

*Information Research Project dr. Dion Kramer & dr. Martien Schaub[[1]](#footnote-1)*

**The Local Regulation of the Platform Economy in the Internal Market**

Our research focusses on the regulation of the platform economy within the European single market. In particular, we focus on the influence of single market rules (Treaties, E-Commerce Directive and Services Directive) on the local regulation of accommodation platforms and the short-term rental market. Thorough legal and social scientific research has been done on the functioning and regulation of the platform economy, but there has not been systematic research on how European internal market law influences policy and enforcement choices by local and national authorities.

Methods are interdisciplinary: we combine legal research on the substance with of EU law with empirical research on the influence of law on policy and enforcement. As a case study we investigate the regulation of short-term rental services in the city of Amsterdam from 2013 onwards. We specifically look into the ways in which changes in regulation, cooperation with private parties like platforms, and the interaction between Amsterdam and higher (national and European) layers of government have been conditioned by EU law.

As part of this case study we would like to conduct interviews with relevant actors. The aim behind these conversations is to be informed about the preferences of parties and specifically to understand how they perceive the content and role of EU law in the design and enforcement of policy and regulation. For a complete picture, we hope to have conversations with the municipality of Amsterdam, the relevant ministries, the relevant European institutions and private parties like the platforms (Airbnb, booking and others) and interest organisations like Amsterdam Gastvrij.

The interviews are semi-structured. This means that we will have a number of questions formulated in advance of the interviews, but that the topics and focus points might shift flexibly during the course of the interview and the flow of the conversation.

The conversation will not be recorded. We would like to refer to relevant information obtained from the interview in as far as they are important for out conclusions. We therefore ask permission to refer to the position/organisation of the interview partners. We will not publish details that can be traced back to the individual level. For example, we will refer to the interview like this: ‘interview ministry of foreign affairs, 16 January 2018.’

The results of the research will be published in international peer-reviewed journals with a focus on European law and politics and, when relevant, in shorter form in national journals.

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