



**SUMMER TRAINING SCHOOL
MIGRATION AND MOBILITY
IN THE DIGITAL AGE**



3 July 2023 – 7 July 2023 (hybrid mode)

3rd edition

COORDINATORS

Mario Savino
Daniela Vitiello

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Giulia Del Turco
Francesco Luigi Gatta

TUTORS / TRAINERS

Raul Belúcio
Jovana Bogićević
Giampiero Cassola
Cristina Milano
Michela Tuozzo

OPENING ADDRESS

Dear colleagues, dear participants,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to the third edition of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence on the Integration of Migrants in Europe (IntoME) Summer Training School (STS).

The STS is a 5-day intensive course on the pros and cons of using new technologies and big data in the management of migration flows and migrants' access to services.

Highly renowned scholars and experts in the field have committed to discussing key issues around four key dimensions: *i*) the progressive datafication of EU borders and its socio-political consequences; *ii*) the fundamental rights implications of data-driven borders; *iii*) the accountability concerns and regulatory aspects behind the use of digital technologies to manage migratory movements; *iv*) the role of new technologies for the integration of migrants.

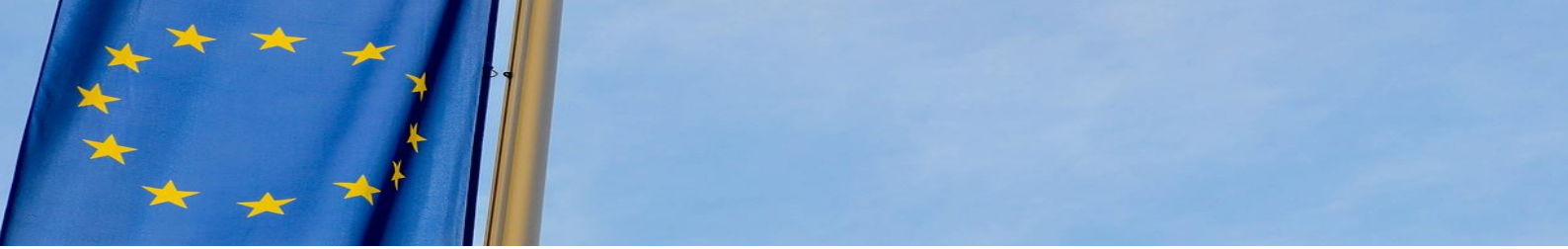
The first four afternoons of the STS will be devoted to training sessions in which you will all be protagonists. With the help of our trainers, you will have the opportunity to discuss a number of selected topics from a variety of perspectives, including legal, political, social and economic.

We hope that the STS will be an enriching and productive experience for all.

Enjoy it!

Mario Savino and Daniela Vitiello

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TEACHING PROGRAMME



MONDAY 3 JULY: *The New European Borders: The Role of Technology in Immigration Control*

10.00-11.30: *AI and Migration Management: Potentialities and Perils*

DERYA OZKUL – University of Oxford (online)

11.40-13.00: *EU Border Control Procedures: Accessibility of Information and Data Quality Issues*

MATTHIAS LEESE – ETH Zurich (online)

TUESDAY 4 JULY: *Who's Big Data For? Governing Human Mobility Through Technology*

10.00-11.30: *On Databases, Infrastructural Fragility and Algorithmic Power in European Security*

ROCCO BELLANOVA – Vrije Universiteit Brussel (online)

11.40-13.00: *Improving the Asylum System? The Role of AI in International Protection Procedure*

FRANCESCA PALMIOTTO – European University Institute (on site)

WEDNESDAY 5 JULY: *Roles and Challenges of Data Science in Predicting International Human Mobility*

10.00-11.30: *Big Data and Migration: Can We Anticipate Future Migration Flows?*

MARCELLO CARAMMIA – University of Catania (on site)

11.40-13.00: *AI-Driven Predictions of Migrants Movements: Regulatory Issues and Fundamental Rights Consequences*

GRAZIELLA ROMEO – Bocconi University (on site)

THURSDAY 6 JULY: *The Fundamental Rights Impact of AI and Automated Decision-Making in Migration Management*

10.00-11.30: *Programming the Machine: Algorithmic Bias and Discrimination in Immigration Decisions*

NIOVI VAVOULA – Queen Mary University of London (on site)

11.40-13.00: *AI Failures at EU Borders: Fundamental Rights Implications and Accountability Concerns*

MIRKO FORTI – Tuscia University (on site)

