



# **CYBERSECURITY**

**A MATTER OF LAW OR  
A MATTER OF JUSTICE?**

**23-24 SEPTEMBER 2025**

**Durham Law School  
Durham University**



# WELCOME TO DURHAM



## Day One: PGR Meet

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This international postgraduate forum convenes emerging researchers from the Universities of Bristol, Bath, Newcastle and Eindhoven University of Technology to exchange ideas and foster collaborative research.

## Day Two: Workshop

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This workshop explores cybersecurity as a legal, operational, and ethical challenge.

Through expert keynotes and interactive discussions, participants will examine regulatory compliance, organisational responsibilities, and lessons from recent cyber incidents. Bringing together academics, policymakers, and industry leaders, the programme offers practical insight into emerging threats and strategies to strengthen resilience.

**This event has been generously sponsored by RISCS**

# WORKSHOP CONVENERS



**DR REBECCA  
OWENS**

Dr. Rebecca Owens is a Research Associate in AI Law at Durham University, contributing legal, ethical, and social science expertise to the Horizon Europe ENCIRCLE project. Her research examines the regulation of emerging technologies, with a particular focus on promoting fundamental rights in socio-technical systems. She previously held a Research Associate role at Newcastle University on the EPSRC-funded AGENCY project and holds a PhD in intellectual property and competition law from the University of Liverpool, where she also earned her LLM (Distinction) and LLB.

Recognised as a rising scholar in socio-technical cybersecurity, Dr. Owens employs a mixed-methods approach that integrates quantitative computational social science with qualitative analysis. As part of this, she has co-developed several digital tools and privacy-enhancing technologies, collaborating with regulators such as the Financial Conduct Authority to empower citizens online.

**Research Associate in AI Law  
Durham University**



**DR PARTHA  
DAS CHOWDHURY**

Dr. Partha Das Chowdhury is Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Software Security at the University of Bristol and a core member of the UKRI National Research Centre on Privacy, Harm Reduction and Adversarial Influence Online (REPHRAIN). His research spans two strands: developing testbedOS for reproducible security and privacy evaluation, and applying Amartya Sen's Capability Approach to inclusive security engineering.

He co-led work uncovering cloning attacks in Signal and WhatsApp desktop clients, evaluated CSAM detection technologies for GCHQ and the Home Office, and contributed to UK regulatory policy on app security and privacy through REPHRAIN. His publications include Software: Practice and Experience, IEEE SecDev, ACM NSPW, USENIX PePR, CSCW, and the International Security Protocols Workshop. He has received best paper awards at IEEE SecDev 2024 and ACM CSCW 2023.

**Lecturer in Software Security  
University of Bristol**

# DAY ONE: PGR MEET

23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025

## PROGRAM TIMES & SPEAKER DETAILS

11:30	Registration
12:00	Welcome from Dr Rebecca Owens and Dr Partha Das Chowdhury
12:10	Lucy Davies – Privacy Poverty to Privacy Justice: A framework for Sex Work and Beyond
12:35	Sophia Walsh – Mind the Gap. Exploring the Role Privacy Labels Can Play to Support User Understanding of Data Rights
1:00	Lunch Break
2:00	Roy Ricaldi – Uncovering the Trust Signals Supporting Telegram’s Cybercrime Economy
2:25	Eldar Jalilzade – Continuous Mobile Authentication via Multimodal Behavioural Biometrics in Short-Form Video Apps
2:50	Break
3:05	Elizabeth Kolade – Bridging Cyber Borders: CSIRTs as Transnational Networks in Global Cybersecurity
3:30	Guest Talk by Dr Han Wu- Auditing Privacy-Preserving AI: Legal and Technical Perspectives on Differential Privacy and Machine Unlearning
4:00	Closing Session



# MEET OUR PGR DAY SPEAKERS

23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025,  
DURHAM LAW SCHOOL



**Lucy Davies**

University of Bristol



Privacy Poverty to Privacy  
Justice: a Framework for Sex  
Work and Beyond



**Eldar Jalilzade**

Newcastle University



Continuous Mobile Authentication  
via Multimodal Behavioural  
Biometrics in Short-Form Video  
Apps



