

# PRESENTATION EUROPEAN DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY AS A CHALLENGE TO EUROPEAN PRIVATE LAW

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Digital sovereignty is considered a priority by both the EU and individual Member States. However, there is little agreement on what it actually means - and more importantly, to what extent it conflicts with core values of private law, such as private autonomy. The aim of the presentation is, in a first step, to shed light on parallels as well as possible correlations between the (public) pursuit of digital sovereignty and the (private) aim of autonomously managing one's own affairs. In a second step, it will then be discussed whether, against the background of existing EU legal policies and strategies, there is a need for a separate concept of digital sovereignty at all.

# TAL TECH



## ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thomas Hoffmann** graduated and also obtained his PhD in law at the University of Heidelberg. After his admission to the German bar in 2008 and obtaining an LL.M. in Polish business law from Jagiellonian University in Kraków, he worked as an associated lawyer for a major law firm in their offices in Kyiv and Berlin, before he continued his academic career at the Institute of East European Law at Christian-Albrechts-University Kiel and the University of Tartu. At present, he is a Tenured Associate Professor of Private Law at Tallinn University of Technology.

His research focuses on comparative private law, here especially in insolvency law, private international law, contracts in digital environments and consumer law. He provided comprehensive research on Estonian, German and international law within various EC tenders.