FRIDAY 7 JULY: *Migrants' Inclusion 4.0: The Role of ICTs*

10.00-11.30: *Migrants' Integration: The Role of ICT Based Solutions*

MARYAM KARIMI – Politecnico di Milano (online)

11.40-13.00: *Digital Divide and Social Inclusion of Forced Migrants in Host Communities*

OLGA USACHOVA – University of Padova (online)



TRAINING SESSIONS



TRAINING SESSION 1 – Policy paper

Topic: *AI at EU Borders and Compliance with Fundamental Rights: A Feasibility Check*

MONDAY 3 JULY

14.30-16.30: *Working group session*

Participants will be divided into working groups and tasked with discussing the role of new digital technologies in the context of border control. The European Parliament's recent analysis identifies four main categories of AI applications: 1) biometric identification (automated fingerprint and facial recognition); 2) emotion recognition; 3) algorithmic risk assessment; and 4) AI tools for migration monitoring, analysis and forecasting. The use of technological tools has several advantages: it allows faster implementation of controls related to the issuance of visas or other entry procedures, prediction of migration trends and security threats. However, these benefits must be balanced against the significant risks that these technologies pose to fundamental rights guaranteed by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (such as the right to private and family life and the protection of personal data). Each group will appoint a team leader who, with the help of other group members and under the supervision of the trainers, will be responsible for collecting the results of the group discussion and summarising them in a 2-page policy paper. The policy paper may refer to [Proposal for a Regulation on Artificial Intelligence](#) and the [Coordinated Plan on Artificial Intelligence](#) announced by the Commission in April 2021, with a view to proposing amendments to ensure the protection of fundamental rights of persons subjected to AI systems in the context of migration control.

Before the start of the plenary session, team leaders will share the policy papers with the trainers (via email: intome@unitus.it).

TUESDAY 4 JULY

14.30-16.00: *Plenary session*

Each group, represented by their own team leader, will take the floor to present their group's position on the issue. Each presentation will last a maximum of 20 minutes and will be followed by a 10-minute question and answer session. All participants are encouraged to ask questions and actively participate in the debate, bearing in mind that their active participation will be evaluated by the jury of trainers to determine the winner. The jury will identify the winning group according to the following criteria: quality and coherence of the policy paper; performance of the team leader during the plenary session; active participation of other group members in the Q&A session. The best policy paper will be published on the official website of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence on the Integration of Migrants in Europe: <https://www.intome.eu/>.

TRAINING SESSIONS



TRAINING SESSION 2 – Position paper

Topic: *Asylum system in the AI era: security concerns and fundamental rights implications*

WEDNESDAY 5 JULY

14.30-16.30: *Working group session*

Participants will be divided into four working groups representing the interests of different parties (EU Commission, national governments, European Asylum Support Office, NGOs) and will be tasked with drafting a position paper on the use of AI-based tools for monitoring and forecasting migration trends and security threats. Participants will be asked to reflect on specific issues (e.g. prediction of humanitarian crises and subsequent movements of asylum seekers, fundamental rights and discrimination risks, data-driven border management tools). Each group will identify a team leader who will be responsible for collecting the results of the group discussions and organising them into a 2-page position paper, with the help of other group members and under the supervision of the trainers. [Here](#) is a guide on how to write a position paper. Before the beginning of the plenary session, the position papers should be sent by the team leaders to the trainers (via e-mail: intome@unitus.it).

THURSDAY 6 JULY

14.30-16.00: *Plenary session*

Each group, represented by its own team leader, will take the floor to present their group's position paper on the topic. Each presentation will last a maximum of 20 minutes and will be followed by a 10-minute question and answer session. All participants are encouraged to ask questions and actively participate in the debate, bearing in mind that their active participation will be evaluated by the jury of trainers to determine the winner. The jury will determine the winning group based on the quality and consistency of the position paper, the performance of the team leader in the plenary session and the active participation of the other group members in the question-and-answer sessions. The best policy paper will be published on the official website of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence on the Integration of Migrants in Europe: <https://www.intome.eu/>.

