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| Project title: Reproductive Rights in the Digital Era and the European Convention on Human Rights |
| **Description**  This project aims to explore the intersection of reproductive rights and digital privacy, focusing on how digital technologies impact reproductive autonomy and privacy. While innovations in the field of digital technology offer new possibilities for health providers and patients, they also pose risks of data misuse.  The rise of digital technologies has led to increased surveillance and data collection, which can negatively impact reproductive freedom. This issue is not confined to a specific territory. The intersection of reproductive rights and digital privacy is observed globally, affecting individuals in jurisdictions with varying legal and cultural contexts. International human rights regimes, like the European Convention on Human Rights, play a crucial role in setting standards and protecting these rights across different countries.  Given the above, the principal goal of this project is to examine the potential of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) to protect reproductive rights in the digital age. To explore this, the project will analyse three main areas of interest: academic literature on reproductive rights and digital privacy, the implications of digital surveillance on reproductive health services, and relevant case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). |
| **Method**   * Conduct a literature review on reproductive rights and digital privacy. * Conduct a literature review on the implications of digital surveillance on reproductive health services. * Analyse case law of the ECtHR relevant to digital privacy and surveillance. |
| **Skills / experience required**  Essential:   * Evidence of strong abilities in reading, writing and researching in English. * Good communication skills in English. * Ability to work responsibly and effectively. * Ability to work independently (with support).   Additional Skills (not required):   * Knowledge of the ECHR system. * Knowledge of the French language. |
| **Key readings**  Céline Castets-Renard and Caroline Lequesne, ‘Abortion in the Age of AI: A Need for Safeguarding Reproductive Rights in the United States and the European Union’ (2023) 69 McGill Law Journal 1-17.  Dylan Hofmann, ‘FemTech: empowering reproductive rights or FEM-TRAP for surveillance?’ (2024) 32(4) Medical Law Review 468-485.  Liiri Oja and Alicia Ely Yamin, ‘Woman in the European Human Rights System: How Is the Reproductive Rights Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights Constructing Narratives of Women’s Citizenship’ (2016) 32 Columbia Journal of Gender and Law 62-95.  Özgür Heval Çɪnar, ‘The current case law of the European Court of Human Rights on privacy: challenges in the digital age’ (2020) 25(1) The International Journal of Human Rights26-51.  Bartosz Ziemblicki, ‘Modern Technologies as a Challenge for the Right to Privacy under the European Convention on Human Rights’ (2023) 25(6) International Community Law Review 589-604. |
| **Learning Outcomes**  The student will develop critical thinking and analytical skills, improve their legal research skills and academic writing competencies, as well as the ability to follow directions and complete assigned tasks. |
| **Supervisor: Dr Marianna Iliadou**  **Department: Law, LPS, University of Sussex** |