



SSIGIL 2026 — Programme

Summer School on Internet Governance and International Law

Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme | Faculty of Law and Administration, University of Lodz
On-site: 20 to 24 July 2026 | BIP ID: 2025-1-PL01-KA131-HED-000318028-1 | www.ssigil.uni.lodz.pl



Online Component — 13 to 15 July 2026

Five preparatory modules of approximately one hour each, delivered online prior to the on-site week.

Time	Session	Speaker(s)
Module 1 Mon 13 July / 16:00–17:00	Cyberspace as a governed space: sovereignty, jurisdiction and attribution	Dr Joanna Kulesza
Module 2 Mon 13 Jul / 17:00–18:00	State responsibility in cyberspace: the ILC Articles, due diligence and attribution	Prof. Paolo Bargiacchi
Module 3 Tue 14 July / 10:00–11:00	Privacy, data protection and fundamental rights in cybercrime investigations	Assoc. Prof. dr Agnė Juškevičiūtė-Vilienė
Module 4 Tue 14 July / 11:00–12:00	DORA and cybersecurity in the EU financial sector	Conf. dr Dragoș Mănescu
Module 5 Wed 15 July / 16:00–17:00	Critical infrastructure protection in the EU: CER Directive, NIS2, DORA and the Cyber Solidarity Act	Assoc. Prof. dr Niovi Vavoula



Day 1 — Monday, 20 July 2026

International Law in Cyberspace: Foundations and Simulation

Lead: University of Lodz

09:30	Welcome, introductions, programme overview	Dr Joanna Kulesza
10:00	Coffee break and group photo	
10:30	Keynote: Application of international law in cyberspace — practical challenges and conceptual framework for the school	Dr Joanna Kulesza
11:30	Lunch break	
12:30	Roundtable: what to expect — thematic teasers from each day's lead	Dr. A. Rotondo Assist. Prof. dr N. Gaubienė Assoc. Prof. dr N. Vavoula; Conf. dr Dragoș Mănescu Dr J. Kulesza (chair)
13:30	Interactive simulation: Cybersecurity Architecture Game (Cyber Policy Haus methodology)	Dr Annachiara Rotondo Mr Jason Bonsall Mr Pavlo Burdiak Ms Ksenia Jabłńska
15:30	Policy discussion: Weaponised Narratives: Social Media, Disinformation and International Law Responses — Lessons from Ukraine	Mr Pavlo Burdiak
16:00	End of Day 1	
18:00	Gala reception (see social programme for details)	

Day 2 — Tuesday, 21 July 2026

International Law and Cyber Operations

Lead: Kore University of Enna

09:30	Lecture: Application of IL to cyber operations — state responsibility, attribution and countermeasures under the ILC Articles	Prof. Paolo Bargiacchi
10:30	Coffee break	
11:00	Seminar: Responsible state behaviour in cyberspace — the UN GGE and OEWG frameworks: normative outputs and the path forward	Dr Gaetano Calcagno
12:00	Lunch break	
13:00	Workshop: Undersea cables as international law objects — legal protection, jurisdictional challenges and critical infrastructure governance under UNCLOS	Dr Annachiara Rotondo
14:30	Open discussion with all Day 2 speakers	All Day 2 speakers
15:30	End of Day 2	
18:00	Networking (see social programme for recommendations)	



Day 3 — Wednesday, 22 July 2026

Cybercrime and International Cooperation

Lead: Vilnius University

09:30	International legal frameworks addressing cybercrime — the Budapest Convention, EU instruments and the UN Convention against Cybercrime (Hanoi Convention)	Assist. Prof. dr Neringa Gaubienė
10:30	Coffee break	
11:00	Seminar: Does the use of artificial intelligence in cybercrime investigations enhance or undermine the protection of fundamental rights?	Assoc. Prof. dr Agnė Juškevičiūtė-Vilienė
12:00	Lunch break	
13:00	Case study: A large-scale cyberattack targets critical state infrastructure.	Assist. Prof. dr Neringa Gaubienė Assoc. Prof. dr Agnė Juškevičiūtė-Vilienė
14:30	End of Day 3	
15:30–19:30	Social programme (optional): Piotrkowska Street walk, starting at Manufaktura	
19:30	Networking (see social programme for recommendations)	

Day 4 — Thursday, 23 July 2026

Critical Infrastructure: Law, Governance and Hybrid Threats

09:30	Lecture: The Digital Operational Resilience Act and cybersecurity in the EU financial sector — banking law, systemic risk and the regulatory obligations of financial entities	Conf. dr Dragoș Mănescu
10:30	Coffee break	
11:00	Session: The EU as a cyber actor — critical infrastructure protection law: CER Directive, NIS2, DORA in broader context and the Cyber Solidarity Act	Assoc. Prof. dr Niovi Vavoula
12:00	Lunch break	
13:00	Technical session and exercise: Routing security and internet infrastructure resilience — monitoring, incident response and the governance role of RIPE NCC	Ms Alena Muravska
14:30	Policy discussion: Disinformation as a threat to national security	Mr Mateusz Mielczarek
15:00	Synthesis roundtable: cross-cutting themes from Days 1 to 4 — open Q&A with all Day 4 speakers	Dr Joanna Kulesza (chair) + all Day 4 speakers
15:45	End of Day 4	
	Networking (see social programme for recommendations)	



Day 5 — Friday, 24 July 2026

Student Working Session and Closing

Day 5 is the final day of the school. The morning is dedicated to a student-led IGF contribution drafting exercise. Student groups draft a joint SSIGIL statement on a contemporary internet governance challenge for submission to the 21st Internet Governance Forum (IGF 2026, Nairobi, 14 to 18 December 2026). The closing session brings together all institutional leads.