VENUES



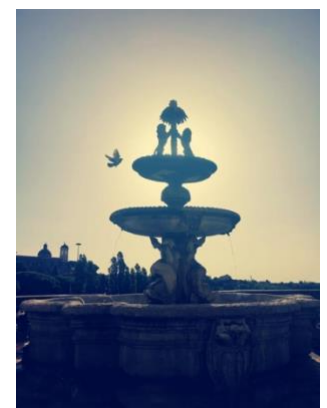
VITERBO – Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, History, Philosophy and Law (DISTU) at Tuscia University (Monday 3 July – Thursday 6 July)

Viterbo is a medieval city located at the foot of the Cimini Mountains, northwest of Rome. Of Etruscan origin, the city was conquered by the Romans around 310 BC. In 774 Viterbo became one of the Lombard cities of Tuscany and in the 11th century it was given to the Pope by Matilda of Tuscany. An independent commune and episcopal see from 1193, Viterbo caused three centuries of disputes between the papacy and the Holy Roman Empire before becoming a papal possession in 1396. Viterbo became the capital of Catholicism in 1257 when Pope Alexander IV moved the papal court to the city to avoid civil unrest in Rome, but its importance declined after the papacy was transferred to Avignon, France, in 1309. Although almost 70% of the city was destroyed in the Second World War, it was one of the first cities in Italy to complete post-war reconstruction.

Viterbo is located in the heart of the ancient Etruscan region, and throughout the area you'll find indelible and interesting remnants of this civilisation, as well as Roman remains. The county was called Tuscia and is full of Roman and Etruscan remains, such as necropolises, roads, bridges and ancient thermal baths; amphitheatres (Sutri, Ferento); villas (Calvisiana, Varroniana). The signs of a glorious past are everywhere in the towns of Tarquinia, Tuscania, Vulci, Cerveteri, Veio, Faleri, Sutri and Ferento. Nearby is the famous Monster Park of Bomarzo and the "impossible" town of Civita di Bagnoregio, perched on its plateau and surrounded by strange and unusual gorges.

Viterbo has many enchanting alleyways; its medieval quarter is lovely to wander around by day and also in the evening with its suffused light and romantic air. There are several great museums, beautiful churches and pretty squares to enjoy. But the city of Viterbo is indelibly linked to the Popes, which remains its historical claim to fame. It is called "La Città dei Papi" – the city of the popes – and its main attraction is, unsurprisingly, the Papal Palace.

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, History, Philosophy and Law (DISTU) is located in the monumental complex of St Charles, which has been completely restored by the University and is situated within the ancient city walls. The building includes the 12th-century three-nave Church of St Charles, which houses the Aula Magna, with high-tech audiovisual and multimedia facilities; the convent, with a garden courtyard, which accommodates, among other things, the classrooms, the library and the computer laboratories; and the inner park, with a car park and a well-equipped student area.





VENUES



ROCCA DEI PAPI IN MONTEFIASCONE (Friday 7 July)

The Rocca dei Papi (Fortress of the Popes) is situated on the highest hill of Montefiascone, in an area already inhabited in prehistoric times. The Fortezza attained particular importance in the Middle Ages, when it was chosen by Pope Innocent III as the seat of the Rector of the Patrimony of St. Peter in Tuscia. It was an important political and institutional centre when it hosted the papal legates sent from Avignon because of the Avignonese captivity. From 1058 until almost the end of 1500, more than 30 popes, emperors and famous personalities lived there in succession. They stayed there for short or long periods, convened parliaments or spent their summer holidays. Urbano V chose it as his summer residence during the years of his Italian residence (1367 - 1370) and he ordered some important restoration works, including the creation of a large cistern dug in the square opposite the palace, from which an underground entrance was connected to a tunnel that ended far from the fortress. During the pontificate of Pope Giulio II della Rovere, the architect Antonio da Sangallo the Younger was responsible for the last interventions in the fortress, which were completed in 1516 during the pontificate of Pope Leone X.

We owe to Sangallo the design of the Renaissance courtyard and the consolidation of the internal walls. Today the building consists of a courtyard with visible archaeological remains. The Rocca dei Papi is made up of two large upper rooms: the Innocent III Hall and the Leone X Exhibition Hall, both of which are often used for cultural events and meetings. The lower rooms of the fortress house the "Antonio da Sangallo the Younger Museum of Architecture" (1484 - 1546), which exhibits wooden sculptures by Sangallo relating to buildings in Rome and northern Lazio.

The current setting, renovated in the 1980s thanks to regional contributions, displays a series of beautiful plastic models and a large series of panels depicting the most important works of the Renaissance artist. From the angular tower, known as the "Pilgrim's Tower", the highest vantage point in the town of Montefiascone, you can enjoy a spectacular view of Lake Bolsena and the surrounding countryside. It was inaugurated on 25 September 2005 by some members of the European Association of the Via Francigena.





