



ERC ADG

[Mireille Hildebrandt](#)



- Who?
- Why?
- When?
- How?
- What?

# Who?

- Formal requirements (excellent track record etc.) ...
- Imagination and a sense of **structure**
- Capable of addressing
  - a broader, informed scientific audience (B1)  
[dare to be incomplete but correct]
  - dedicated peers (B2)  
[invest in 'state of the art', then convince of the novelty]

# Who?

- Stint at anthropology
- Law degree
- PhD in legal philosophy, criminal law
- Research project with Serge Gutwirth, Bruno Latour and Isabelle Stengers
- Many EC research projects, FWO fundamental research projects
- In depth collaboration with CS, see e.g. [this](#)
- 4 monographs, over 20 edited volumes, over 100 publications, e.g. [this](#)
- [Chair Radboud \(CS department Science Faculty\)](#)
- [Research Chair VUB \(funded VUB research council, Faculty Law & Criminology\)](#)

# Why?

- For the money, the status, to lead?
  - *To obtain freedom, control, to inspire, to push yourself, to lead*
- Because you have an idea that needs funding [computational law]?
  - *Passion, dedication, spunk*
  - *High risk high gain [no guts no glory]*

# Why?

- IDEA:
  - legal protection by design (previous work)
  - *Legal technologies will change the mode of existence of law (novel)*

# When?

- 2015: no idea
  - Don't work on something if it does not move you
- 2016: first drafts
  - Feeling that my peers would not (yet) believe it
- 2017: submitting
  - Feeling that in one year multiple applications would compete

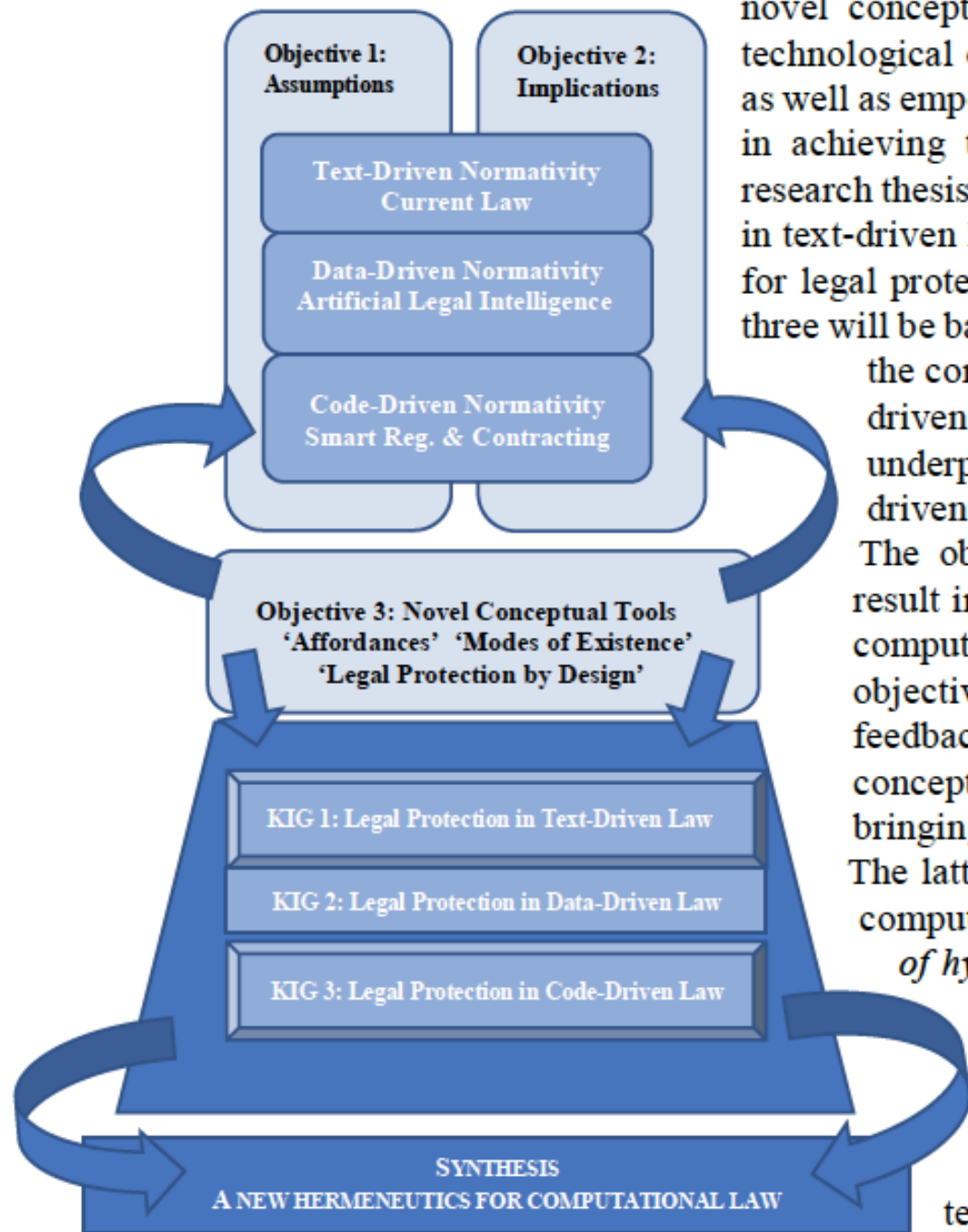
# How?

- Connect with ELO of relevant affiliation (they were very helpful)
- Get sparring partners (colleagues, tell your mother, explaining in simple terms helps)
- Mine: Yellow Research (excellent, confrontational, realistic, daring)
- Ignore peer comments that clearly do not get the point, but learn (take a risk)
- Think of the concern, the difference that makes a difference (do I care, why should others)
- Think of the time path, the sequence of events and the various types of output
- Develop intermediary goals, make sure the end goal is sufficiently tangible



# What?

- Counting as a human being in the era of computational law:
  - Legal theory, law and computer science
  - Involving two affiliations (law faculty, science faculty)
  - [Assumptions of LAW and of CS](#)
  - [What are the implications of those assumptions](#)
  - No empirical research (quite daring)
  - No blahblah on 'shared language', real mutual learning
  - SSH domain, legal research, but bringing in CS research



novel concepts that highlight technological embodiment and as well as empowered by the law in achieving three intermediate research thesis: (1) a more in-de in text-driven law, in counterpo for legal protection in (2) data-three will be based on close coll

the computer science tea driven law are understood underpinnings, while ga driven law by contrastin The objectives, togethe result in a conceptual fra computational law. Th objectives and the key in feedback loops with th conceptual framework t bringing computational l The latter will most prob computational law, and of hybrid could reinst

legal certainty, 'backend system cryptographic l

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# WHAT?

WOW

# COHUBICOL

Counting as a Human Being in the Era of Computational Law

Say cubicle ▪ Think Wittgenstein's cube

[Learn more](#)

**It would be nice if all of the data which sociologists require  
could be enumerated because then we could run them  
through IBM machines and draw charts as the economists do.  
However, not everything that can be counted counts, and not  
everything that counts can be counted**

— William Cameron, *Informal Sociology* (1963)