Call for papers: 12th LEGARG 2023!

<u>Conference theme</u>: **Legal Argumentation and Rhetoric in the Age of AI**

Dear colleagues, LEGARG friends,

Argumentation and rhetoric have been embedded in social dialogues from the birth of civilization at least. Throughout history, many different models of both argumentation and rhetoric have been developed to properly address the social requirements of place and time, by indicating how people argue or should argue. Argumentation has generally been depicted as a discipline interested in the structure of argument, while rhetoric has been understood as a broader process of having arguments. What both have shared was a particularly humanistic dimension: a critical exchange of frequently different positions backed by supporting evidence as the dialogue among people – with their ability to make logical arguments accompanied by non-logical means of persuasion best understood by psychology. All of the above-said applies to law, as one of the oldest disciplines in human society. Through time, legal argumentation as well as legal rhetoric have established themselves as important parts of argumentation and rhetoric.

However, in recent decades, and with every new year increasingly so, these explicitly humanistic disciplines have been facing the phenomenon of artificial intelligence (AI), which was created by humans but is capable of its own decisions and argumentation. This a very fast-growing discipline with many new solutions upcoming on a virtually daily basis. In general, the law is related to AI in two directions: (i) it uses AI to facilitate faster and better legal decisions, and (ii) it develops legal mechanisms to prevent AI's detrimental consequences for human society. But how do legal argumentation and rhetoric respond, or should respond, to the emergence of AI? There have been projects by various legal argumentation scholars creating different argumentation models in an algorithmic manner to enable the use of AI for the purpose of (i). Moreover, many legal scholars are discussing and developing measures, in the area of intellectual property law, data protection law, legal ethics, criminal and civil responsibility, etc., to provide proper legal frameworks for (ii). But how does legal rhetoric respond, or should respond, to the phenomenon of AI?

We not only invite papers related to legal argumentation and legal rhetoric on the above topic but - sticking to our tradition - also related to **other philosophical or theoretical approaches to various areas of law**.

This year it is our privilege to announce that the conference will be co-hosted by The New University and The Faculty of Law and Economics.

With regard to the time of the conference, we have followed the established format, i.e. late November/early December (more precisely **30 Nov. and 1 Dec. 2023**). The venues will be the New University campus in **Ljubljana** (the old town) *(Mestni trg 23)*, for the first day of the conference, and Velika dvorana Mare in Vinka Lipovška at the Faculty of Law and Economics (3rd *Floor, Krekov trg 1*), for the second day of the conference. Both venues are 200 meters apart and are in the center of Ljubljana.

Those who would like to visit us (again), present your paper, and discuss it with your colleagues, please send your **abstract** (of maximum 500 words) by **30 Sep. 2023** to **legarg2023@gmail.com**. You will be notified about its acceptance by 15 Oct. 2023, and also about all further details such as the conference schedule/program and all practical information needed.

Moreover, there will be a possibility to publish your papers in an edited volume by some prominent international publisher, or in our journals *Dignitas* and *Res novae*.

Organizing Committee