SPEAKERS



AI and Migration Management: Potentialities and Perils

In this lecture, we will discuss the increasing use of digital technologies within the realm of so-called ‘migration management’. We will cover a wide range of technologies, including those used for surveillance, such as drones in border areas and electronic monitoring (facial recognition-based smartwatches and GPS ankle tags) within territories. We will also explore technologies used to categorise and assess applicants, such as triage systems, profiling and risk assessments. We will look at how technology is used to forecast migration and displacement and delve into tested technologies around emotion and behaviour recognition. Throughout the lecture, I will provide case studies of each technology used and tested across Europe and discuss the associated operational and ethical issues. After an overview of the proposed AI Act and its limitations, in the final section, we will explore the use of biometric technologies and machine learning in registering and distributing humanitarian aid within the humanitarian space. We will also examine the concept of informed consent and the implications of a lack of transparency among refugee populations.

DERYA OZKUL



Derya Ozkul is a Senior Research Fellow at the Refugee Studies Centre, Department of International Development, University of Oxford. Her work explores migration policies (or the lack of policies) and their impact on migrants and refugees. Her most recent research explores the use of new technologies in migration and asylum governance and their impact on migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. Derya is currently working on the *Algorithmic Fairness for Asylum Seekers and Refugees* (AFAR) project. Before coming to Oxford, she was working at the University of Sydney, where she taught various modules, including *Introduction to Sociology*, *Sociological Theory*, *Sociology of Terrorism* and *Human Rights and Social Protest*. She has published on a range of migration-related issues. Her work can be found on the following platforms: [Google Scholar](#).



SPEAKERS



MATTHIAS LEESE



EU Border Control Procedures: Accessibility of Information and Data Quality Issues

Digital knowledge infrastructures (i.e., databases and algorithmically mediated analysis tool) form the backbone of EU internal security. The regulation of matters related to security and mobility is, in other words, largely contingent on the production, sharing, and analysis of digital data about mobile populations and the threats or benefits they bring with them.

This lecture will look into the subject matter through the lens of data practices, i.e., the ways in which data are crafted and handled throughout their lifecycle and their journeys through different organizations and database actors. In doing so, it highlights how data are key in bringing the phenomena to be regulated into being in the first place. Furthermore, it shows how interactions between humans and data plays a crucial role in doing so.

To illustrate the argument, the lecture will first engage with PNR data and their analysis for counterterrorism and the fight against serious crime in the EU. Based on empirical research, it shows the different data practices that are necessary to turn PNR data into actionable intelligence. In a second step, the lecture engages the question of data quality in large-scale EU databases for security and mobility. It shows how data quality is politically addressed in different ways by the Commission and the Council.

Matthias Leese is Assistant Professor for Technology and Governance at the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Science, ETH Zurich. His research is interested in the effects of digital technologies on social order. It pays specific attention to security organizations and their rationales and practices that are co-constituted between the technological and the social.

SPEAKERS



On Databases, Infrastructural Fragility and Algorithmic Power in European Security

This lecture foregrounds the crucial importance of databases for European security. It first does so by surfacing their role along other elements that have come to characterize the creation of the European Union Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ). Then, rather than merely emphasizing their promises in terms of population control and management, the lecture suggests approaching them as fragile entities. Building on the research work carried out with Georgios Glouftsiou, the lecture attempts to investigate the relation between infrastructural fragility and algorithmic power in the domain of European security. Much research at the intersection of Science and Technology Studies and Critical Security/Border Studies highlights how old and new data practices foster the powers of public authorities in the domain of policing, migration and border controls. Notably, large-scale databases and the connection between diverse systems could be considered foundational for European Union (EU) security. In this contribution I propose to supplement this literature by suggesting exploring the fragility of such mighty data infrastructures. What are their infrastructural fragilities and how do they relate to something we can understand as algorithmic power? How does infrastructural fragility inform power relations in the domain of European security? The point of departure of my exploration is the EU Court of Justice's judgement on the so-called PNR Directive, adopted in June 2022. The Court's reasoning offers us the occasion to explore the fragility of a high-tech information system that automatically pre-assesses millions of travelers' data (Passenger Name Records/PNR) against multiple databases and pre-determined criteria. It also offers us the possibility to unpack how infrastructural fragility, for example the high number of errors and the data workload that these errors trigger, may end up strengthening some forms of algorithmic power. These forms of algorithmic power deserve to be better understood because they affect too how European security is practiced, and not only how it is envisioned at the level of much policy debate.

ROCCO BELLANOVA



Rocco Bellanova is a Research Professor at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (interdisciplinary research group Law, Science, Technology & Society-LSTS). He is the PI of the ERC Starting Grant project DATAUNION - The European Data Union: European Security Integration through Database Interoperability. He is a co-editor of *Big Data & Society* and a member of the Editorial Board of *Tecnoscienza-Italian Journal of Science & Technology Studies*. His work sits at the intersection of politics, law, and science and technology studies. He studies how digital data become pivotal elements in the governing of societies. His research focuses on European security practices and the role of data protection therein.

