

DIGITAL CONSTITUTIONALISM ACADEMY 2026

PROGRAMME



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE
DSG
DIPARTIMENTO DI
SCIENZE GIURIDICHE



CATOLICA
Global
School of
Law



Università
Bocconi
BAFFI CENTER
RULES Research Unit
on Law and Economic
Studies



EUROPEAN
UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE



Digital Regulation and Governance: The Role of Public Law and Private Law

The regulation of digital technologies has become a key issue at the global, European, and national levels. Despite multiple efforts, the regulatory environment for digital technologies remains fragmented, shaped by competing narratives that yield diverse policies, rules, and enforcement strategies. In this context, policies are increasingly expressed through regulatory frameworks characterised by the hybridisation of public and private law, as exemplified so far by the Digital Services Act and the Artificial Intelligence Act in Europe. The use of algorithmic impact assessments to evaluate potential infringements on fundamental rights, the incorporation of fairness and non-discrimination standards into contract law, or the expansion of public interest goals in competition policy are just a few examples of this transformation. This shift is also significant in the enforcement phase of digital regulation, with administrative authorities and courts often required to interpret these frameworks at the intersection of public and private law instruments.

Over the last five years, the Digital Constitutionalism Academy has fostered collaborations and provided a platform for scholars interested in analysing legal problems arising from the use of digital technologies. This year, which marks the sixth edition of our Academy, focuses on the interplay between digital regulation and governance. The Digital Constitutionalism Academy 2026 will focus on “Digital Regulation and Governance: Framing the Role of Public Law and Private Law” and will be structured over two days, featuring scholars coming from different areas willing to share knowledge and kindle interdisciplinary discussions. The first day is scheduled for a conference to explore the changing landscape of digital regulation, focusing on the roles of the public and private regulatory spheres. The second day features the Training School, which includes interactive sessions led by top scholars and practitioners. The 2026 Academy’s goal is to enhance participants’ knowledge of digital regulation and governance, promote valuable exchanges, broaden professional networks, and inspire new collaborative research opportunities.

Venue

The Academy will take place at Villa Ruspoli, Piazza Indipendenza 9, Florence, Italy.

Organisations

The Digital Constitutionalism Academy is co-organised by the University of Florence, the European University Institute, Bocconi University, and Católica Global School of Law, with the support of Digi-Con, MediaLaws, and DICOPO.

Coordinators:

- Giovanni De Gregorio (gdegregorio@ucp.pt)
- Erik Longo (erik.longo@unifi.it)

REGISTRATION, LIGHT BUFFET | 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Introduction

Andrea Simoncini
University of Florence

SESSION 1. | 1:15 PM - 3:00 PM

PARALLEL A:

Digital Regulation and Governance

Daiga Rezevska

European Court of Human Rights
General Principles of Law and Digital Regulation

Andrea Palumbo

KU Leuven
Fundamental rights protection at the confluence of technocratic regulation and managerialism: the rise of administrative solutionism in EU digital legislation

Luise Eder & Marta Ziosi

University of Oxford
Fundamental Rights as Risk Objects? Governing Societal Harm under the EU AI Act and its Code of Practice

Francesca Fumagalli

University of Padua
The Politicisation of Private Regulation in the AI Act: Throughout and Ex-Post Public Scrutiny

Emma Semaan

University of Oxford
Co-Regulation: The Hybridised Public and Private Regulation of the Internet, from the Data Protection Directive to the AI Act

Leona King

KU Leuven
Rethinking the Role of Regulators in EU Data Governance

PARALLEL B:

Intersections of Public and Private Law

Antonio Davola

University of Bari
Reshaping Fairness in Digital Ecosystems

Kathrin Gardhouse

The Future Society
Beyond the AI Act: Liability Insurance as a Private Enforcement Layer

Konrad Ksiazek

Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Two Roads Diverged? Manipulation and Human Rights Law

Chien-Chih (Jesse) Lu

National Chengchi University
Hybridizing Copyright: Generative AI Training, Collective Licensing, and the Transformation of Platform Regulation

Valeria Comegna

Tilburg University
Reconciling Algorithmic Content Moderation and Private Adjudication of Fundamental Rights with EU Law

Maria Carla Canato

University of Padua
Digital Constitutionalism and the Governance of the Metaverse. Public-Private Hybrid Regulation and the Penal Boundaries of Virtual Order

SESSION 2. | 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

PARALLEL A:

