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DIGITALIZATION OF INHERITANCE DOCUMENTS – LEGAL AND TECHNICAL IMPLICATIONS

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Abstract

The digitisation of inheritance documents has become a topic of essential interest in the context of modernising legal processes and increasing administrative efficiency. This article explores the legal and technical aspects relevant to transforming traditional heritage management processes into a digital format. The paper aims to analyse the legal framework applicable to digitising inheritance documents, from both national and international legislation, highlighting the essential regulations and standards for safe and effective implementation. In the digitisation process, the technologies and procedures used to ensure the authenticity, integrity, and confidentiality of sensitive data are discussed, along with the security measures implemented to protect the heirs' personal information. The article highlights the benefits of this approach, including quick access to documents, reduced costs, and simplified legal processes for citizens and authorities. At the same time, the challenges encountered in implementing and accepting digitisation are analysed, including technical difficulties, legislative barriers, and the risks associated with cyber vulnerabilities. Drawing on case studies and international best practices, the article provides valuable insights into the impact of digitisation in the heritage field. It makes recommendations to improve the legislative and technical frameworks. The conclusions and suggestions provided aim to optimise the digitisation process and expand this practice in the future, thereby facilitating a smoother and safer transition to a heritage management system based on digital technology.

Keywords: digitalisation, heritage, data security, legislation, technology.

INTRODUCTION

In the era of rapid digitization, the legal field is beginning to adopt new technologies to improve the efficiency, accessibility, and transparency of legal procedures. Inheritance, an essential segment of civil law, is also undergoing this transformation, through the introduction of digital processes in the management of inheritance documents. The digitisation of heritage documents brings multiple advantages, such as reduced bureaucracy,

easy access to documents, and greater information security, but it also involves technical and legal challenges that require special attention. This transformation is driven by the need for a more efficient system that meets the demands of modern society and allows heirs to access the documents they need quickly and securely.

As technologies advance, there is a need to establish a robust legal framework to support the implementation of digitisation in the field of heritage, while protecting the rights and interests of heirs. In this context, the digitisation of heritage documents raises essential questions regarding the protection of personal data, cybersecurity, and the legal recognition of electronic documents. This article explores these issues from a legal and technical perspective, providing a comprehensive analysis of current regulations, technologies, and practices, as well as the risks and benefits of this digital transition.

The objective of the paper is to provide a clear picture of the implications of digitisation for the management of heritage documents, highlighting both the opportunities and the obstacles this complex process entails.

METHODOLOGY

The present study approaches the process of digitisation of heritage documents from an interdisciplinary perspective, integrating legal analysis and technical evaluation of the technologies involved. The methodology uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods to provide a comprehensive picture of the legal, technical, and administrative aspects that enable the efficient and secure digitisation of heritage documents.

The first step consisted of conducting an extensive analysis of the specialised literature to examine the national and international regulations applicable to the digitisation of legal documents, with an emphasis on inheritance documents. Laws, European and international directives, best-practice guides, and relevant scientific articles were consulted to identify the standards and norms governing this process. The purpose of this analysis was to understand the existing legal framework and to identify potential legislative gaps that could hinder the uniform and effective application of digitisation.

As part of the methodology, several case studies from countries where the digitisation of inheritance documents has been successfully implemented have been analysed. Digitisation initiatives and projects, applied in varied legal and cultural contexts, have been selected to highlight implementation strategies and draw locally applicable lessons. The case study allowed the evaluation of the impact of these initiatives on the heirs and the authorities, as well as the identification of the challenges and solutions adopted.

A comparative analysis was carried out between the different digitization technologies used, including optical character recognition (OCR), blockchain, and encryption technologies. This approach aimed to evaluate the efficiency and security of each technology, as well as their compatibility with legal requirements. The comparison of technologies allowed the identification of solutions that can ensure the integrity, confidentiality, and accessibility of digital documents in a secure legal framework.

An essential section of the methodology included the analysis of risks and benefits associated with the digitization of heritage documents. Using the data obtained from the specialized literature, case studies, and interviews, the main advantages and vulnerabilities

of this process were identified. This analysis allowed the formulation of specific recommendations that could contribute to reducing the risks and maximising the benefits of the implementation of a digital system for the management of heritage documents.

