

Call for Papers
for the Final Conference on European Uncontested Claims Enforcement
within the framework of DEUCE
Digitalising European Uncontested Claims Enforcement Project

Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and the entire **DEUCE Consortium** are pleased to announce the opening of a call for papers to be presented at the final conference of the Digitalising European Uncontested Claims Enforcement (DEUCE) project on European Uncontested Claims Enforcement.

WHEN: 19th and 20th February 2026.

WHERE: HOEK 38, Brussels, Belgium.

The DEUCE final conference will be devoted (1) to present the acquired research results of the project, and (2) to bring together international academics, practitioners, doctoral researchers, and citizens through organising a supranational forum aiming at fostering discussion.

Thus, the conference will address how digitalisation, cooperation, and technology are transforming enforcement in the EU. It will examine the future of cross-border enforcement, the role of IT platforms in fostering interoperability and efficiency, and the implications of digital fairness and consumer protection. Overall, it seeks to explore how technological innovation can strengthen governance, enhance cooperation, and empower consumers in the algorithmic age. Special consideration will be made for the topics discussing: Enforcement, Cooperation, and Technology The Future of Cross-Border Enforcement in the EU Digitalisation of Enforcement and the DEUCE IT Platform Digital Consumer Protection & Future Cooperation Digital Fairness and the Enforcement of Consumer Rights Empowering Consumers in the Algorithmic Age. However, we also encourage authors, in particular the early-career researchers, to present their academic contributions to the Conference and receive fruitful feedback from the panels upon their presentations at the event.

The main Conference themes cover the following areas, including but not exclusive to:

- Enforcement in the Digital State: From Fragmented Actions to Coordinated Governance
- Algorithmic Enforcement: Opportunities, Accountability, and Oversight
- Cross-Border Cooperation in the Era of Data Sovereignty
- Bridging Legal Traditions through Technological Innovation
- IT Platform and Blockchain System for Enforcement Guidance
- Interoperability with e-Justice Tools and National Portals
- Trust, Transparency, and Use of Smart Contracts in Enforcement
- Technical and Legal Evaluation of Pilot Outcomes
- Algorithmic Fairness and the Protection of Digital Consumers
- Dark Patterns, Nudging, and Manipulative Design
- Enforcing Consumer Rights in the Platform Economy
- Beyond Transparency: Towards Empowerment and Effective Redress
- Digital Justice Tools for Consumer Redress
- Algorithmic Transparency and Procedural Fairness
- Digital Inclusion and Access to Remedies
- Data, Trust, and the Future of Consumer Enforcement

The submission must respect the following envisaged timeline:

- 16 January 2026 - Deadline for abstracts – c.a. 500 words – (1st stage)
26 January 2026 - Notification of abstract acceptance
19-20 February 2026 - Paper presentations at the Conference
31 March 2026 - Deadline for final submissions (2nd stage)
30 April 2026 - Notification of acceptance after double-blind peer-review process
30 June 2026 - Papers get published in an edited book in the following series:

Background to the DEUCE project:

The DEUCE Project aims at better enforcement of judicial decisions (judgments, authentic instruments, and court settlements) issued in the context of cross-border pecuniary claims. It particularly focuses on the creation of a Roadmap of the 26 EU Member States' (MSs) enforcement rules and the simplification and digitalisation of the enforcement procedures. The project provides the development of an IT platform and a Blockchain System to fill the existing gap in the EEO and EOP enforcement across the Union.

Information for the authors

- Submissions are made in a two-stage procedure:
 - In the 1st stage, abstracts (ca. 500 words) will be evaluated by the Editors to assess their quality and suitability to the overall project;
 - In the 2nd stage, full submissions will undergo a double, blind peer-review process by appointed, external, anonymous reviewers.
- Full contributions should normally be **between 6,000 – 10,000 words**; contributions of both shorter and higher word length may also be submitted, subjected to negotiation with the Editors.
- Upon accepting and presenting the paper to the Conference, the participants will receive the certificate of presentation by the Conference Chair.
- Submissions should be made anonymously in English and sent via Easy Chair. (Click [here](#))
- For any specific academic inquiries, you may contact the Conference Chair, Prof. Marco Giacalone at Marco.Giacalone@vub.be
- For any other inquiries, you can contact the Conference Liaison, Ms. Susanna Picariello at Susanna.picariello@vub.be.

Notice: The content of this Conference represents the views of the Organisers and speakers only and remains their sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for the use that may be made of the information it contains.