Public Powers Meeting Private Powers**Mark Drenhaus**

University of Fribourg

*A Systems Theory Approach to the Digital Medium and Power***Giulia Taraborrelli**

University of Rome "La Sapienza"

*Building a Prescriptive Approach to Reconcile Private Power and Public Authority in the European Union's Digital Governance***Maria Romana Allegri**

University of Rome "La Sapienza"

*From Internet to Splinternet: territorial implications of digital sovereignty and new digital boundaries***Luz Helena Orozco y Villa**

University of Oxford

*Constitutionalising Online Content Moderation: The New Role of Courts Under Digital Constitutionalism***Ewa Milczarek**

University of Szczecin

Horizontal Human Rights in the Digital Sphere: Rethinking Freedom of Expression in Platform-Governed Environments

PARALLEL B:

Global Outlooks on Public and Private Law (I)**Meghan Finn**

University of Johannesburg

*Constitutionalising the Algorithm: Equality, Horizontality, and Private Power in South African Law***Viranjana Herath**

South Asian University

*Regulating Platforms from the Periphery: Why Smaller States Struggle with Online Governance - Evidence from South Asia***Handan Sena Lezgioğlu Özer**

Istanbul Bilgi University

*Public Goals, Private Tools? The Crisis of Cross-Border Data Transfers and Türkiye's 2024 Reform***Joana Machado & Sergio M C Ávila Negri**

Federal University of Juiz de Fora

*Courts, Platform Governance, and Digital Constitutionalism: The Judiciary's Role in Brazil's Regulatory Transformation***Guimin Fang**

University of Oxford

*Standardisation of AI Ethics in China, An Empirical Study***COFFEE BREAK | 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM**

SESSION 3. | 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

PARALLEL A:

Administration and Enforcement**Michalina Szpyrka**

Polish Academy of Science

*Outside the AI Act Scope: Algorithmic Governance in Social Security Authorities and Standards of Good Administration***Victoria Adelmant**

University of Oxford

*The Gatekeepers of Government Services: Private Digital ID Providers Mediating Access to the Administrative State***Brend Plantinga**

Dutch Data Protection Authority

*Ensuring Consistency in AI Supervision: Cooperation Mechanisms under the AI Act***Katarzyna Łakomic**

Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (MPIL)

*Chaos as a Ladder: Supervisory Authorities as Emerging Guardians of European Constitutional Values***Anna Gallardo**

University of Caen Normandy

The evolving role of administrative authorities and courts in interpreting and enforcing digital regulations at the intersection of public and private law

PARALLEL B:

Global Outlooks on Public and Private Law (II)**Stefanus Hendrianto**

University of Creighton

*The Vatican's Digital Sovereignty Under Attack: A Curious Case of Digital Expansionism Against the Holy See***Megi Reçi & Daniel Prroni**

Balkan Investigative Reporting Network & Institute for Democracy and Mediation

*Hybrid Digital Regulation and the Reconfiguration of Public and Private Law in EU Accession Contexts***Olia Kanevskaia Whitaker**

Utrecht University

*'Ethics' and 'values' in EU digital regulation: the global trade perspective***Jéssica Cecilia Bárcenas Vidal**

Temuco Catholic University

*Protection of Human Rights Against Algorithmic Biases in AI Applied to Healthcare in Latin America: Challenges and Perspectives***Ayako Hatano**

EUI

Who Governs Ethical AI? The Limits of Hybrid Digital Constitutionalism in UNESCO's Collaboration with Private Actors

ROUNDTABLE | 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Chair

Giovanni De Gregorio

Católica Global School of Law

Thomas Streinz

EUI

Francisco de Elizalde

IE University

Marta Cantero GamitoUniversity of Tartu /
EUI**Florian Grisel**

CNRS Strasbourg

Argiry PaneziUniversity of New
Brunswick

KEYNOTE SPEECH

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Hans-Wolfgang Micklitz

EUI

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

TRAINING SESSIONS

10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Chair | Amnon Reichman
University of Haifa

LUNCH

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

CONCLUSIONS

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM

TRAINING SESSION 1. | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Simona Demkova

Leiden University

TRAINING SESSION 2. | 11:30 AM - 12:30 AM

Argiry Panezi

University of New Brunswick

TRAINING SESSION 3. | 12:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Francisco de Abreu Duarte

EUI

TRAINING SESSION 4. | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Federica Paolucci

Baffi Centre, Bocconi University

Erik Longo

University of Florence

ORGANISERS

HOSTED AND CO-ORGANISED



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Digital Constitutionalism & Policy

