

Preface

This volume is part of the book series: *Perspectives in Law, Business and Innovation*. The aim of this series is to provide a forum for the publication of cutting-edge research in the fields of innovation and the law from a Japanese and Asian perspective. The series aims to cut across the traditional sub-disciplines of legal studies, but will be tied together by a focus on deepening our understanding of the various regulatory responses to these technological, economic and social changes.

This volume constitutes the result of a joint cooperative effort drawing on the extensive global network of two academic institutions: The Institute for Legal Informatics (IRI), part of the Law Faculty of the Leibniz Universität Hannover (Hannover, Germany), and the Graduate School of Law, Kyushu University (Fukuoka, Japan). Contributors to this book—including legal and software engineering scholars and practitioners from Europe, East Asia and the Americas—attempt to provide some of the latest thinking and assessment of current regulations with regard to emerging web-based technologies, Internet applications and related systems.

The main target audiences of the book are two different groups. The first group belongs to the legal community—particularly, legal scholars, law students and practitioners—in the field of IT and IP Law who are interested in an up to date legal analysis of current Internet trends. The second group are IT experts in the field of Cloud Computing, Big Data and Internet of Things—including, service and infrastructure providers, IT managers, Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), Chief Information Officers (CIOs) and software developers—who are interested and influenced by some of the shortcomings and benefits of the current legal issues under scrutiny in this work.

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