



Venice International University
VIU Winter School
Digital Rights: Theory and Practice

January 25-29, 2027

Faculty

Mariavittoria Catanzariti, University of Padua (Scientific coordinator)
Lorenzo Passerini Glazel, University of Milano-Bicocca (Co-coordinator)
Matteo Pasquinelli, Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Co-coordinator)
Amedeo Santosuosso, University School for Advanced Studies IUSS Pavia (Co-coordinator)
Laura Drechsler, University of KU Leuven
Anne-Christine Fornage, University of Lausanne
Guido Gorgoni, University of Padua
Claudia Padovani, University of Padua
Daniele Ruggiu, University of Padua
Dario Guarascio, Sapienza University of Rome
Costanza Margiotta, Sapienza University of Rome
Dolores Taramundi, University of Deusto

Program

Monday, January 25 – The main issues

14:15 – 14:30 *Registration*

14:30 – 15:00 Welcome remarks (VIU) and Introduction to the Winter School (Scientific Coordinators: Catanzariti, Santosuosso, Passerini Glazel, Pasquinelli)

15:00 – 16:00 Presentation of participants and discussion

16:00 – 16:45 Keynote lecture – Matteo Pasquinelli, *A social history of AI*

16:45 – 17:15 Q&A

Tuesday, January 26 – Algorithmic discrimination, AI and human rights

9:30 - 10:30: Dolores Taramundi, Algorithmic discrimination

10:30 - 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 12:30 Mariavittoria Catanzariti, The European history of AI regulation

12:30 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 15:30 Roundtable: topic Are humans and machines coevolving, and if so, what are the implications?

15:30 – 15:45 Break

15:45 – 17:15 Discussion with students' questions

Evening Social Dinner in Venice (tbc)

Wednesday, January 27 – Global power of digital platforms

9:30 – 10:30 Amedeo Santosuosso: AI, public decision making and social contract

10:30 -11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:00 *Working groups* - hypothetical cases: drafting of hypotheticals to be shared in advance (Prof. Drechsler)

12:00 – 13:00 *Working groups* - hypothetical cases: drafting of hypotheticals to be shared in advance (Prof. Fornage)

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:00 Lorenzo Passerini Glazel (tba)

15:00 – 16:00 Break

16:00 – 17:30 Costanza Margiotta (tba)

Thursday, January 28

9:30 - 10:30 Dario Guarascio, AI in the warfare

10:45 - 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 12:15 Daniele Ruggiu (tba)

Q&A

12:30 – 13.30 Guido Gorgoni (tba)

Q&A

13:45 – 14:45 Lunch

14:45 – 16:15 Selection of materials for students' presentations

16:15 – 16:30 Break

16:30 – 17:30 Brainstorming session on students' presentation (inquiry based methodology)

Guidelines for workshop

Friday, January 29 Students' workshop

9:30 – 10:30: tbd

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30: Students' workshop (with discussant)

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 Students' workshop (with discussant)

16:00 – 16:30 Conclusion of the winter school and recommendations

Faculty's short bio



Mariavittoria Catanzariti is Assistant Professor of Legal Philosophy at University of Padua. Barrister in law since 2010, she obtained a PhD in Law with a special focus on Legal Philosophy and European Law from Roma Tre University in 2011 and the Italian Scientific Qualification as Professor in Legal Philosophy and in Legal Sociology. Before joining the University of Padua, she has worked for several years as Jean Monnet Fellow, Research Associate and Research Fellow at the European University Institute. She has been a visiting fellow at the Max Planck

Institut für Innovation und Wettbewerb in Munich and at the Max Planck Institut für Rechtsgeschichte in Frankfurt, the Université de Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Concordia University in Montreal, and the University of Cologne. She has also held fellowships at the Karls Ruprecht Universität di Heidelberg, the University of California Berkeley, the Institut für Zeitgeschichte in Munich, and the Institut lucernauris of the University of Lucerne. Her main research interest revolves around the interaction of digital transformation and information society with the law. Her publications cover different legal areas such as data protection and data governance, law and technologies, human rights, European integration.



Lorenzo Passerini Glazel is Full Professor of Philosophy of Law at the University of Milan-Bicocca, where he teaches “Philosophy of Law” and “Theories of Interpretation”. He graduated in Philosophy from the University of Pavia and obtained a PhD in General Theory and Analytical Philosophy of Law from the University of Milan. He has been visiting research fellow at the Centre de Théorie du Droit at the University of Paris X – Nanterre and visiting professor at the CERC (Centre d’Études et de Recherche sur les Contentieux) at the University of Toulon. He is a member of the scientific boards of PERSONA - Research Centre in Phenomenology and Sciences of the Person of the Vita-Salute San Raffaele University; IsEB (Istituto Emilio Betti di Storia e Teoria del diritto); and CISEPS (Center for

Interdisciplinary Studies in Economics, Psychology and Social Sciences) at the University of Milan-Bicocca, for which he coordinates the unit “Institutions: Origins, Functioning, Overthrowing”. He is a full member of Ateneo di Brescia, Accademia di Scienze, Lettere e Arti. His main research interests concern the theory of legal systems, the philosophy of norms and norm-oriented behaviour, philosophical deontics, the philosophy of normative language, theories of interpretation, the theory of categorisation, constitutive rules and social ontology, with particular regard to the ontology of norms and institutional entities, also in relation to new information technologies and digital realities. Among his publications: *La forza normativa del tipo. Pragmatica dell’atto giuridico e teoria della categorizzazione* (Quodlibet, 2005), *Atto norma tipo. Tra pragmatica e ontologia del diritto* (Aracne, 2012), *Le realtà della norma, le norme come realtà. Saggio di filosofia del diritto* (LED, 2020), and (with Paolo Di Lucia) *Hans Kelsen. Giustizia, diritto e realtà sociale* (Raffaello Cortina, 2024).



