

Lucia della Ventura

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Profile

Double qualified Solicitor (Ireland and Italy) with over 10 years of experience in legal practice in private law firms, corporate legal departments, and interdisciplinary academic research. Expert in Decentralised Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Smart Contracts, and legal regulation of emerging technologies. Combining legal theory with practical expertise, I specialise in offering strategic consultancy and legal case development in the fields of law and digital innovation. Currently a PhD Candidate at Trinity College Dublin, with a research project on legal personhood and contractual capacity of Decentralised AI systems in sole-code smart contract transactions.

Experience

Professional Experience

Solicitor, Head of Compliance at *Zodia Markets, Ireland*

(2024-2025)

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead the development and implementation of the company's legal, compliance, and regulatory strategy in line with Irish and EU frameworks for digital asset trading
- Advise senior management and stakeholders on MiCAR (Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation), AML/CTF obligations, and financial crime risk across cryptoasset services
- Design and oversee the firm's compliance monitoring programme, ensuring effective internal controls, risk assessments, and reporting mechanisms
- Coordinate with external legal advisors, auditors, and regulators including the Central Bank of Ireland and other EU supervisory authorities
- Draft and review internal policies, risk appetite statements, and client onboarding protocols aligned with Travel Rule, 5AMLD, and GDPR requirements
- Ensure that business operations, smart contract integrations, and custodial arrangements are legally compliant, transparent, and auditable
- Support governance and regulatory readiness across cross-border transactions and institutional cryptoasset products

Solicitor, Head of Legal & Compliance at *Haycen Ltd, Ireland & UK*

(2021-2024)

Key Responsibilities:

- Led legal and compliance operations across Ireland and the UK, with a focus on regulatory frameworks for digital assets and financial technologies
- Appointed MLRO (Anti-Money Laundering Reporting Officer)
- Coordinated the company's VASP application with the Central Bank of Ireland
- Advised on the OSSP – Open-Source Sterling Project (UK) and legal aspects of open-source innovation
- Developed and implemented the company's legal and compliance infrastructure, including IT law and data protection policies
- Oversaw legal strategy for IP rights and digital asset risk management
- Provided legal advice on contract negotiation, due diligence, and regulatory compliance

- Worked alongside senior leadership to ensure legal and operational alignment with international standards

Partner, Lawyer & Legal Advisor at *della Ventura Law Firm, Italy*

(2015-present)

Key Responsibilities:

- Represented clients in complex technology and IP litigation and contract negotiations
- Provided strategic legal advice on AI compliance with EU regulatory frameworks
- Advised on a broad range of IT/IP matters, including Smart Contracts, NFTs, DeFi, Fintech, and legal aspects of the Gaming Industry
- Drafted and negotiated IP licence agreements (copyright, trademarks, patents), NDAs, and technology transfer contracts
- Provided practical solutions in IT/IP disputes, ensuring alignment with business needs
- Advised on blockchain and smart contract compliance under EU law, with focus on decentralised AI and cross-border systems

Founder of *NeWorth, IT & IP Legal and Business Consulting*

(2022-2024)

NeWorth was a consultancy hub of legal professionals, researchers, and advisors specialised in Intellectual Property and Emerging Technology Law, with a focus on the IT, Blockchain, and Music industries.

Key Responsibilities:

- Founder and Legal/Business Team Leader
- Project Management for strategic legal-tech initiatives
- Advisor on legal strategy and innovation in digital industries

Lawyer & Legal Advisor at *Amatucci & Partners Law Firm, Italy*

(2015-2019)

Key Responsibilities:

- Development of case law strategy and legal opinions on IP law, with focus on trademarks and copyright
- Advising clients on data protection and privacy compliance
- Representing clients in legal proceedings and IP litigation
- Drafting and reviewing a variety of IT/IP contracts, including licensing agreements, NDAs, and software development contracts