09:30	IGF contribution drafting exercise: student groups work on thematic sections of a joint SSIGIL statement for IGF 2026 Nairobi, followed by plenary adoption of the text	Mr Jason Bonsall Dr Joanna Kulesza and Assoc. Prof. dr Niovi Vavoula (co-facilitators)
11:30	Coffee break	
11:45	Course summary and reflections — key themes and takeaways from the school	All institutional leads: Prof. P. Bargiacchi Assist. Prof. dr N. Gaubienė Assoc. Prof. dr A. Juškevičiūtė-Vilienė Conf. dr D. Mănescu Assoc. Prof. dr N. Vavoula Dr J. Kulesza (chair)
12:15	Certificate ceremony	
12:45	Farewell and closing remarks	

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 Studenckie Radio Żak	 Dziennik Łódzki	 TVP3 Łódź	 TVP Info



Faculty Profiles

(listed alphabetically)

Prof. Paolo Bargiacchi

*Professor of Public International Law, Department of Economic and Legal Sciences
Kore University of Enna, Italy*

Paolo Bargiacchi is Professor (Ordinario) of Public International Law at the Department of Economic and Legal Sciences, Kore University of Enna. He holds a law degree from LUISS Guido Carli University, Rome. He is the author of three monographs on the international legal order, the UN Security Council reform and the American international law doctrine, and co-author with Prof. Augusto Sinagra of a leading textbook on Public International Law (Giuffrè Francis Lefebvre, 3rd ed. 2019, also published in Spanish). He has served as academic coordinator of the EU POWERS Project (Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Network) for Kore University (2018-2022) and is Corresponding Editor for International Legal Materials. He is a member of the Sino-European Expert Working Group on the Application of International Law in Cyberspace.

Mr Pavlo Burdiak

*Researcher, Senior Digital Security Analyst
Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic; Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law, Ukraine*

Pavlo Burdiak is a doctoral researcher at the Czech Law and Advanced Technologies Research Institute of the Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic, and a Senior Digital Security Analyst at the Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law, Ukraine. Pavlo's expertise lies in international and European protection of human rights in the digital society, platform governance, and cybersecurity. He served as a Cybersecurity Consultant at Nadiyno.org (Ukraine) and a Tech Advisor to IMS (Denmark) on Moldova, conducted trainings for Ukrainian CSOs and media, extensively published on social media governance and cybersecurity, and received research awards in Ukraine, Germany, and Greece.

Dr Gaetano Calcagno

*Doctoral Researcher in Legal Sciences, Department of Economic and Legal Sciences
Kore University of Enna, Italy*

Gaetano Calcagno graduated in Law in October 2021 with a thesis in Public International Law entitled "International Cooperation between Police Forces in Combating Organized Criminal Groups." He subsequently earned a Ph.D. in Economic and Legal Sciences from Kore University of Enna, completing his doctorate in January 2026 with a dissertation entitled "The European Defence Market: Rules, Instruments, and Proposals for an Evolving Framework." His research focuses on judicial cooperation in addressing international crimes, transnational criminality, and cyber crime, as well as international space law.

Prof. dr Neringa Gaubienė

*Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law | Founder, AI.Officer
Vilnius University, Lithuania*

Neringa Gaubienė is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, Vilnius University, and founder of AI.Officer, a consultancy on AI and law. She holds a PhD in Law from Vilnius University (2017) and previously worked at the law firm Sorainen. Her research focuses on the digital transformation of legal processes, including enforcement proceedings in the digital age and the role of AI in legal practice. She has published on digital assets, state immunity and the intersection of AI and the legal profession. She was a junior research worker on the Lithuanian Science Council-funded postdoctoral project "Transformation of the Execution Process in the Digital Age" (2020-2023).

Prof. dr Agnė Juškevičiūtė-Vilienė

*Associate Professor, Faculty of Law | Practicing Advocate
Vilnius University, Lithuania*

Agnė Juškevičiūtė-Vilienė is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law, Vilnius University, and a practicing advocate. Her research interests include constitutional law, economic regulation, environmental protection, and human rights and freedoms. She has published on the immunity of parliamentarians, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on economic freedom, and the challenges of climate change to constitutional frameworks. She participated in the Global Summit on Constitutionalism at the Texas School of Law (2023) and has presented internationally on the Fourth Industrial Revolution and constitutional law. She speaks Lithuanian, English, German, Polish and Russian.



