

Policing with Big Data: Cybersecurity and the Other Risks of Data-Driven Control in Digital Societies

One-day Workshop, 27 October 2025

Department of Legal Sciences, University of Bologna

Via Galliera 3, Bologna (Sala Kelsen, 2nd floor)

PROGRAMME

9.30 – 10.00

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Federico Casolari, Head of Department, DSG, University of Bologna

10.00 – 11.00

Keynote Speech

Pete Fussey (University of Southampton): *Reconsidering rights and ethics in the era of digital policing*

11.00 – 13.00

Plenary Session – Artificial Intelligence and Predictive Policing: Imaginaries, Practices and Legal Challenges

Elisabetta Pietrocarlo (Luiss University): *Predictive Policing and Criminal Law in the Age of the AI Act: Between Technological Promises and Legal Limits*

Vasilis Galis (IT University of Copenhagen): *Policing the polycrisis*

Giorgos Mattes (St Andrews University): *Policing as a Platform? The inflation of state knowledge in Sweden's digital policing*

Yannis Efthymiou (University of Tampere): *Surveillance and Data Driven Counteraction in the Nordic Context*

Matteo Buffa (University of Milano): *Automating Asylum: between Efficiency and Justice*

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch Break

14.00 – 15.00

Keynote Speech

Rosamunde Elise van Brakel (Vrije Universiteit Brussel): *Shifting the criminological gaze: 'More-than-human' harms of digital crime control*

15.00 – 16.30

Parallel Session 1 – AI and Security Governance: From Cities to Borders

(Sala Kelsen)

Anita Lavorgna (University of Bologna): *Sociotechnical imaginaries of artificial intelligence: a focus on crime and security*

Eleonora Di Molfetta (University of Milano-Bicocca): *Between Technology and Tradition: Security Governance and Policing in the City of Milan*

Annalisa Triggiano (Scuola Superiore Universitaria Sant'Anna Pisa): *From Ports to Policing: AI, and Governance-by-Design Approach in Maritime Security*

Alice Caputo (Università telematica Uninettuno): *Facial recognition for public security purposes: delicate balancing acts between security needs and fundamental rights and freedoms in light of the AI Act and the processes of criminalization through algorithms*

Parallel Session 2 – Algorithmic Emotions, Agency, and Surveillance Practices

(Sala Russell)

Ilenia Bruna Marraffa (Independent): *Data, Emotions and Power. Understanding emotional governance in algorithmic processes*

Chiara Grieco (University of Foggia): *Simbiotic Agency – The Impact of a Fledgling Concept*

Leonardo Marchesin (University of Padova): *Dataveillance to surveillance, surveillance to deterrence. Predictive policing between conditioning human behaviour and chilling effect*

16.30 – 17.00

Coffee Break

17.00 – 18.30

Parallel Session 3 – Algorithmic Justice and the Transformation of Legal Processes

(Sala Kelsen)

Fenice Valentina Valenti (University of Catanzaro): *Algorithmic Due Process: The Epistemological Challenge of Predictive Policing and Synthetic Evidence in Criminal Proceedings*

Mariagisa Landolfi (University of Bologna): *From cybersecurity to criminal proceedings: opportunities and challenges of cyber deception*

Nicola Lettieri (University of Sannio) *Of data, stones, and justice. Notes from a computational crime analysis project*

Parallel Session 4 – Authoritarianism, Spyware, and Biometric Surveillance (Sala Russell)

Palma Pujia (University of Catanzaro): *From face to trial: the metamorphosis of SARI between biometric surveillance and criminal justice*

Riccardo Allegri (University of Palermo): *The Russian Path to Digital Authoritarianism: Big Data, AI, and the Suppression of Dissent*

Sofia Verza (European University Institute) and Dimitri Bettoni (Osservatorio Balcani Caucaso Transeuropa): *Give me your data: the use of spywares against journalists in Europe*

Organisation: Giulia Fabini, Alvis Sbraccia, Raffaella Brighi, Department of Legal Sciences, University of Bologna. @info: giulia.fabini@unibo.it



SERICS
SECURITY AND RIGHTS IN THE CYBERSPACE

Finanziato dall'Unione Europea - NextGenerationEU attraverso il Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca italiano nell'ambito del PNRR – Missione 4 Componente 2, Investimento 1.3 “Partenariati estesi a Università, centri di ricerca, imprese e finanziamento progetti di ricerca”, Avviso MUR n. 341 del 15/03/2022, Progetto SERICS - SEcurity and Rights in the CyberSpace, Codice proposta: PE00000014, CUP: J33C22002810001, finanziato con Decreto MUR n. 1556 del 11/10/2022