SPEAKERS



FRANCESCA PALMIOTTO



Improving the Asylum System? The Role of AI in International Protection Procedure

In recent years, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has gained significant attention in various fields, including the realm of asylum procedures. This lecture aims to explore the role of AI in international protection procedures, with a particular focus on the European perspective. This lecture aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the role of AI in asylum procedures, enabling participants to gain a nuanced understanding of the current landscape and contribute to ongoing debates surrounding the improvement of the asylum system. The introductory section provides a brief overview of AI, outlining its capabilities and potential impact on different fundamental rights. Moving forward, the lecture delves into the specific application of AI in asylum procedures, discussing both the global and European contexts. Next, the lecture addresses the rationale behind incorporating AI in the asylum system, emphasising the alleged benefits for asylum decision-making. However, it is essential to recognise and critically examine the risks associated with AI implementation. The lecture highlights the potential impact on fundamental rights and fairness, urging a careful evaluation of these risks to prevent undue harm to individuals seeking international protection. The regulatory framework within the European Union is explored, focusing on key aspects such as asylum procedures, data protection, and the recently introduced AI Act. By understanding the existing legal framework, participants can gain insights into the current safeguards and challenges surrounding the use of AI in international protection procedures. Moreover, a case study on the use of mobile phone data in Germany is presented to illustrate the practical implications of AI implementation within the asylum system. This case study provides real-life examples and fosters a deeper understanding of the complexities involved. The lecture concludes with a group discussion, inviting participants to critically engage with the topic and explore ways to improve the asylum system while considering the benefits and risks associated with the use of AI. By encouraging active dialogue, this session aims to foster innovative ideas and potential solutions to enhance the international protection procedure.

Dr. Francesca Palmiotto is a postdoctoral researcher at Hertie School's Centre for Fundamental Rights working in the project "AFAR: Algorithmic Fairness for Asylum Seekers and Refugees" funded by the Volkswagen Foundation. Francesca is the co-founder and editor of the blog DigiCon (The Digital Constitutionalist). Her research interests are related more broadly to law and tech, with a specific focus on the procedural fairness of automated decisions and evidence. She holds a PhD from the European University Institute. Her thesis is entitled "Artificial Intelligence and the transformation of criminal trials: Preserving fairness in Europe". She graduated magna cum laude from the Law Faculty University of Turin and obtained an LL.M. in Comparative, European and International Laws from the EUI. She is currently involved in CLAUDETTE, an interdisciplinary research project hosted at EUI that aims to develop machine learning software for consumer and data protection law enforcement, as well as in the project UN-OWNED DATA at the Robert Shuman Center.



SPEAKERS



Big Data and Migration: Can We Anticipate Future Migration Flows?

Can artificial intelligence algorithms analyse and predict migration? How are such systems designed, and how are (or could) they be used in national, European, or international migration agencies? In this seminar, we address these questions focusing primarily on ongoing efforts in asylum agencies. We briefly outline the scientific challenge of predicting unpredictable processes (or in less pessimistic terms, how to model complex systems). We then review some work carried out in European agencies and look at how innovative approaches can fit into more established analytical approaches. Finally, we discuss potential implications, opportunities and risks.

MARCELLO CARAMMIA



Marcello Carammia is an Associate Professor in Political Science at the University of Catania, which he joined in 2020. Between 2015 and 2019 he was a Senior Researcher at the European Union Asylum Agency, where he was responsible for the Agency's Research programme on the push and pull factors of asylum-related migration. Previously he was a Senior Lecturer in comparative European politics at the University of Malta. His research focuses on the comparative analysis of institutions and policy processes, with special interest in the interaction between migration processes, politics, and policy. He is a founding co-director of the Italian Agendas Project and of the European Union Agendas Project. His articles appeared in such journals as *European Union Politics*, *International Interactions*, the *International Migration Review*, the *Italian Political Science Review*, the *Journal of Common Market Studies*, the *Journal of European Public Policy*, the *Policy Studies Journal*, and *Nature Scientific Reports*.