The methodology structured in this way offers a comprehensive approach to evaluating the involvement of digitisation in the heritage process and its impact on the legal system, offering essential insights for the development of robust and efficient legislative and technological frameworks.

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE DIGITISATION OF INHERITANCE DOCUMENTS

The digitisation of heritage documents involves a complex set of legal regulations that must ensure compliance with national and international legislation and establish standards for the security and integrity of electronic documents. This chapter analyzes the applicable legal framework, highlighting critical aspects such as the legal validity of digital documents, data protection, and the interoperability of legal systems in the national and international framework.

In most jurisdictions, the digitisation of probate documents is regulated by a combination of national laws on succession, data protection, and the digitisation of official documents. In Romania, for example, the Civil Code regulates the general aspects of succession, but the procedures regarding electronic documents and their digitisation are covered by specific legislation, such as Law no. 455/2001[1] on electronic signature.

Internationally, the European Union introduced in 2014 the eIDAS Regulation (Electronic Identification, Authentication and Trust Services - Regulation no. 910/2014)[2] which establishes common rules for electronic identification and trust services in Europe. eIDAS provides a legal basis for the acceptance and recognition of electronic documents, including inheritance documents, thus ensuring cross-border interoperability. Member States are obliged to recognise electronic documents and digital signatures issued by other Member States, thereby facilitating the management of international legacies.

In other jurisdictions, such as the United States, the legal framework varies significantly from state to state. The Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (UETA)[3] and the Electronic

[1] Legea nr. 455 din 18 iulie 2001 privind semnătura electronică, publicat în Monitorul Oficial nr. 316 din 30 aprilie 2014, republicată în temeiul art. 248 din Legea nr. 187/2012 pentru punerea în aplicare a Legii nr. 286/2009 privind Codul penal, publicată în Monitorul Oficial al României, Partea I, nr. 757 din 12 noiembrie 2012, rectificată în Monitorul Oficial al României, Partea I, nr. 117 din 1 martie 2013.

[2] European Parliament & Council of the European Union. (2014). *Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC* (Consolidated text).

[3] National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. (1999). *The Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (UETA)*.

Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (ESIGN)[4] are instruments that recognize the legal validity of electronic documents and digital signatures, but do not specifically cover inheritance, leaving this regulation up to each state. These legal divergences can complicate the management of cross-border heritages and underline the need for a globally harmonized legal framework.

To ensure the security and validity of digital heritage documents, the legal framework also includes essential technical regulations and standards. In the European context, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)[5] provides strict rules for protecting the personal data of heirs and other parties involved in the succession process. According to the GDPR, all personal data used in digital legacies must be protected by appropriate technical and organisational measures, including data encryption and restricting access to authorised parties only.

In addition, security standards such as ISO 27001[6] are essential for managing and protecting digital data in legal systems. ISO 27001 provides an information security management framework and requires the adoption of strict data protection measures against unauthorised access or alteration. These standards are applied to ensure that heritage information is protected throughout the digitisation and storage process.

To support interoperability, the European Union promotes the use of standardised document formats, such as XML and PDF/A, that enable the easy integration of heritage documents into various electronic records and archiving systems. These formats comply with long-term archiving requirements, which ensures that digital documents remain accessible and readable years from now without loss of integrity.

Furthermore, globally, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) has issued the Model Law on Electronic Signatures[7] and the Model Law on Electronic Documents[8], essential documents that guide the recognition of digital documents in courts and other legal authorities. These legal models help states to adopt measures compatible with each other so that deeds of inheritance are recognised and valid in different jurisdictions.

The legal framework of the digitisation of heritage documents is a complex set of national and international regulations, technical standards, and data protection measures, all of which are essential to ensure a safe and reliable process. Applicable legislation and standards aim

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[4] U.S. Congress. (2000). *Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (ESIGN)*, Pub. L. No. 106-229, 114 Stat. 464.

[5] European Parliament & Council of the European Union. (2016). *Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (General Data Protection Regulation)*. Official Journal of the European Union, L 119, 1-88.

[6] International Organization for Standardization. (2013). *ISO/IEC 27001:2013 - Information technology - Security techniques - Information security management systems - Requirements*.

[7] United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). (2001). *Model law on electronic signatures*.