Academic Experience

Trinity College Dublin, School of Law

- Ethics & AI Law at *School of Medicine* (2022-23)
- European Union Law Seminar Lecturer at *School of Law* (2022-23)
- Guest Lecturer at *School of Law* (2023)
On 'Unlocking a New Era of Intellectual Property Rights: the Blockchain realm amidst Benefits and Challenges', LL.M International and European Copyright Law and Policy
- Guest lecturer at *School of Law* (2022)
On 'Introduction to Artificial Intelligence', LL.M Fintech Course

University of Milan, Italy

- International Research Fellow on Artificial Intelligence regulation at *The Information Society Law Center (ISLC) at the Department 'Cesare Beccaria', School of Law* (2022)

Education

- *Ph.D. Researcher in Decentralised Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain and Law* (2020-present)
Trinity College Dublin, School of Law
- *Anti-Money Laundering Postgraduate Course* (2021)
City Colleges, Dublin
- *Professional Degree in Coding for Lawyers and legal Tech,* (2021)
University of Milan
- *LL.M Information Technology and Intellectual Property Law* (2018-2019)
Trinity College Dublin
- *LL.M European Union Law and Protection of Rights* (2017-2018)
University of Naples, Federico II
- *Professional Degree in Competition Law* (2015)
King's College, London
- *Master's Degree in Law (5 years education)* (2011-2015)
University of Naples, Suor Orsola Benincasa

Publications & Conferences

Coauthored Article '*Navigating the EU Regulatory Landscape: A Guide to CASP Compliance*' (2024) available at https://www.linkedin.com/posts/zodiamarkets_mica-digitalassets-zodiamarkets-activity-7221523487226519554-GNPY?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Supreme Court of Salerno, Italy
'*L'Intelligenza Artificiale e La Professione di Avvocato: Profili Generali e Deontologici*' (2024)

Supreme Court of Salerno, Italy
'*Smart Contracts' Regulation: State-of-the-art Amongst Legal Tradition and Future Perspectives*' (2023)

University of Rijeka Faculty of Law, Rijeka Doctoral Conference RIDOC, Croatia
'*Enter: smart contracts. An analysis on the legal role of AI agents in the formation and execution of blockchain contract transactions*' (2022)

University of Edinburgh, Scotland
Edinburgh Postgraduate Law Conference (EPLC) (2021)
'*Can Law Save The Artificial Intelligence Against Human Biases?*'

Trinity College Dublin
Trinity College Law Student Colloquium (2020)
'*New Perspectives of AI in Smart Contract Transactions*'

Grant, Awards & Recognitions

AlgoveraAI Grant (2022-23)

Algoverta AI Grant for the 'PLAB: Paradigm of Legal Autonomous Behaviour' Research Project. PLAB aims to demonstrate how Decentralised AI systems can be considered autonomous legal subjects.

Woman Who Wow Award
Trinity College Dublin (2020)

Postgraduate Research Award Honour & Grant
Trinity College Dublin (2019)

Pan-European Seal (PES) Professional Traineeship Programme (Top 5 IT/IP LL.M Students)
Trinity College Dublin (2019)

Hackathons & Competitions

LaunchBox
Trinity College Dublin, Business School (2021)

Voluntary Work

Trinity College Dublin (2022)
• *'AI and Digital Law' Panel Chair at Trinity College Law Student Colloquium*

Trinity College Dublin (2021)
• *Trinity College Law Student Colloquium Deputy Chair*

Trinity College Dublin (2019-present)
• *Ph.D. Law Representative*

Mosaico International ONLUS Association (2016-2021)
• *Founder, President and Team Project Manager for European Funding calls*

Affiliations

Professional

- Law Society of Ireland (2021- present)
Solicitor & Member
- Law Society of Italy (2015-present)
Lawyer & Member

Academic

- Trinity College Dublin, Technology, Law & Society Research Group (2020-present)
PhD Board member

References

Available upon request.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louisa L. Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

01.03.25