



Department of Political Science
Colloquium
Friday, February 20th, 2015
2:30-4:00pm in Saunders 624

Legal challenges in a digital context

From a normative gap in copyright to privacy issues of online traceability

Stefan Larsson

PhD in Sociology of Law
PhD in Spatial Planning
LLM

Guest researcher at Dep of Pol Sci

See more: <http://luiu.lu.se/about/stefan-larsson/>

As part of a 36-month socio-legal study on copyright in a digital context I am a guest researcher at the Department of Political Science at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. The project seeks to produce more knowledge about the relationship between law and other, emerging, norms in a digital society. More specifically, the project targets

1. The “gap problem” in terms of the distance between law and social norms in a digital context;
2. Online traceability, that is, consequences and trends of traceability in relation to legal enforcement and surveillance;
3. Conceptual change, exemplified by how the transition of concepts to originally describe tangible objects to now describe digital “stuff”, and, particularly, what this means for law and other norms.

Copyright is in the proposed project treated as a case to study these three aspects in detail. The study includes a large-scale online survey that has been conducted with over 140 000 respondents (the “research bay study”) in the file sharing community around the world, as well as legal analyses. My home institution is the *Lund University Internet Institute (LUII)* that collaborates with the Department for Sociology of Law at Lund University in Sweden. The visited institutions are, in addition to the Department of Political Science at UH, the Centre for Comparative and European Constitutional Studies (CECS) at the Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen in Denmark.