[8] United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). (2001). *Model law on electronic documents*.

not only to facilitate access to documents and reduce red tape, but also to protect the rights and interests of heirs in the digital age.

THE DIGITALIZATION PROCESS

The digitisation of inheritance documents involves a series of technological and administrative steps intended to ensure the authenticity, integrity, and confidentiality of legal documents. This chapter details the techniques and technologies used, the essential administrative and legal procedures, and the security measures required for data protection during the digitisation of heritage documents.

For the efficient and accurate digitisation of heritage documents, various technologies are used to convert physical documents into electronic formats and ensure the integrity of digitally stored data. Optical Character Recognition (OCR) converts printed documents into editable, searchable text files. This technology is essential for transforming scanned documents into digital documents that can be searched and managed in an electronic database. OCR reduces the need for physical storage and enables quick access to legal information via simple queries.[9]

Blockchain provides a distributed, secure ledger that can record and verify every change to a digital document, ensuring data integrity and traceability. In the case of legacy documents, the blockchain can be used to create an audit trail that records every change made to the document. This ensures that the data is protected against manipulation and that the documents are authentic and valid.[10].

Electronic signatures and encryption are essential for protecting and validating digital documents. Electronic signatures ensure the authenticity of the document, giving the heirs the assurance that a trusted authority issued it. Encryption, on the other hand, protects data during transfer and storage, preventing unauthorised access[11].

AI technologies automatically process and analyse data from their documents, helping classify and organise them by type, date of issue, or other legal criteria. Machine learning can also be used to identify risks or security issues in digital systems.

The digitisation of heritage documents involves not only technology but also a series of administrative and legal procedures to ensure the validity and compliance of digital documents with legal requirements. Issuance of digital inheritance documents is carried out by responsible legal authorities, such as notaries or courts, who ensure that each document

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[9] Robinson, F. (1974), *The Uses of OCR and COM in Information Work*, Program: electronic library and information systems, Vol. 8 No. 3, pp. 137-148. https://doi.org/10.1108/eb046705.

[10] Shetty, S., Red, V., Kamhoua, C., Kwiat, K., & Njilla, L. (2017). *Data provenance assurance in the cloud using blockchain*. Proceedings of SPIE, 10206, Disruptive Technologies in Sensors and Sensor Systems, 102060I. https://doi.org/10.1117/12.2266994.

[11] Afrianto, I., Heryandi, A., Finandhita, A., & Atin, S. (2020). *Prototype of E-Document application based on digital signatures to support digital document authentication*. IOP Conference Series: Materials Science and Engineering, 879(1), 012042. https://doi.org/10.1088/1757-899X/879/1/012042.

is issued and registered in accordance with applicable law. The validation process involves verifying the identities of the parties and the authenticity of the electronic signatures applied.

Digital documents are stored in electronic filing systems that are configured to ensure long-term access and data integrity. In general, authorities set clear rules on access to documents, ensuring that only authorised parties can access digital heritage documents.

Administrative procedures must comply with national and international data protection regulations, such as the GDPR. These include obtaining consent from the parties involved for data processing and taking measures to ensure the confidentiality of the heirs' personal information.

Inheritances often involve several institutions, such as notaries, banks, and courts. The transfer of digital documents between these institutions requires strict security protocols and standardised formats to ensure data compatibility and integrity throughout the process.

Security and confidentiality are priorities in the digitisation of inheritance documents, given the sensitive nature of the legal and personal information involved. Implementing rigorous safeguards prevents unauthorised access, data loss, and cyber vulnerabilities.

Multi-factor authentication is used to protect access to databases and digital documents. This method involves verifying the identity of users through multiple methods, such as passwords, biometric authentication, and unique access codes. MFA reduces the risk of unauthorised access and ensures that only legitimate users can access documents[12].

To prevent data interception in transit, encryption protocols such as Transport Layer Security (TLS) are used. Long-term encryption is also used to protect stored digital documents, ensuring that they cannot be accessed without an appropriate decryption key[13].

Continuous monitoring of access and use of digital documents helps quickly identify suspicious or unauthorised activities. Automated auditing systems record every access to and change of documents, allowing tracking of any security breach and taking the necessary steps to fix it.