SPEAKERS



GRAZIELLA ROMEO

AI-Driven Predictions of Migrants Movements: Regulatory Issues and Fundamental Rights Consequences

Algorithmic prediction has the capacity to address various questions: What level of migratory flows can a state accommodate? How much immigration does the same state require to ensure the sustainability of its welfare system or to stabilize certain socially relevant indicators? The questions posed (and the corresponding answers) have a profound impact on the development of immigration policies and subsequently influence the legal solutions aimed at managing the scale and nature of migratory flows. Scholars in the field of social science have cautioned against the ‘political risks’ associated with algorithmic prediction. These risks encompass the potential for states to employ predictions to make opportunistic choices in their migration policies. For instance, states may opt to intensify border control measures to prevent the arrival of migrants, even if it entails violating the prohibition of *non-refoulement*. Furthermore, predictions can be exploited to bolster populist narratives surrounding migration, portraying migratory flows as a disruption to both the cultural and social fabric of the political community. Against this backdrop, the lecture delves into the legal challenges arising from algorithmic prediction of migrant arrivals. It explores the feasibility of addressing these challenges through the lens of political equality. Specifically, the lecture examines whether the use of predictive algorithms can facilitate an informed public debate on migration and, consequently, stimulate the adoption of rational policies free from emotional biases in this domain. The lecture provides insights into the utilization of predictive algorithms within migration policies.



Graziella Romeo is an Associate Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law at Bocconi University, where she is also stream director of the desk *Democracy, Solidarity and Governance* within the Bocconi Lab for European Studies. She received her Ph.D. in Constitutional law from University of Milan, and before joining Bocconi in 2013, she was Visiting Scholar and Guest Lecturer, at Fordham University School of Law, New York. She held visiting positions upon invitations in prestigious international institutions. In 2019 she was invited as Visiting fellow at London School of Economics and Political Science. In 2022, she was invited as Visiting professor at the Washington University in St. Louis. Her research interests lie in the area of constitutional theory, particularly in relation to constitutional reasoning and fundamental rights, including migrants’ rights. She has recently applied constitutional theory to the context of AI by exploring the use of algorithm in public decision making.



SPEAKERS



NIOVI VAVOULA

Programming the Machine: Algorithmic Bias and Discrimination in Immigration Decisions

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) entails risks for the principle of non-discrimination, both direct and indirect. This is all the more the case in the context of border management, asylum and migration. This is because this field by default distinguishes treatment between citizens and foreigners and because immigration-related decision making is highly discretionary. This lecture will explore how the use of AI in this field can lead to discriminatory treatment of foreigners both in the design of the algorithms and in the human decision making, by explaining what the concepts of automation bias and selective adherence mean.



Dr Niovi Vavoula is Associate Professor in Migration and Security, specialising in EU immigration, criminal and privacy law at Queen Mary University of London. She is Associate Editor of the *New Journal of European Criminal Law (NJECL)*, affiliated with the ODYSSEUS Academic Network for Legal Studies on Immigration and Asylum in Europe, and the European Criminal Law Academic Network (ECLAN). She was previously a visiting scholar at ULB (2014), George Washington University (2022) and EUI (2022). Between 2017-2018 she was Post-Doctoral Research Assistant at Queen Mary, University of London and taught EU Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She holds a PhD (2012-2017 – pass without corrections) and an LLM in European Law (2011 – and recipient of the award for best LLM student specialising in European Law) from Queen Mary, University of London, and an LL.B. from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (2008). Before commencing her doctoral studies, she volunteered for the Legal Department of the Greek Council for Refugees and did an internship for the Greek Desk of Eurojust.

SPEAKERS



AI Failures at EU Borders: Fundamental Rights Implications and Accountability Concerns

The gradual digitization of EU migration policies is turning external borders into AI-driven filters that limit access to fundamental rights for people from third countries according to risk indicators. An unshakeable confidence in the reliability of technological devices and their ability to predict the future behaviour of incoming foreigners is leading towards the datafication of EU external frontiers. What happens if the supposedly infallible algorithms are wrong? The lecture aims to understand the consequences of algorithmic errors on the lives of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers arriving in the European Union. This contribution investigates the socio-political implications of deploying data-driven solutions at the borders in an attempt to problematize the techno-solutionist approach of EU migratory policies and its fundamental rights impact on affected individuals.

MIRKO FORTI



Mirko Forti is a Post-Doc fellow in EU Law at Tuscia University, where he collaborates with the Academy of Law and Migration. He has featured several contributions in academic journals and edited volumes on different topics, including migration data governance issues. He has acted as an invited expert on Migration Law for the European Center of Excellence on Countering Hybrid Threats, Mediterranea Berlin, the Hermes Center for Transparency and Digital Human Rights.

