Foreword

With ongoing digitization, data is increasingly seen as a tradable asset. Accordingly, digital content and digital services are frequently provided in return not for money but for data. The 5th Münster Colloquium on EU Law and the Digital Economy, held on 16th and 17th May 2019, brought together scholars and practitioners from across Europe for an in-depth discussion of issues surrounding this role of 'data as counter-performance'. Its impact on the economy and contract practice will be one of the central aspects in the further development of contract law and of consumer protection in the digital age. This is true, in particular, since data as counter-performance has also become a subject of European legislation with the new EU Directive ‘on certain aspects concerning contracts for the supply of digital content and digital services’ (whose publication in May 2019 coincided with the Colloquium).

The publication of the results of the 5th Münster Colloquium in this volume aims to stimulate the further discussion on this subject matter and to contribute to the development of modern private law. The editors kindly thank Karen Schulenberg for her role and support in the organisation of the Colloquium and in the preparation of this volume.

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