

GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN THE AGE OF AI - AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ASSESSMENT

ROUND TABLE

APRIL 16TH 2024

Register [here](#).

More information available [here](#).

About this event:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) poses challenges but also opportunities for gender equality. AI models and apps are usually trained to find patterns in data sets. Models can thereby inadvertently learn socially undesirable patterns if trained on gender-biased texts and/or data sets.

This event will bring together interdisciplinary scholars and industry experts to discuss if the current EU legislative framework is sufficient to deal with gender bias and discrimination arising out of how AI is developed, and whether the new EU AI act is suitable to address the challenges and exploit the benefits that AI can bring in terms of gender equality.

HYBRID EVENT:

- **In person:** UCD Sutherland School of Law (William Fry Lecture Theatre)
- **Online:** Zoom link provided upon registration

Speakers:

- **Mr Fabian Lütz** (University of Lausanne, Law)
- **Dr Susan Leavy** (UCD, Information & Communication)
- **Dr Mina Hosseini** (UCD, Law)
- **Dr Vivek Nallur** (UCD, Computer Science)
- **Dr Maurice Coyle** (Truata)
- **Dr Dympna O'Sullivan** (TUD, Computer Science)

Schedule:

- 9:00: Registration & Coffee
- 9:20: Welcome & Opening
- 9:35: Panel 1: Ethical and regulatory perspectives
- 10:45: Coffee Break
- 11:00: Panel 2: Practical proposals
- 12:10: Closing
- 12:15: Light Lunch

Hosted by: Dr Sara Benedi Lahuerta (UCD, Law)

Funded and organised by:



In collaboration with:



Image: 'Head in the Cloud' by Stuart Kinlough

DETAILED CONTENT AND SPEAKERS' INFORMATION:

Panel 1: AI-based gender discrimination: Ethical and the regulatory perspectives

Talk 1 – “AI, Gender Equality and Algorithmic discrimination: refreshing old legislative frameworks or spicing up equality law with ex-ante regulation ?”

By Mr Fabian Lütz



Bio: Fabian Lütz is a PhD candidate at the University of Lausanne (UNIL) who specialises in European law, gender equality and non-discrimination law, AI regulation and algorithmic discrimination. He studied law in France (licence and maîtrise en droit), Germany (First and Second Legal State Exam) and Belgium where he obtained an LL.M. in European Law and Economic Analysis at the College of Europe in Bruges. From 2015 to 2020, Mr. Lütz worked as a Legal Officer in the Gender Equality Unit at the European Commission. Previously, he worked for law firms in Belgium and Germany. He has published widely on gender equality, AI and algorithmic discrimination and speaks regularly at academic conferences. Most recently he wrote the chapter on Artificial Intelligence and Gender-Based Discrimination in the Oxford University Press book on Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence (2023), Quintavalla Alberto, Temperman Jeroen (eds.).

Talk 2 – “AI, Gender and Society: Is the design of AI eroding gender equality in society?”

By Dr Susan Leavy



Bio: Dr Susan Leavy is an Assistant Professor in the School of Information and Communication and funded investigator with the Insight SFI Centre for Data Analytics. Her research interests concern artificial intelligence, text analytics and AI Ethics. Current research focuses on bias and discrimination in AI and ethical guidelines for the design of recommender algorithms. Susan earned a PhD at Trinity College Dublin detecting bias in political news with machine learning and natural language processing. She holds an MPhil in Gender and Women's studies, an MSc in Artificial Intelligence and a BA in Philosophy and English Literature. Susan also worked internationally in the technology in the investment banking sector. She is Ireland's nominee to the Global Partnership in AI (GPAI) and has been appointed to the Irish government's AI Advisory council.

Panel 1 discussant: Dr Mina Hosseini



Bio: Dr Mina Hosseini is a Marie Skłodowska–Curie postdoctoral fellow at UCD Sutherland School of Law with a PhD in Competition Law from SBU Tehran. Before joining UCD, she was a lecturer at USC Iran, where she taught Contract, Competition and Tort Law and was the academic manager and co-editor of the Journal of Modern Technologies Law. In 2019, She received the National Student Book of the Year Award in Law for her monograph on Comparative Competition Law. She has given several guest lectures and invited talks at Universidad de Málaga, Société de Législation Comparée, Technische Universität Dresden, Queen’s University Belfast and UCD. Her research has an interdisciplinary and comparative focus and has been published in top academic journals and presented at international conferences and workshops. Her research interests include Competition Law and Policy, Health Law, and the legal aspects of using Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare.

Panel 2: Practical proposals to addressing AI-based gender discrimination

Talk 1 – “Attempting to bridge the accountability gap - The case for the regulated professional”

By Dr Vivek Nallur



Bio: Dr Vivek Nallur works on Machine Ethics. He is interested in how to implement and verify ethics in autonomous machines. He works on questions such as what kinds of ethics would be suitable for autonomous machines, how would we ensure that individually ethical machines don't combine to produce un-ethical behaviour, how do we compute the value considerations and conflicts in a multi-stakeholder situation. He is deeply interested in inter-disciplinary and collaborative research. He is a Senior Member of the IEEE. He is also a full voting member on the IEEE P7008 Standards committee for Ethically Driven Nudging for Robotic, Intelligent and Autonomous Systems. He serves on the Programme Committees of several inter-disciplinary conferences and workshops (AAAI Spring Symposium 2021, KR 2021-23, EUMAS-2024) that focus on implementing ethics in autonomous systems.

Talk 2 – “Detecting and mitigating bias and privacy risks for responsible analytics”

By Dr Maurice Coyle



Bio: Dr Maurice Coyle is Trūata’s Chief Data Scientist. He has more than 15 years of experience building innovative technology solutions that deliver improved experiences while respecting user privacy. Trūata creates solutions to enable data collaboration while respecting the fundamental right to privacy of data subjects, and ensuring organisations remain compliant with all relevant data protection legislation. Deeply passionate about responsible analytics, Trūata seeks to equip organisations with tools for making informed decisions around data use that fosters trust with their customers.

Panel 2 discussant: Dr Dympna O'sullivan



Bio: Dr Dympna O'sullivan is a Senior Lecturer and Assistant Head of School at the School of Computer Science at Technical University Dublin City Campus. She received a PhD in Computer Science from UCD in 2006. She completed her post-doctoral work in Health Informatics with the MET research group at the University of Ottawa (2006-08). She has also lectured in various universities in the UK (Aston University, Birmingham, and City, University of London) and Ireland (National College of Ireland). Her research is in Human Centered AI, an emerging discipline intent on creating AI systems that amplify and augment rather than displace human abilities. She is particularly interested in the application of Human Computer Interaction as a methodology to mitigate AI risks and to drive interpretable, explainable and trustworthy AI.

Host & Event moderator: Dr Sara Benedi Lahuerta



Bio: Dr Sara Benedi Lahuerta is an Assistant Professor at UCD, Sutherland School of Law, and the former founding Director of the Stefan Cross Research Centre for Women, Equality and Law (University of Southampton). She has published widely in the field of equality and anti-discrimination law, at EU and comparative levels. She is the Co-Editor-In-Chief of the Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality and Anti-Discrimination Law (BCCE) E-Journal and the Co-Director of its Pay Equity and Living Wage Working Group.