SPEAKERS



Migrants' Integration: The Role of ICT Based Solutions

This lecture explores the question of the integration of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers into host communities, emphasizing the importance of successful integration from both sides, host communities and the immigrants themselves, for building more inclusive societies. This lecture starts with a broad question on how innovative ICT solutions in a collaborative, co-design, and co-creation setting can facilitate immigrants' integration in creating "smart and just cities". Drawing from the findings of [easyRights](#), the EU-funded project, the lecture addresses how a lack of information and language proficiency can hinder immigrants' interaction with services, leading to social exclusion. The first part of the lecture examines the challenges of navigating bureaucracy, particularly for immigrants who face language barriers and unfamiliar administrative cultures. The second part emphasizes the need for collaboration among service providers, public authorities, and users to enhance the capacity of services to meet immigrants' specific needs. The lecture presents some solutions developed by easyRights, including a chatbot agent, civic hackathon solutions, and a service quality standard called Mediation Grammar. At the end, the lecture highlights easyRights' policy recommendations, specifically focusing on Human Rights Literacy in service design and provision.

MARYAM KARIMI



Maryam Karimi is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Politecnico di Milano's Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU). With a PhD in Urban Planning, Policy and Design, her interdisciplinary research agenda explores the urban innovation and social-technological dimensions of smart cities. Maryam's research is particularly focused on how cities and their citizens can become "smarter" and "literate" in terms of diversity, equity, and inclusivity. She explores the empowerment of "all citizens" as key contributors to urban innovation, technology usage, and its impact on policy-making and social organizations. In her recent role as a coordination team member and scientific researcher in the EU-funded project easyRights, she explored deeper into migration studies, investigating the role of technologies, organizational learning, and digital transformation in the public sector, with a particular focus on immigrants as end-users to improve service quality based on human rights centred approach. Maryam has published articles in international scientific journals and co-organized seminars on service accessibility and migrant integration through ICT innovation solutions.



SPEAKERS



OLGA USACHOVA

The Digital Divide and Social Inclusion of Forced Migrants in Host Communities

Since the “long summer of migration” 2015-2016 in Europe (Römhild et al., 2018), two social phenomena have intensified massively. One is the mobility of people fleeing military conflicts and wars and the other is the response to it of the local governments and volunteer initiatives. In this presentation, I will concentrate attention on the confluence of the response by municipalities that adopted digital artefacts as information sources for refugees and digital initiatives that offered such artefacts. Namely, I focus on the digital platform Integreat, established in 2015 in Augsburg, Germany by a group of volunteers and now implemented in more than 60 municipalities across Germany. While acknowledging the information deficit that “impedes the efficacy” (Schrieck et al., 2016) of collaboration between governments, non-profit initiatives and volunteers, this information platform often substitutes the local government information services for refugees and migrants. By moving beyond the oversimplified notion of a “digital divide” I reflect on the affordances of such information system in a broader discussion on the digital transformation of public services and social inclusion of refugees.



Olga Usachova is a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Padua, Italy, where she works on the investigation of the socio-technical encounters of digital technology used by and designed for migrants' inclusion into the host society. Her PhD research project focused on the investigation of the actor-network of refugee apps designed and developed in aftermath of the so-called refugee crisis 2015-2016 in Europe.

In particular, she is interested in the role digital technology is playing in fostering the inclusion process of migrants and refugees. Therefore, her research interests lie on the intersection of the following areas: STS, Migration Studies, Refugees Studies and Human-technology interaction, ranging from the understanding of the agency of the users/ non-users of mobile software and its implication on the process of the refugee's integration. From 2022 she is a co-chair of the independent scholarly network STS-MIGTEC.



ATTENDEES



NAME/SURNAME	AFFILIATION
Abdulmalik Mohammed Ibrahim	University of Sassari
Adewale-Alfred Toluwanimi	Prevail University of Tuscia
Agie Bintou Drammeh	University of Tuscia
Agnese Palazzi	University of Bologna
Alessandro Vitiello	University of Rome "La Sapienza"
Alice Fill	Ecole Normale Supérieure
Anahit Mikayelyan	University of Tuscia
Angelika Aisa Sevastaki	EU FRA
Angelique Witjes	University of Tuscia
Anna Smolinska	Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)
Anuj Kalra	University of Padova
Arusyak Kesoyan	University of Tuscia
Asaad Taffal	An-Najah National University
Asha Budhaji Thakor	University of Tuscia
Astghik Aghababyan	University of Tuscia
Bhan Bidit Mut Nhial	University of Tuscia
Chinedu Ezeh	University of Tuscia
Claire Lemaire	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Claudio Costanzo	Clinica MiDi
Dalia Mogaab	University of Tuscia
Daniele Melloni	University of Tuscia
Diana Malynovska	University of Tuscia