Digital data must be regularly backed up and stored in secure locations to prevent loss in the event of technical problems or cyberattacks. Disaster recovery measures allow data to be restored quickly and operations to continue without major interruptions.

By implementing these technical measures and administrative procedures, the digitalization process of inheritance documents becomes a safe and efficient one, ensuring the protection and confidentiality of the heirs' data and complying with the applicable legal regulations. These technical standards and procedures contribute to the modernization of the legal field,

[12] Yu, X., & Xia, M. (2009). *Research on document management architectures based on hybrid authentication*. In Proceedings of the 2009 International Conference on Computational Intelligence and Software Engineering (pp. 1-4). IEEE. https://doi.org/10.1109/CISE.2009.5365851.

[13] Tennekoon, R., Wijekoon, J., & Nishi, H. (2018). *On the effectiveness of IP-routable entire-packet encryption service over public networks*. IEEE Access, 6, 73170-73179. https://doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2018.2882390.

facilitating heirs' access to the necessary documents and increasing the transparency and integrity of the inheritance process.

BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF DIGITALIZATION

The digitization of inheritance documents brings a series of advantages both for the heirs and for the authorities involved in the succession processes, contributing to the efficiency, transparency, and accessibility of the procedures. However, this transition also comes with specific challenges, including implementation hurdles, social acceptance, and security risks. In this chapter, the main benefits of the digitization of heritage documents, the challenges encountered in implementation, and the related risks are analyzed.

The digitization of inheritance documents has the potential to make the succession process simpler, faster, and more secure. Through digital systems, heirs can quickly and easily access the necessary documents, without the need for physical presence at notary offices or legal institutions. Accessing documents through online platforms reduces waiting time and eliminates excessive red tape, thus providing a more efficient process for all involved.

Digitization contributes to the reduction of administrative costs for legal institutions, by eliminating traditional procedures for archiving and storing physical documents. Heirs also benefit from savings in time and resources, as digital procedures are less expensive and more convenient than traditional ones.

Digital documents can be registered and monitored in a centralized or distributed system, thus ensuring the traceability of every change made to the documents. Technologies such as blockchain ensure an audit chain, giving heirs and authorities an additional guarantee of the integrity and authenticity of documents, which reduces the risk of fraud.

Encryption and electronic authentication technologies ensure that documents are protected against unauthorized access and fraudulent changes. Heirs and authorities can thus trust that the data is safe and that the digital documents are just as valid and protectable as the physical documents.

The implementation of the digitization of inheritance documents is not without challenges, affecting both the authorities and the beneficiaries. Implementing a digital system requires significant investment in technology infrastructure, document management software, and staff training. For public authorities, these initial costs can be a barrier to rapid implementation, especially in areas where financial resources are limited[14].

In a traditionalist world like the legal field, the implementation of digitization often meets resistance from professionals who are used to traditional methods. Notaries, lawyers, and other categories of professionals may be reluctant to accept digital processes due to distrust or lack of familiarity with new technologies.

Since each country or even each institution may have its own digitization and security standards, there is a risk that the systems will be incompatible with each other. This can

[14] Vassilakis, C., Lepouras, G., Fraser, J., Haston, S., & Georgiadis, P. (2005). *Barriers to Electronic Service Development*. e-Service Journal 4(1), 41-63. https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/esj.2006.0004.

complicate the inheritance process in cross-border cases, where documents must be recognized and accepted in several jurisdictions.

The digitization of inheritance documents is governed by different regulations at the international level, which creates difficulties in implementing a uniform system. The lack of a unified legal framework at the global level can lead to problems in the recognition of digital documents between countries and can complicate the process of international heritage management.

While digitization comes with many benefits, it also involves risks that require careful management to ensure the safety of data and legal documents. Digital heritage documents can be targets for cyber attacks given their legal and personal value. Security breaches or ransomware attacks can compromise the confidentiality and integrity of documents, jeopardizing heirs' data and, implicitly, the outcome of estates. In this context, security measures such as encryption and multi-factor authentication become essential for the protection of this sensitive data.

Although modern technologies such as blockchain help protect the integrity of documents, the risk of manipulation or forgery cannot be eliminated. Deeds of inheritance can be exposed to the risk of unauthorized alteration or even the creation of false duplicates, which can lead to disputes and conflicts between heirs.

