



Computer and Telecommunications Law Review

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An Economic Analysis of the Mobile Equipment Registration System in Turkish Telecommunications Law 123

In the Turkish legal system, International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) numbers of mobile phones must be registered with the Mobile Equipment Registration System (MERS) in order for mobile phones to receive telecommunications services within the territory of Turkey. Mobile operators that are subject to the regulation and supervision of the Turkish Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA) are not permitted to provide telecommunications services to mobile phones whose IMEI numbers have been blacklisted under MERS. Under the economic regulation established by MERS, the registration of IMEI numbers is subject to fees/taxes, as well as to certain quantity and import restrictions on mobile phones. This article provides an economic analysis of the relevant legal framework on MERS. It argues that MERS is primarily aimed at decreasing the current account deficit of Turkey and maximising the state's tax revenues, but the expected benefits of the system are outweighed by the actual losses. Against this background, the article proposes some improvements to MERS.

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An employer's data is more at risk from misappropriation by employees than from industrial espionage. Customer or supplier data is particularly important to most businesses and is most at risk. Legal action is the last thing most employers relish but in some cases is inevitable. This case provides a particularly stark example of employee misuse of an employer's data.

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Governments are making it increasingly difficult for people to interact with government departments and local government authorities other than by digital means. Given the implementation of such policies, it becomes imperative that individuals should not be at the mercy of the failure in software code that causes them to lose benefits, for instance. It is also necessary to ensure that, when a human being interacts with software code, there is a degree of certainty that the human being is who they assert they are, and not an imposter.

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