online platforms under EU law: from Directive 2000/31/EC to the Digital Services Act." *Journal of Intellectual Property Law & Practice*, 16(4), 303–311 - Specialized bibliography will be suggested separately in each lecture, where required
Evaluation	- Weekly Educational Activities (10%) - Task 1 (15 %) - Task 2 (25 %) - Final examination (50%)
Language	Greek/English