Inheritance deeds often contain sensitive information about the people involved, including personal data and financial information. If data protection measures are not adequate, there is a risk that this information may be exposed or accessed by unauthorized parties, violating the right to privacy of the heirs and the parties involved.

Another major risk of digitization is technology dependency. Electronic storage systems and digital infrastructure must be maintained and constantly updated to avoid data loss or access problems. In the event of a technical failure or natural disaster, there is a risk that digital documents will be lost or damaged, which can complicate the inheritance process and cause significant financial losses[15].

CASE STUDIES

In this chapter, some examples of digitization of heritage documents implemented in various jurisdictions are analyzed to identify lessons learned, benefits achieved, and challenges encountered. These examples illustrate how digitization can streamline the succession process and can serve as models for other countries considering adopting a similar system.

[15] Lee, K.-H., Slattery, O., Lu, R., Tang, X., & McCrary, V. (2002). *The state of the art and practice in digital preservation*. Journal of Research of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, 107(1), 93–106. 10.6028/jres.107.010.

Digitization of inheritance documents in Estonia

Estonia is considered one of the global pioneers in the field of administrative and legal digitization. The Estonian government has implemented a national digital platform, e-Estonia, which facilitates citizens' access to legal documents, including inheritance deeds, through an electronic identity[16].

Heirs can access probate documents online, eliminating the need for physical presence and reducing processing time. The platform uses electronic identity authentication and digital signatures to ensure that documents are authentic and protected against unauthorized changes.

Estonia uses blockchain technology to ensure the traceability of digital documents and prevent unauthorized changes. Every change to a document is recorded in a distributed ledger, ensuring transparency and security for heirs and authorities.

Digitization of inheritance documents in Estonia has brought significant advantages, such as reduced costs and red tape. However, the implementation of this system required significant resources and extensive training of citizens and authorities, so that they are familiar with the use of digital technologies in the legal field.

Digitization initiatives in the European Union

The European Union has made progress in regulating and facilitating the use of digital documents in legal processes, including succession law. By adopting directives and regulations such as eIDAS, the EU has established a legal framework that recognizes the legal value of electronic signatures and digital documents across the Union.

The eIDAS system allows member states to mutually recognize electronic signatures and digital certificates issued in other EU countries. Thus, heirs and lawyers from different states can collaborate more effectively in the case of international succession.

The EU has started the project of a European digital register for inheritance documents, to be implemented to centralize and validate inheritance documents from all member states[17].

This initiative facilitates the inheritance process for citizens of EU Member States, but implementation requires complex coordination between national authorities, which can delay streamlining the process and create difficulties in the interoperability of digital systems.

[16] Vassil, K. (2015). *Estonian e-Government ecosystem: Foundation, applications, outcomes*. Institute of Government and Politics, University of Tartu.

[17] van Erp, S., & Zimmermann, K. (2022). The EU succession certificate: From standardization to digitalization. ERA Forum, 23(2), 267–276. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12027-022-00716-7.

United States - Digital probate systems in Delaware

Delaware has implemented a pilot system to digitize probate documents, allowing access to probate documents through an online platform. The pilot project was carried out in collaboration with the private sector to ensure a secure and efficient document management system[18].

The platform uses advanced data authentication and encryption methods, providing access to succession documents only to authorized persons, such as their heirs and attorneys. Delaware has developed protocols for recognizing digital documents issued in other states, thereby facilitating interstate inheritances.

While the system has proven the effectiveness of digitization in Delaware, it also highlights the need for a uniform national legal framework for recognizing digital documents across states. In addition, data protection remains a challenge, especially in the context of cyber attacks that can compromise confidential data.

These case studies provide a solid foundation for the development of efficient and secure digital systems that can facilitate the succession process and increase accessibility to important legal documents for citizens.

RESULTS

The study on the digitization of inheritance documents highlights both the benefits and challenges of this process in transforming traditional succession procedures. Digitization has demonstrated a significant positive impact on the efficiency and accessibility of documents for heirs, providing transparency and reducing administrative costs for authorities. Modern technologies such as blockchain and advanced encryption have proven essential to ensure the security and integrity of digital heritage documents, enabling traceability, protection against unauthorized changes, and secure user authentication.

