

AALS 2021 Annual Meeting Call for Papers

The AALS Sections on European Law and Defamation and Privacy Law are convening a jointly organized panel session for the 2021 AALS Annual Meeting entitled: **“Comparing Data Protection Structures in the European Union and the United States.”**

The panel will be held in a virtual format in January 2021. One or two speakers will be selected for the program from the CFP submissions.

Panel Description

Data privacy, consumers rights, and the integrity of various political, financial and health systems are pressing contemporary issues. With the explosion of social media, data breaches, surveillance, and unauthorized sharing of information between devices occur on a daily basis and raise troubling questions about the security of consumer information and legal protections. This session explores data protection structures in different jurisdictions. The panelists will offer comparative perspectives on approaches adopted in Europe and the United States concerning data collection and privacy. It has been two years since the EU implemented the General Data Protection Regulation. Now, is the perfect time to reflect on the GDPR, its goals, accomplishments, and limitations. In contrast to the EU, the U.S. follows a sectoral approach, deploying a variety of laws and regulatory bodies, at the federal and state levels, to address consumer privacy and data security. The Federal Privacy Act of 1974, The Federal Trade Commission, and The California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 (CCPA) are examples of U.S. institutions and laws designed to deal with these issues.

The panel will explore questions, including, but not limited to: Do these regulatory regimes function effectively to protect the personal data and privacy of individuals? Has the absence of a general consumer data privacy law at the federal level in the U.S. hindered its ability to adequately protect consumers? How is consent treated under both the EU and U.S. regimes? What constitutional or other legal issues are present in data privacy debates? Are human rights addressed adequately?

Submission Details and Due Date

One or two papers will be selected from the submissions for presentation at the joint program in January. Abstracts of no more than one page in length should be emailed by **September 1, 2020** to: **Kristen Barnes** at gkbarnes@syr.edu. In the subject line please write: “Submission for AALS European Law Section Main Panel 2021.” Authors selected will be notified no later than **September 25, 2020**.

Questions

Please direct any inquiries to **Professor Kristen Barnes** at the email address provided above. Authors of selected papers will be responsible for paying any fees and expenses associated with participation in the AALS meeting.