

Regulating Digital Asia

Blockseminar in HS 2026

Seminar Theme Overview

The seminar "Regulating Digital Asia" is structured around **three key pillars**:

1. **Digital**: Focusing on the "Digital Economy."
2. **Regulation**: Covering both **ex-post regulation**(Competition Law) and **ex-ante regulation**(e.g., EU DMA, AI Act, Japan's Mobile Software Competition Act, etc.).
3. **Asia**: Encompassing Korea, Japan, China, as well as Singapore and other ASEAN member states

Scope of Topics

Students may combine elements from these three pillars to form their research topic:

- ✓ **Digital Economy**: Online Platforms, Data, Algorithms, and AI (Generative, General-Purpose, and Risk-based AI).
- ✓ **Regulation**: The role of competition law in the digital economy and emerging ex-ante frameworks (EU DMA, EU AI Act, **Korean AI Act**).
- ✓ **Regional Focus**: Primary focus on Korea, Japan, China, and Singapore, with comparative perspectives involving Switzerland, the UK, and EU member states (Germany, France, Italy).

Seminar Schedule

- ✓ **Preliminary Preparation**: Students may tentatively select a topic and begin their research in advance.

* *Note: Please inform the professor of your tentative topic via email (jyp314@gnu.ac.kr).*

- ✓ **Preliminary Meeting (16 September):** Final confirmation and approval of research topics.
- ✓ **Block Seminars (1 & 8 October):** Presentation of research progress and feedback sessions.
- ✓ **Final Thesis Submission: 15 December 2026**

Topic Selection & Examples

Students may choose from the list below or propose an alternative topic (including non-Asian subjects) upon consultation with the professor.

(if students have any questions please contact via jyp314@gnu.ac.kr)

A. South Korea

1. AI Regulation:

1.1. Key features and implications of the Korean AI Framework Act

https://www.kimchang.com/en/insights/detail.kc?curPage=6&sch_section=4&idx=33805&sch_cate_idxes_arr=&sch_date=&scroll=3969&index=N&cate_title=&sch_nm=AI

1.2. KFTC Report on Generative AI & Competition

https://www.ftc.go.kr/viewer/synap/skin/doc.html?fn=BBS_202502130426599090&rs=/viewer/synap/preview/

* KFTC (Korean Fair Trade Commission, Competition Authority of Korea)

2. Online Platforms:

2.1. Case studies on Self-preferencing (Naver Shopping, Kakao Mobility)

https://www.ftc.go.kr/viewer/synap/skin/doc.html?fn=BBS_202010210809414110&rs=/viewer/synap/preview/ (Naver)

https://www.ftc.go.kr/viewer/synap/skin/doc.html?fn=BBS_202303150507532910&rs=/viewer/synap/preview/ (Kakao Mobility)

2.2. Exclusive Dealing (Google Appmarket), and Tying (YouTube Music).

https://www.ftc.go.kr/viewer/synap/skin/doc.html?fn=BBS_202305111020130330&rs=/viewer/synap/preview/ (Google)

https://www.ftc.go.kr/viewer/synap/skin/doc.html?fn=20251205012948576_KnHb81RkFE.pdf&rs=/viewer/synap/preview/ (YouTube Music)

3. Legislative Issues

3.1. Discussion on the enactment of the Online Platform Act in Korea

https://www.ftc.go.kr/viewer/synap/skin/doc.html?fn=20260107024702416_rcMECWdoDL.pdf&rs=/viewer/synap/preview/

3.2. Comparative analysis with EU/ Germany

4. Data & K-pop:

4.1. KFTC Report on Data and Competition;

https://www.ftc.go.kr/viewer/synap/skin/doc.html?fn=20260107024702416_rcMECWdoDL.pdf&rs=/viewer/synap/preview/

4.2. AI data collection and the Korean Act on the Regulation of Terms and Conditions,

4.3. K-pop platform case (Kakao-SM merger case 2024)

<https://www.yulchon.com/en/resources/deals-and-cases-view/38026/page.do>

B. Japan

1. JFTC Discussion Papers:

https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/cprc/reports/discussionpapers/index_2.html#cmscprcdp2024

** JFTC (Japanese Fair Trade Commission, Competition Authority of Japan)*

1.1. Dark Patterns in Competition Policy (2025), News Media and Digital Platforms (2024), and Algorithmic Collusion (2023)

1.2. Platform Liability: Liability for defective third-party goods (2023).

2. Regulatory Framework:

- 2.1. Act on Improving Transparency and Fairness of Digital Platforms(2021)

https://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/mono_info_service/information_economy/digital_platforms/index.html

- 2.2. Act on Promotion of Competition for Specified Smartphone Software (Mobile Software Competition Act, 2024).

https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/legislation_gls/index.html

C. China

1. SAMR Policies: Revised measures for the supervision of Internet Trading Platform Rules (2026).

* SAMR(State Administration for Market Regulation, Competition Authority of China)

2. Unfair Competition:

- 2.1. Disclosure of unfair competition cases in the AI sector;

- 2.2. Implementation of the revised Anti-Unfair Competition Law (2025).

D. Singapore

1. Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore (CCCS) Initiatives

- 1.1. AI Market Toolkit;

<https://www.ccs.gov.sg/resources/ai-markets-toolkit/ai-markets—aim--toolkit/>

- 1.2. Enhanced E-commerce Guidelines to Safeguard Consumer Trust (2025).

<https://www.ccs.gov.sg/media-and-events/newsroom/announcements-and-media-releases/enhanced-e-commerce-guidelines-to-safeguard-consumer-trust-and-foster-competitive-e-commerce-market/>

- 1.3. any other topic of CCCS Announcements and Media Releases

<https://www.ccs.gov.sg/media-and-events/newsroom/announcements-and-media-releases/?page=9>