However, the digitization process involves significant challenges. Nationally and internationally, the legal framework needs adjustments to recognize and validate digital documents, especially in cross-border successions. Complex technology infrastructure and cyber risks are critical, and adapting to new administrative processes requires both resource investment and user training. Also, the reluctance of heirs and legal professionals in the face of change is a barrier to adoption, which is why an information and education campaign on the benefits and safety of digital solutions is necessary.

[18] Delaware County Court of Common Pleas. (n.d.). Online services. Delaware County Court of Common Pleas. Retrieved November 9th, 2024, from https://www.delcopa.gov/row/online.html.

Case studies from Estonia, the European Union, and Delaware have demonstrated that international coordination and a standardized framework for the recognition of digital documents can facilitate implementation. Successful initiatives have shown that traceability, interoperability, and cyber protection are central to a functioning heritage digitization system, and the experiences of these countries offer valuable lessons for other jurisdictions.

The digitization of inheritance documents is a promising direction for the modernization of succession procedures, but its success depends on the establishment of a clear legal framework, the implementation of secure technologies, and cooperation between authorities. The digital transformation of estates requires legislative and technical adaptations at the global level, together with initiatives to train and educate citizens and professionals, to achieve an accessible, secure, and efficient inheritance system.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Digitizing succession documents brings numerous benefits, including reducing red tape, improving accessibility for heirs, authorities, and professionals, as well as increasing the efficiency of the succession process. Encryption and blockchain technologies can ensure a high level of security and transparency, preventing fraud and unauthorized changes to documents.

Implementation challenges are significant but manageable. Although digitization represents a major opportunity, the process is accompanied by difficulties, such as resistance to change by professionals and citizens, the complexity of the infrastructure required, as well as the risks associated with cyber security. In addition, international recognition of digital heritage documents and interoperability between different jurisdictions are issues that require a clear and harmonized legal framework.

International regulations and standards are essential for the success of global digitization. International initiatives such as eIDAS in the European Union and successful examples in Estonia and Delaware demonstrate the importance of a globalized legal framework that enables cross-border recognition of digital documents. Without uniform regulation and standardization, implementation will remain fragmented and ineffective.

Cyber risks remain a major concern and protecting the sensitive data of heirs and people involved in the inheritance process is crucial. Cyber security technologies such as advanced encryption and multi-factor authentication must be implemented to prevent unauthorized access and guarantee data protection.

It is necessary to adopt a clear legal framework to regulate the digitization of inheritance documents both at the national and international levels. It should ensure the recognition of digital documents and establish validation and authentication procedures to support cross-border succession transactions. Regulations such as eIDAS should be extended and strengthened to encourage the widespread adoption of electronic signatures and digital documents.

Successful implementation of digitization requires significant investment in IT infrastructure and training. Authorities must allocate resources to build secure and easily accessible digital platforms, and legal professionals and citizens must be educated about their benefits and use.

To protect personal data and prevent cyber-attacks, authorities and legal institutions must implement state-of-the-art cyber security technologies, including encryption and constant monitoring of systems. It is also important to establish clear data recovery protocols in the event of a security incident.

One of the main obstacles to implementing digitization is resistance to change, both from legal professionals and citizens. It is important to organize educational campaigns that promote the benefits of digitization and explain how it can improve access and the legacy process, ensuring that people involved in estates understand how to use the new digital platforms.

Instead of immediate large-scale implementation, a gradual approach is recommended, with pilot projects in specific regions or jurisdictions. This would allow the system to be tested, and technical and administrative issues identified and resolved before expanding the implementation nationally or internationally.

The digitization of heritage documents should not be considered a completed project after implementation. The authorities and institutions must constantly monitor the efficiency and security of the system, ensuring that the technology remains up-to-date and adapted to new challenges and technological developments.

In conclusion, the digitization of inheritance documents has the potential to transform the succession process into a faster, safer, and more accessible system. However, to maximize the benefits and overcome the challenges, a concerted effort between national and international authorities, professionals and citizens is essential.

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17. Delaware County Court of Common Pleas. (n.d.). Online services. Delaware County Court of Common Pleas. Retrieved November 9th, 2024, from https://www.delcopa.gov/row/online.html.