**Elizabeth Kolade**

University of Bath

Bridging Cyber Borders: CSIRTs  
as Transnational Networks in  
Global Cybersecurity



**Roy Ricaldi**

Eindhoven University of Technology



Uncovering the Trust Signals  
Supporting Telegram's  
Cybercrime Economy



**Sophia Walsh**

University of Bristol



Mind the Gap. Exploring the  
Role Privacy Labels Can Play to  
Support User Understanding of  
Data Rights



**Dr Han Wu**

University of Southampton



Auditing Privacy-Preserving AI:  
Legal and Technical  
Perspectives on Differential  
Privacy and Machine Unlearning

# DAY TWO

# WORKSHOP

24 SEPTEMBER 2025

PROGRAM TIMES & SPEAKER DETAILS

9:30	Registration
10:00	Welcome
10:20	Prof. Aad Van Moorsel
11:00	Break
11:15	Prof. Ben Farrand
11:55	Dr Karen Renaud
12:35	Lunch Break
13:25	Peter Davies
14:00	Break
14:15	Panel featuring Kuan Hon, Kevin Howell, Danielle Phillips, and Joanna Syrda, moderated by Stergios Aidinlis
15:15	Closing Session



# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**24TH SEPTEMBER 2025,  
DURHAM LAW SCHOOL**



Peter Davies is a Security Expert operating at the convergence of Safety and Security. An honorary Fellow with Imperial College's Institute for Security Science & Technology and chair of the AESIN Security Workstream. He is a leading expert on countering Cyber Attacks, targeted Supply Chain Infiltration and Cyber Physical Attacks. As well as being part of the design of many of the largest scale global security systems he has led the Cyber Security aspects of over 20 research activities including in Communications, Connected and Automated Vehicles, IoT and IIoT and has 30+ years of verifying security systems in hardware and software. Peter likes to say that he does security where it can't afford to fail. Peter is sought after by organizations for his advice on their legal position with respect to cyber-attacks.

**PETER DAVIES**    Technical Director of Thales Group



Benjamin Farrand is Professor of Law & Emerging Technologies at Newcastle University. His research is interdisciplinary and focuses on the interactions between law and politics in the regulation of new technologies, with a particular focus on issues of cybersecurity and online safety, and the impact of geopolitics on governance norms. His forthcoming book, 'Geopolitical Union: Europe's Attempt to Regain Control of Technology Regulation' considers the von der Leyen Commission's Digital Sovereignty agenda, and its impact upon its approach to regulation. He has published in journals such as the Oxford Journal of Legal Studies, International Affairs, the Journal of Common Market Studies, European Security, Crime, Law and Social Change and the Journal of European Integration. He is currently the Regulation and Governance lead for the Newcastle University Centre of Research Excellence in Cybersecurity and Resilience, and leads the British International Studies Association 'International Studies and Emerging Technologies' working group.

**PROF. BEN  
FARRAND**    Professor of Law and Emerging Technology,  
Newcastle University

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Dr. Karen Renaud emphasizes a human-centered approach to cybersecurity, advocating for systems that naturally integrate security measures in a way that aligns with human behaviour and expectations. She focuses on making security interactions straightforward yet effective, emphasizing the importance of understanding and addressing the mental models users hold about security.

**DR KAREN  
RENAUD**

**Reader, Computer and Information Sciences,  
University of Strathclyde**



Aad van Moorsel is a Professor in Computer Science at University of Birmingham. He has led large interdisciplinary projects in human-centred cyber security. This includes work with Atom Bank on understanding consumer trust in digital banking, work in fighting financial exclusions sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and exploiting human unconscious biases to improve security behaviours. The most recent project is EPSRC-funded AGENCY, <https://agencyresearch.net>, within the Online Safety strategic priority area. AGENCY included academics from law, business, culture, AI, cyber security and interaction design and resulted in the Online Safety toolbox available online. In his research Aad innovates by integrating co-design and other research methods within traditional technology-oriented research.

**PROF. AAD  
VAN MOORSEL**

**Head of Department,  
School of Computing Science,  
University of Birmingham**



# PANEL CHAIR



Dr Stergios Aidinlis is an Associate Professor in AI Law at Durham Law School and, during 2025/26, an Innovation Fellow at the Digital Regulation Cooperation Forum (DRCF).

