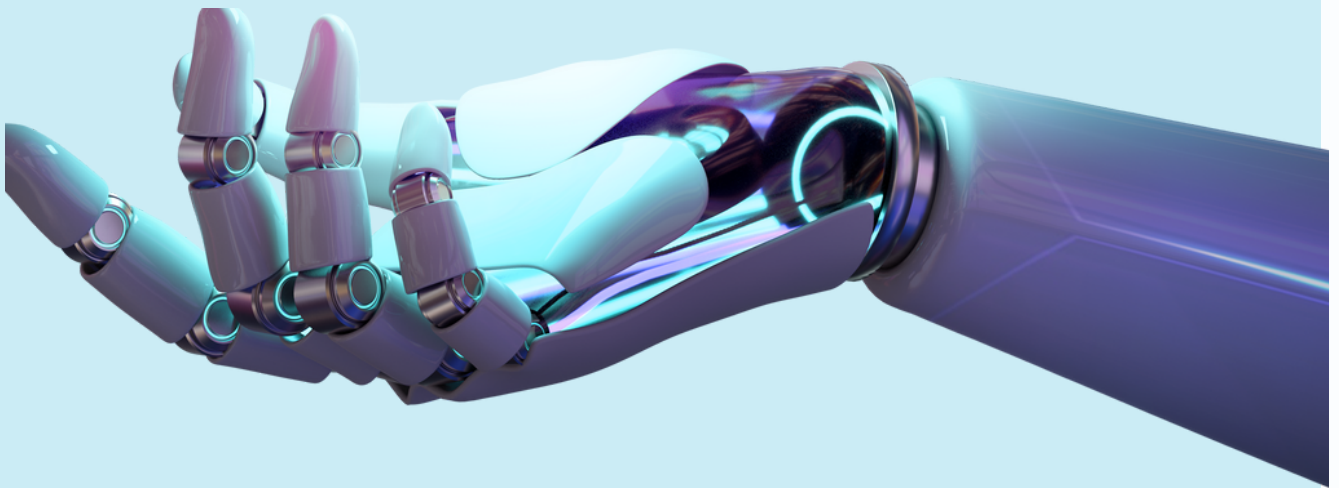


# AI, ETHICS & THE HUMAN

LINAS  
Conference  
Programme

10th May 2023





# AI, Ethics and the Human

## *Conference Vision*

The Leverhulme Interdisciplinary Network on Algorithmic Solutions (LINAS) hosts an annual Postgraduate Research Conference organised by a small committee of students from the LINAS cohort. Focused on a broad theme related to AI and ethics, chosen by the committee, the conference is entirely student-led.

The Annual Postgraduate Research Conference provides a platform for postgraduate students and researchers, from Queen's University Belfast and beyond, to showcase their research to a wide audience and to build networks with other interdisciplinary researchers from across the world.

This year's theme is 'AI, Ethics and the Human'. Through presentations and discussions, we will address major questions pertaining to the implications of massive-scale data processing, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML).

AI is permeating our daily lives: it extends to our socialisation with others, our job applications and even our healthcare. These algorithmic decision-making processes are increasingly far-reaching, and yet many remain unaware of their extent as they operate in the background of our lives. The LINAS conference seeks to discuss both this ubiquity and invisibility. Our main objective is to motivate and encourage researchers to consider and explore these AI-driven, human-technology interactions across a broad range of fields, including education, medicine, the home, borders, and wider society. *How is AI changing what it means to be human?*

## **Acknowledgement**

We are pleased to acknowledge that financial support for this year's conference comes from the Leverhulme Trust.

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# *Programme*

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|              |                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>9.00</b>  | Registration                          |
| <b>9.20</b>  | Welcome Remarks: Prof Richard English |
| <b>9.30</b>  | Panel 1 'Surveillance and Security'   |
| <b>10.30</b> | Break: Tea and Coffee                 |
| <b>10.45</b> | LINAS Forum                           |
| <b>11.30</b> | Panel 2 'Robotics and Automation'     |
| <b>12.30</b> | Lunch                                 |
| <b>13.30</b> | Panel 3 'AI in Society'               |
| <b>15.00</b> | Break: Tea and Coffee                 |
| <b>15.15</b> | Keynote Speaker: Prof Matthias Leese  |
| <b>16.15</b> | Closing remarks: Prof John Morison    |
| <b>16.30</b> | Close                                 |



### **Professor Matthias Leese**

We are delighted to welcome Professor Matthias Leese as our keynote speaker.

Matthias Leese is Assistant Professor for Technology and Governance at the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences, ETH Zurich. His research is interested in the effects of digital technologies on social order. It pays specific attention to security organizations and their rationales and practices that are co-constituted between the technological and the social.



### **Professor Richard English**

Richard English is Director of the Mitchell Institute, and a Professor of Politics in the School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics at Queen's University. His research focuses on political violence and on nationalism. His books include the award-winning studies *Armed Struggle: The History of the IRA* (2003) and *Irish Freedom: The History of Nationalism in Ireland* (2006). He is a Fellow of the British Academy, a Member of the Royal Irish Academy, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. In 2019 he was awarded the Royal Irish Academy's Gold Medal in the Social Sciences.



