WHAT LEVEL OF CARE FOR HOSTING SERVICE PROVIDERS?
A STUDY ABOUT UNCERTAINTY, LIABILITY AND INCENTIVES

Supervisor: Luca Di Mauro
Thesis presented by Carmen VILLA
for the Degree of Master of Arts in European Economic Studies
Option: European Law and Economic Analysis

Academic Year 2015-2016
Abstract
This thesis explores the effect of the uncertainty surrounding Article 14 of the E-Commerce Directive on hosting service providers when deciding upon a level of care towards content uploaded on their sites. The disparities in the legal interpretations of the concepts included in the Directive throughout the European Union influence the optimal level of care chosen by firms, whose rational decision may not be aligned with other societal concerns.

Keywords
Liability of hosting services, E-Commerce Directive, Uncertainty of the liability online platforms