At Durham, he is acting as the University's lead researcher in three multidisciplinary projects in law and AI funded by InnovateUK, Horizon Europe and the British Academy. He is the author of two research monographs, *Big Data for the Public Good* (Hart, 2025) and *Governing Digital Public Infrastructure* (Routledge, 2025). Previously, Stergios was a Lecturer in Law and the Programme Director of the LLM/MSc in Law, Artificial Intelligence and New Technologies at Keele Law School. He joined Keele in 2023, having previously worked as a Researcher on Law and AI at the University of Oxford, Faculty of Law.

**DR STERGIOS  
AIDINLIS**

**Associate Professor of AI Law  
Durham University**

# PANELISTS



Kevin Howell is a seasoned technology leader with over 30 years' experience in emerging and transformative technologies. As CEO and Founder of Howell Technology Group, he brings a strategic, forward-thinking approach to leadership, combining technical expertise with a clear vision for innovation and growth.

Kevin's career is defined by an ability to anticipate market trends, translate them into practical solutions, and inspire teams to deliver measurable business impact. He is passionate about building high-performing cultures, nurturing talent, and driving operational excellence.

A recognised leader in the secure cloud space, Kevin has guided his organisation to Microsoft Advanced Specialist Partner status and led significant UK expansion. His ambitious five-year growth plan reflects his commitment to creating opportunities, aiming to generate up to 100 new jobs while setting new benchmarks for performance.

**KEVIN  
HOWELL**

**CEO HTG Group**

# PANELISTS



**DR KUAN  
HON**

Dr W Kuan Hon (Of Counsel, Privacy and Cybersecurity Group, Dentons) is qualified in England/Wales/New York, with computing science and law degrees and academic research experience in cloud computing law. She advises on data protection/security (e.g. GDPR/ePrivacy, NIS Regulations, NIS2 Directive) and broader technology/data-related legal/regulatory issues (e.g. EU AI Act, Digital Services Act, Data Act, UK Online Safety Act). Kuan is an Editor of the Encyclopedia of Data Protection and Privacy and author of Technology and Security for Lawyers and Other Professionals: The Basics and Beyond.

She was previously appointed to the UK government's International Data Transfer Expert Council and was guest lecturer for Imperial College London's AI MSc students (AI-related laws) and Computing Science undergraduate students (data protection laws). Kuan has volunteered for the UK NCSC's Legal team, the Information Commissioner's Office and UN Privacy Preserving Techniques Legal Task Team. She has also benefited from pen-testing training.

**Of Counsel, Privacy and Cybersecurity  
Group, Dentons**



**DANIELLE  
PHILLIPS**

Danielle Phillips leads the North East's cyber security network and cluster, CyberNorth. With the vision of making the region the most connected and collaborative place to launch and run a cyber business and have a cyber career, the team focuses on delivering the skills we need, building a strong ecosystem and fostering innovation in the sector. As well as supporting regional cyber businesses to reach their goals, Danielle is a passionate advocate for attracting enterprises and talent to the region, as well as ensuring the North is represented nationally in government policy and strategy.

Danielle is a native North Easterner, a Durham alumna, and currently sits on the board at John Snow College.

**CEO CyberNorth**



# PANELISTS



**DR JOANNA  
SYRDA**

Dr Joanna Syrda is a Lecturer in Business Economics at the University of Bath, working at the intersection of economics and digital security and privacy. Her interdisciplinary expertise spans labour economics, industrial organization, behavioural economics, environmental economics, political psychology and the cyber economics – covering topics such as secure hardware adoption incentives; the role of social norms, information provision and learning; digital privacy valuations and inequalities; and the frames of cyber power.

She is a member of World Economic Forum's Cybersecurity of Electricity Sector Expert Group and is Co Investigator for the ESRC Digital Security by Design Social Science Hub (Discribe) and the EPSRC CyberStatecraft project. Dr Syrda is also one of the investigators behind "Threats and Trade offs," an innovative serious game simulation exploring how entrepreneurs balance cybersecurity investments against other business growth needs.

**Assistant Professor, Management,  
Bath University**



# THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

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