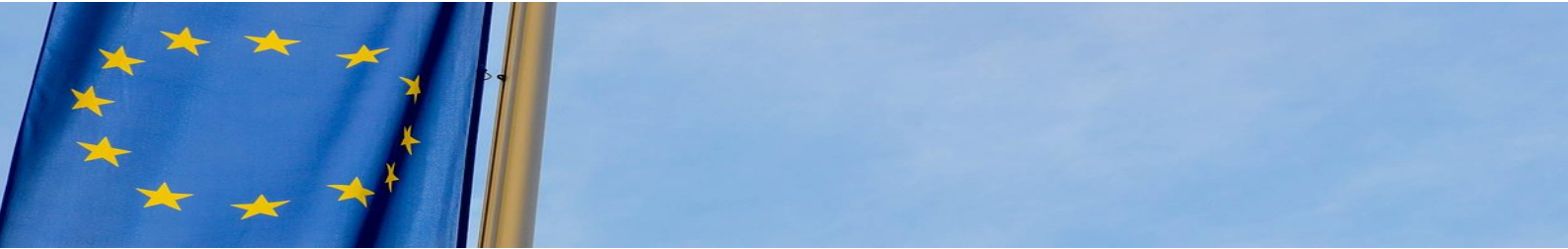
ATTENDEES



NAME/SURNAME	AFFILIATION
Esse Roxanne Wognin	University of Tuscia
Esther Montesinos Calvo-Fernandez	EU FRA
Francesca Rondine	University of Naples "L'Orientale"
Frenklin Vata	University of Tuscia
Gayane Sarukhanyan	University of Tuscia
Ghulza Hassan Filibus	University of Tuscia
Giulia Sezzi	Scuola Normale Superiore
Hanna Budovska	University of Tuscia
Isabel Fuchs Laurito	
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Ismiini Nikoleta Mathioudaki	Scuola Normale Superiore
Kamilla Zsuzsanna Galicz	Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna
Kebba Janneh	University of Tuscia
Koang Yien Thiyang Thon	University of Tuscia
Laura Jung	University of Graz
Lela Muradashvili	University of Tuscia
Lia Omanadze	University of Tuscia
Lilit Babayan	University of Tuscia
Magda Cienciala	Safe Passage International, ELIL
Marco Bonazzi	University of Sassari
Mariam Dadunts	University of Tuscia



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NAME/SURNAME	AFFILIATION
Mariia Kalinina	University of Tuscia
Marianna Lunardini	University of Rome "La Sapienza"
Marina De Azevedo Beranger Gomes	University of Tuscia
Marjia Akter Mimi	University of Tuscia
Micaela Maria Delfino	Humboldt University
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Nelson Ogundare	Technical University of Applied Sciences, Würzburg-Schweinfurt
Nhial Moes Yien	University of Tuscia
Osazee Ogbebor	IOM
Rubina Lalayan	University of Tuscia
Ruzanna Petrosyan	University of Tuscia
Salma Mohamed Musa Hamad	Ticaret University
Salome Samushia	University of Tuscia



ATTENDEES



NAME/SURNAME	AFFILIATION
Sediola Ruko	University of Tuscia
Tamar Todria	Tbilisi State University
Tatiana Maria Cernicova-Dragomir	University of Timisoara/University of Udine
Tamta Gventsadze	University of Tuscia
Tanya Komanytska	University of Tuscia
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Yelena Nazaryan	University of Tuscia
Waheed Ahmad Qureshi	Andalou University



STAFF MEMBER



Mario Savino – *Coordinator*



Daniela Vitiello – *Coordinator*



Giulia Del Turco – *Tutor*



Francesco Luigi Gatta – *Tutor*



Raul Belùcio – *Trainer*



Cristina Milano – *Trainer*



Giampiero Cassola – *Trainer*



Jovana Bogičević – *Trainer*



Michela Tuozzo – *Trainer*



USEFUL LINKS

Summer Training School – Zoom Link

<https://unitus.zoom.us/j/94312271402> (ID: 918 3158 8562)

Reading Materials

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RYCLmy-bPjrR7bJgnZ03m7Q-3ehYvvaZ?usp=sharing>

IntoME Website

<https://www.intome.eu>

ADiM Blog

<https://www.adimblog.com/>

IntoME Secretariat

University of Tuscia (Viterbo)

Department of Linguistics and Literary, Historical, Philosophical and Legal Studies (DISTU)

Via San Carlo, 32 – 01100 Viterbo, Italy

Email: intome@unitus.it