### **Professor John Morison**

John Morison is Professor of Jurisprudence in the School of Law at QUB. He has published widely in the areas of constitutional theory, the judiciary and the legal professions as well as new technology. He is the Coordinator of the Leverhulme Interdisciplinary Network on Algorithmic Solutions (LINAS).

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**S P E A K E R**  
**B I O G R A P H I E S**

# CHAIR BIOGRAPHIES

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## Doctor Ciarán O'Kelly

Dr Ciarán O'Kelly is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Law, Queen's University Belfast and coordinator of the LLM in Law and Technology. His research focuses on how the concept of accountability plays out in corporate and administrative settings. He is especially interested in the interplay of business and human rights and in how organisations conceptualise, manage and share knowledge.



## Doctor Teresa Degenhardt

Dr Teresa Degenhardt is a criminologist who teaches at Queen's University Belfast. She works at the intersection between criminology and international relations, focusing on issues related to processes of criminalization within the international sphere: criminalization of war; the criminalization of migrants, the uses of borders and technology to these ends. She has been a visiting scholar at the University of California, Berkeley, the Hamburg Institute for Social Research and the University of Turin.



## Doctor Mike Bourne

Dr Mike Bourne is a Reader in International Security. His work engages the connections of security and technology with a focus on technologies of violence, arms control, border control and illicit trafficking. His theoretical work within critical security studies develops new approaches oriented through new materialist, process-relational philosophies, the philosophy of technology and Science and Technology Studies. His research has engaged the development of border security technologies, the growth of automated borders, technologies of violence, and arms control and disarmament. It has been published in Security Dialogue, Contemporary Security Policy, European Security, Social Studies of Science, International Politics, Critical Studies on Security, Global Change, Peace and Security, and others.

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## FOLLOW THE CONVERSATION

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#LINAS23

## Panel 1: Surveillance and Security

Chair: Dr Ciarán O'Kelly

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Karli Gibson   | <i>UK Bordering: An Algorithmic Hostile Environment</i>   |
| James Sweeney  | <i>Intelligent Voice Assistants: A Fundamental Influence on the Age of Surveillance Capitalism</i>    |
| Jason McKillen | <i>Decentralised Defence: 3D Printing, Security, and the Democratisation of Weapons Manufacturing</i> |

## Panel 2: Automation and Robotics

Chair: Dr Teresa Degenhardt

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|-------------------|--|
| Hugh Williams     | <i>The Responsibility Gap: A unique problem for social robots</i>                              |
| Femi Omotoyinbo   | <i>3 Ps of Programming Morality into Killer Robots</i>   |
| Mauricio Figueroa | <i>'I'm dying to talk to you': technological approaches to mitigate the risks in ghostbots</i> |

## Panel 3: AI in Society

Chair: Dr Mike Bourne

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|----------------|--|
| David Mark     | <i>smART attack - Examining the societal and legal implications of AI generated artistry</i>   |
| Stanley Simoes | <i>AI and Core Electoral Processes: Mapping the Horizons</i>   |
| Samira Allioi  | <i>The use of Artificial Intelligence in the decision-making process and the right of individual application: the European Court of Human Rights</i> |
| Shania Kirk    | <i>Managing the influence of EdTech companies on the UK education system</i>   |
| Jarlath Warner | <i>Emergent Program Generation for Lightweight AI</i>  |

## Chair: Tomás McInerney

Tomás is a third year PhD student that looks at the use of artificial intelligence in the courts, focusing on the question when, if ever, is it acceptable for algorithms to make judicial decisions? The research is supervised by Professor John Morison, with whom he is working on other related projects on decision-making and AI more broadly. Away from the PhD, Tomás enjoys playing Gaelic football, following the premier league, and telling people about good films he has recently watched.



The LINAS forum has been designed to showcase some of the wide ranging, cutting edge research that is currently being undertaken by those involved with the LINAS doctoral training programme. As such we have afforded some of our doctoral scholars who are not participating in the panels today the opportunity to present their work in a short forum style presentation. We hope this provides a clearer understanding of the ideals and research themes behind this programme that will lead to opportunities and conversations around future collaboration.

## SPEAKERS

Jessica Barr

*Machine learning-enhanced diagnostics of open quantum networks*

Marc Elliott

*Ethics of AI and the Public Sector: Addressing Fairness Concerns*

Anna Montgomery

*The Smart Home as a Site of Control*

Katherine Pittalis

*Algorithmic Relation: Malicious bots and their impact on the music industry*

Joshua Weston

*Machine and Algorithm-driven discovery in Big Data: Implications for Scientific Reproducibility*



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## CONFERENCE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

### **Karli Gibson (Chair)**

Karli is in the second year of her PhD, researching the use of algorithms in UK bordering processes and addresses subsequent questions of responsibility through a material-semiotic approach.

**We would also like to thank the following LINAS scholars who sat on the organising committee:**

- Shania Kirk
- Anna Montgomery
- David Mark
- James Sweeney
- Joshua Weston

### **WITH ADDITIONAL THANKS TO...**

The conference organisers would like to extend thanks to Valerie Miller, Brett Walker and the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Peace, Security & Justice for their invaluable guidance throughout the conference planning process.

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## CONTACT DETAILS

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