Matteo Pasquinelli is Associate Professor in Philosophy of Science at the Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage of Ca’Foscari University in Venice where he is coordinating the ERC project AIMODELS. His book *The Eye of the Master: A Social History of Artificial Intelligence* (London: Verso, 2023) won the Deutscher Memorial Prize 2024. His research focuses on the intersection of philosophy of mind and language, political economy, and the techniques of automation such as artificial intelligence.



Amedeo Santosuosso is a former Extraordinary Professor at the University School for Advanced Studies IUSS PAVIA, in the class of Philosophy of Law. From 1978 to 2019 he served as a judge, in the last period as President of both the First Civil Chamber and the Specialized Business Chamber of the Court of Appeal of Milan. At the same time, he has had an intense teaching and research activity in academia in Italy and abroad, on the main frontier topics between science, technologies, and law. He was representative of

the Italian government in the technical negotiations for the drafting of a UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (AI): Spring 2021. He was invited member of the working group on ethics on behalf of the Italian government at IAEA Technical Meeting on Artificial Intelligence for Nuclear Technology and Applications, October 25–29, 2021. The current focus of his research is on artificial intelligence, digital technologies, and law. The hallmark of his work is to capture the twofold movement whereby, on the one hand, law regulates new applications of technology, and, on the other hand, the new technological environment retroacts on law by transforming it (according to a "molecular vision of law" of which he is a proponent).



Costanza Margiotta is Full Professor of Philosophy of Law at the University of Padova (Dep. of Political Science, Law, and International Studies), where she teaches "Human rights and International Justice", "European Citizenship and Fundamental Rights" and "Philosophy of law". Since June 2023 she is Senior Fellow at Centre for International Governance and Dispute Resolution (CIGAD) (King's College London). She holds a Ph.D. in Legal Theory from the the European University Institute (Florence). Her background is both philosophical (Degree in Philosophy University of Bologna) and legal (Law Faculty Université de Paris X– Nanterre). She was a Post-doctoral Fellow at Istituto di Scienze Umane (Florence-Naples); Research Fellow at the Law Faculty, University of Parma; Research Fellow at the Faculty of Political Science of Forlì, University of Bologna. She has been Visiting Fellow at Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (EUI, Florence), Visiting Scholar at ULB (Université Libre de Bruxelles) and Visiting scholar at Deusto University Bilbao. Among her books are: *La lotta per la certezza: codificazione e interpretazione del diritto internazionale* (2023); *Between Democracy and Law: The Amoralism of Secession*, eds. with C. Closa and G. Martinico (2021); *Cittadinanza europea. Istruzioni per l'uso* (2014); *L'ultimo diritto. Profili storici e teorici della secessione* (2005). Her research has been focusing on legal theory, international public law, European Citizenship, Slavery and race and law. She is member of the Editorial Board of the journal «Ragion Pratica» and Associate Editor of the journals «Filosofia politica» and «Ars Interpretandi».



Laura Drechsler is an Assistant Professor at KU Leuven for data law as well as a researcher for the Belgian State Archives as part of a FED-tWIN project, via which she is studying the intersection of EU data protection law with EU data law from a human rights perspective.

Laura was assistant editor of the Oxford University Press Commentary on the GDPR of 2020 and its update of 2021, and is reprising this role for the 2nd edition.

Laura did her legal studies at the University of Vienna, Austria, and KU Leuven (LL.M in Public International and European Law; Master Thesis on freedom of information and intellectual property). After completing her studies in 2015, she worked for two years as a legal advisor/lobbyist for the Austrian Chamber of Civil Law Notaries in Brussels, where she gained an in-depth understanding of European law-making and EU institutions. In autumn 2017, Laura joined the Brussels Privacy Hub at the Law, Science, Technology and Society (LSTS) Research Group at VUB, where in 2018 she won an individual FWO grant to complete her thesis on 'Data subject rights in international personal data transfers'. She defended this thesis in November 2022.



Anne-Christine Fornage is Full Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Lausanne, where she teaches Contract Law, Consumer Law, Digital Markets Law and European Private Law. She wrote her doctoral thesis on 'The enforcement of consumer contract rights' which received the 2012 Vigener Prize of the University of Fribourg. She completed her LL.M. in Commercial Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science and is admitted to practice Law. She has been lecturing in various countries and was a Visiting Professor namely at the Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, the City University of

Hong Kong, University of Roma³ and McGill University. Anne-Christine Fornage also acts regularly as an academic consultant on legal questions relating to her areas of expertise. Her publications focus on structural imbalances in contracts concluded with professionals, particularly in the context of the digitized economy. She is also an expert of Product Safety Law (including aspects of Civil Liability), Unfair Competition Law and Securities Law. She works since 2018 on interactions between law and digitalization and established an annual week of courses and conferences (La Semaine de la Digitalisation), which aims to provide them with tools to identify societal, ethical and legal changes created by technologies. Since 2019, Anne-Christine Fornage has been serving on the Federal Consumer Commission, as Vice-president from 2020-2023 and as President since January 1, 2024. During her four years term, she will provide advice on Consumer Law and Policy to the Swiss Government.



Dario Guarascio is an Associate Professor of Economic Policy at La Sapienza University of Rome. He is an external affiliate of the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa, the National Institute for the Analysis of Public Policies and the Nexa Centre at the Polytechnic University of Turin. He teaches Economics and Innovation Policy and has for many years been researching the socio-economic impact of digital platforms and, in particular, their links with the military. In 2026, he published the book *Digital Imperialism: Economics and War in the Age of Platforms and AI* (Laterza).