

# Creation of the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute: EDHEC rolls out an ambitious innovation and knowledge hybridisation strategy central to its "Impact Future Generations" 2025 plan

Press release

Paris, 22 June 2020 – After pioneering training and research in a dual law and management culture for almost 30 years, EDHEC Business School today announces the creation of the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute. This initiative embodies the School's ambitions in the field of knowledge hybridisation, one of the seven "battles" set out in its "Impact Future Generations" 2025 strategic plan.

The creation of the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute underlines the School's aim of becoming a go-to-institution worldwide in the field of augmented law, by positioning the know-how, function and skills of lawyers at the centre of corporate and societal transformation processes.

"The creation of the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute is one of the first tangible manifestations of our five-year 'Impact Future Generations' strategy. It forms part of a particular pedagogical approach that consists in leveraging research for the benefit of future graduates, businesses and society in general.

Law is an essential discipline today for those who need to understand and act in a world disrupted by crises. We are convinced that future managers endowed with complementary cross-disciplinary knowledge will be better equipped to decrypt the environment and find answers to the complex questions that will be asked of them tomorrow", asserts Emmanuel Métais, Dean of EDHEC Business School.

The Institute seeks to pursue a three-pronged development strategy founded on an offering of hybrid training programmes, research of real practical use for the legal industry and its legal talent management platform.

## An offering of hybrid training programmes

EDHEC Business School's legal ecosystem of excellence is underpinned by a unique dual law & management training offering - Business Law Management and L.L.M. Law & Tax Management – delivered in partnership with the Catholic University of Lille, and by the enrichment of all the School's programmes.

Today, the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute wants to reinforce this knowledge hybridisation rationale by building mixed programmes – Law & Finance, Law & Artificial Intelligence – and by creating an executive education offering to support the development of augmented lawyers in legal professions.

The strong employment record of students trained by the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute testifies to the quality of the programmes delivered by a faculty of international standing: 700 graduates exercise legal professions in-company or in legal firms, while 88% of the students of the class of 2020 were admitted to the entrance examination for France's Ecoles des Avocats for aspiring lawyers.

## Research of real practical use to the legal industry

For more than 10 years now, EDHEC Business School has been conducting research work situated at the crossroads between law, corporate strategy, management and ethics. Under the banner of the LegalEDHEC research centre, now incorporated into the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute, the School has been a genuine pioneer in developing academic expertise focused on transformations linked to the digital and artificial intelligence era.

The EDHEC Augmented Law Institute runs six research programmes, including the A3L (Augmented Law, Lawyers and Lawyering)<sup>1</sup> project. Bringing together a team of multidisciplinary researchers, this programme seeks to understand, explain and propose solutions for incorporating digitalisation, big data and AI issues into law and taxation.

The EDHEC Augmented Law Institute also disseminates its legal research pro-actively, in order to support innovation in the legal world: creation of innovative research content accessible to the greatest number, organisation of or participation in academic and professional events (Business & Legal Forum, Grenelle du Droit), publication of articles and chronicles in the legal and general-interest press.

Another extensive project conducted by the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute, in partnership with France's association of in-house counsels (AFJE), concerns the publication of an analysis of priority skills for augmented lawyers. The results led to the creation of the first repository of skills for augmented lawyers, accessible and useable by all those operating in the legal world.

Among new research projects, the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute is due to sign a partnership with the legal department of one of the world's leading video games specialists this summer. The partnership is geared to identifying the characteristics of an innovative legal department and fostering the development of an innovation culture within legal departments.

## The first talent management platform applied to law

The EDHEC Augmented Law Institute offers the law and legal professions market the first online legal talent management platform: AllI.legal. It provides companies with a set of tools and services based on a repository of skills for augmented lawyers. AllI.Legal enables legal professionals to create their own customised repository and to view a market repository – comprising 150 key skills – updated by EDHEC researchers and offered through an online platform developed for the School by the legal tech Seraphin Legal.

"The creation of Alll.legal is aimed at leveraging collective intelligence, both in terms of the online tools we offer and through the R&D consortium we are putting together, all with the objective of supporting the legal profession in managing its talents and creating augmented

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A3L - Augmented Law, Lawyers and Lawyering programme

*lawyers*", explains Christophe Roquilly, Professor of Law and Director of the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute.

In the wake of this initiative, the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute is teaming up with a specialist tech and HR start-up, legal firms and corporate legal departments to set up a dynamic skills-management system, based on a continuous feedback mechanism.

Discover the EDHEC Augmented Law Institute in detail

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#### About EDHEC BUSINESS SCHOOL

Based in Lille, Nice, Paris, London and Singapore, and counting 100 nationalities on its campuses and partnerships with 280 leading universities around the world, EDHEC is a fully international business school directly connected to the business world. EDHEC's 40,000 alumni spread over 120 countries represent a community of engaged leaders, trained to act practically and deliver solutions to the main economic, social, technological and environmental challenges facing the world.

The School has developed a unique model founded on research of real practical use to society, companies and students. EDHEC is a centre of excellence, innovation, experience and diversity, focused on impacting future generations in a fast-transforming world. The School exists to make a positive impact on the world.

#### EDHEC in figures:

- 8,600 students in academic education, 184 professors and researchers, 11 research centres

- 5 campuses and a platform devoted to 100%-online certificate and degree programmes: EDHEC Online

- a comprehensive portfolio of 23 programmes designed for future decision-makers: Bachelors (BBA and BSc), a Master in Management, Masters of Science (MSc), MBAs (Full-time and Executive MBA), a PhD in Finance

- an extensive EDHEC Executive Education offering of certificate and degree programmes for managers, business leaders and entrepreneurs