**Digitalization of Insolvency Proceedings in Germany**

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In Germany, politicians and legal practitioners are calling for further digitalization of insolvency proceedings and other court proceedings. The European legislator of directives and regulations is also calling for such a development, particularly with regard to judicial cooperation between the member states, which is to be simplified as a result.

In an international comparison, Germany is a rather backward country in terms of the degree of digitilization. The reasons for this vary. To a certain degree, there is some scepticism in society towards digital technology as a whole. Politicians also recognized the importance of this technology too late, with the result that the development of the country with the necessary infrastructure began late and has not yet been completed. Data protection is also hampering the development in many cases, without wanting to evaluate this here. Finally, federalism plays its part. The judiciary is in the responsibility of the federal states, which means that each state is theoretically responsible for its own development. Of course, this also depends on the financial its possibilities.

Therefore, a look at the German law and its development in this area will not provide a glimpse into the digital future. Developments in this area in Germany are too far behind. However, it does give an impression of the intertwining of completely different areas of regulations and also shows the difficulties in coordinating these developments. For example, the general regulations on the introduction of electronic files, including access to the files, must be coordinated with those on communication between parties in the context of insolvency proceedings. German law also provides illustrative material as to which areas can be placed in the hands of private parties (here in those of the insolvency administrators) rather than the judiciary. It goes without saying that, despite all the digitalization and the - possible - procedural improvements for the parties involved in terms of increased transparency, shorter proceedings and improved access, the state also always has a fiscal interest. Whether this can be satisfied will also have to be examined. Finally, the question of what expectations are associated with AI in the context of insolvency proceedings will also have to be examined.

1. Introduction

2. Course of insolvency proceedings under the German Insolvency Code

3. Access to the proceedings

a. No digitalization when filing an application

b. Insolvency table

4. Communication - Organization of communication

a. Digitalization and automation of official notices

b. Digital online meetings

c. Creditor information system

5. Digitized processing of proceedings by means of processing programs

a. Electronic files

b. Access to files

6. Summary and outlook

a. Status of the digitalization of insolvency proceedings in Germany

b. Use of AI