Dr Joanna Kulesza

Assistant Professor of International Law | Executive Director, Lodz Cyber Hub

Faculty of Law and Administration, Department of Public International Law and International Relations, University of Lodz, Poland

Joanna Kulesza is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law and Administration, University of Lodz, and Executive Director of the Lodz Cyber Hub. Her research spans cybersecurity governance, internet governance and international law, with a growing focus on satellite governance and AI regulation. She serves as ALAC Liaison to the GAC at ICANN (representing EURALO) and is a founding member of the Sino-European Expert Working Group on the Application of International Law in Cyberspace. She is the author of *Due Diligence in International Law* (Brill, 2016) and co-editor of *Global Governance of Low Earth Orbit Satellites* (Lodz University Press, 2025). She has served on the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights Scientific Committee.

Conf. dr Dragoş Mihail Mănescu

Associate Professor (Conferențiar) | Vice-Dean for Research and International Relations, Faculty of Law

Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

Dragoş Mihail Mănescu is Associate Professor (Conferențiar) at the Faculty of Law, Bucharest University of Economic Studies, where he serves as Vice-Dean for Research and International Relations. He teaches Business Law, EU Law and Banking Law. His doctoral thesis addressed the legal regime of banking companies, and his research covers banking regulation, EU economic law and the legal dimensions of digital law and new technologies. He is a member of the board of the European Society (Association) of Banking and Finance Law and of its Scientific Committee, and Secretary General of its Romanian branch, the European Society (Association) of Banking and Finance Law-Romania. He is also a member of the Romanian Association of Business Law, with combined institutional, public and private sector experience, having held various management positions in public administration as well as in the private sector. He is Editorial Secretary of the *Journal of Banking and Finance Law* (Ed. Rosetti) and Editor of the *European Business Law Journal*.

Mr Mateusz Mielczarek

Associate Research Fellow

RAND Europe, Warsaw

Mateusz Mielczarek specializes in Russian foreign policy, hybrid threats, and international security. He is a Research Fellow at RAND Europe and a Research Assistant at the Future Threats Lab, Department of War Studies, King's College London. Prior to these roles, he served as a civil servant in the Polish government and international organizations. He regularly publishes analysis and commentary in *Dziennik Gazeta Prawna*.

Ms Alena Muravska

External Relations and Outreach

RIPE NCC

Alena Muravska is the Programme Manager for Public Policy & Internet Governance at the RIPE NCC. In this role, she engages with a broad range of stakeholders, including EU institutions, national authorities, intergovernmental organisations, industry and academia. With a background spanning engineering and public affairs, she brings both technical insight and policy expertise to global discussions on Internet governance. A committed advocate for capacity building, Alena actively contributes to Internet governance schools and industry events. Alongside her role at the RIPE NCC, she serves as Chair of the Global Internet Standards Testing Community, where she focuses on strengthening and expanding the international users of the internet.nl testing platform, an initiative of the Dutch Internet Standards Platform. Alena holds an engineering degree from the National Technical University of Ukraine and a Master's in Policy and Public Affairs from Leiden University.



Dr Annachiara Rotondo

*Former Researcher in International Law (participating in personal capacity)
Federico II University of Naples, Italy*

Annachiara Rotondo was a fixed-term researcher in International Law at the University of Naples Federico II until June 2026, where she taught International Human Rights Protection, Public International Law, and International Cyber Law at the Department of Political Science. She holds a Ph.D. in International Law from the University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli" and a Ph.D. in Geopolitics from the University of Paris 8, both earned in 2013. Her doctoral research examined the governance of cyberspace. Since then, her research has focused primarily on the legal implications of cyberspace, most recently leading a nationally funded research project on digital interference. Her broader academic interests also include international human rights law, the law of the sea, and general public international law. She is a member of the Editorial Board of the scientific journal "Tecnologie e diritto" and of the Book Series "Studi e documenti di diritto internazionale ed europeo".

Prof. dr Niovi Vavoula

*Associate Professor | Chair in Cyber Policy, Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance
University of Luxembourg*

Niovi Vavoula is Associate Professor and Chair in Cyber Policy at the University of Luxembourg, funded by the Ministry of Foreign and International Affairs, Directorate of Defence. Prior to Luxembourg, she was Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in Migration and Security at Queen Mary University of London. She has conducted extensive research on human rights and rule of law challenges posed by new technologies in migration and law enforcement, with particular expertise in privacy and data protection in EU immigration control. She is the author of *Immigration and Privacy in the Law of the European Union* (Brill Nijhoff, 2022), has published more than 80 contributions in peer-reviewed journals, and regularly provides expert advice to EU institutions, including the European Parliament and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency. She is Associate Editor of the *New Journal of European Criminal Law*.

Organising Team

(listed alphabetically)

Mr Jason Bonsall — SSIGIL Cyber Ambassador, Lodz Cyber Hub

Ms Ksenia Jabłońska — Research Assistant, Lodz Cyber Hub

Mr Oskar Sobczak — Cybersecurity Researcher, Lodz Cyber Hub