

Criminal liability for the distribution of illegal content on the Internet

Abstract

The thesis deals with the question of criminal liability for the distribution of illegal content in the Internet environment, approaching the issue from both a theoretical and practical point of view. In the first part, the thesis describes in a historical excursion the emergence of the Internet and the development of cybercrime from the first criminal activities to the current threats. Its main objective is to assess the timeliness and adequacy of legislation in the area of criminal liability for the dissemination of content in the Internet environment.

Within the framework of criminal liability, the thesis categorises entities involved in the distribution of illegal content in the Internet environment into three distinct groups. Specifically, it distinguishes between the criminal liability of content distributors, the liability of information service providers, and the liability of autonomous machines capable of generating and distributing content.

The second part of the thesis deals specifically with the criminal liability of distributors of illegal content. It defines the concept of criminal liability and places it in the context of liability for the dissemination of illegal content on the Internet. Within this section, the legal framework for the dissemination of unlawful pornography and the offence of invasion of sexual privacy are analyzed in more detail. From a practical perspective, the thesis assesses their application to different types of conduct in this area.

In the third part, the thesis defines the criminal liability of providers of information society services, including social networks, for content disseminated by their users. This definition takes into account the new European legislation and the differences with existing legislation.

The final part of the thesis examines the current and future legislation on criminal liability for the dissemination of unlawful content on the Internet by autonomous machines, in particular artificial intelligence systems.

Overall, the thesis points to the need to adapt legal frameworks to the new challenges posed by technological advances, not only in the area of criminal liability in the Internet environment.

Keywords: criminal liability, internet, sexual privacy