

It is difficult to imagine modern societies functioning without information technology. We coexist with it in our professional activity and in private life. The transformations that take place in this area are very dynamic. They result in economic and technological progress, but also in the emergence of new threats. The legal system cannot remain indifferent to them.

The most important disputable legal issues connected with information technology include problems related to the functioning of web browsers, especially the one offered by Google. It should be emphasized that web browsers are highly useful and their development is conducive to economic progress. The company that controls Google has gained enormous market power and unimaginable amounts of user data. It is capable of distorting competitive mechanisms in dependent markets, and its activities raise concerns about respect for the right to privacy.

The nature of the response of the legal system to the identified threats has been subject to heated debate. The European Commission seems to be very active in this respect. It issued highly controversial decisions that restrict the freedom of data processing by Google. They provide the citizens of the European Union with the "right to be forgotten" and limit the scope of acceptable distortion of search results. The European Commission is currently conducting a number of antitrust proceedings concerning Google's market practices, which should result in taking decisions in the coming months.

The project is to serve to examine how antitrust law should be applied to Google. It will include the identification of threats to the proper functioning of competitive mechanisms that relate to Google's actions. In addition, an attempt will be made to evaluate antitrust actions taken against Google in the European Union and in the United States. Particular attention will be paid to differences in both the American and the European attitudes to the discussed issue. They are well reflected in the reaction of President Barack Obama to the decision of the European Commission on the "right to be forgotten". He claimed that the decision proved to be a manifestation of European protectionism aimed at protecting European companies from more effective American rivals (*was driven by the "commercial interests" of the region's tech companies who struggle to compete with better American rivals*) - <https://www.ft.com/content/41d968d6-b5d2-11e4-b58d-00144feab7de>.

It is worth researching whether the European Commission's actions can only be explained in terms of its aversion towards the American rival of European entrepreneurs, and to determine who is right in disputes concerning Google's practices.