Roundtable series

Artificial Intelligence and Security Governance in Contemporary International Affairs:

Information societies, decision-making and security

25th November, 2022

Hotel Amadria Park Capital, Jurišićeva 22, Zagreb

Contemporary society is driven by the fast-track information revolution. **A gradual transfer of decision-making procedures and processes into digital realm fosters its efficiency and effectiveness, but also raises different security-related questions and reservations.**

Algorithms have an increasingly important role in defining main determinants of information flow and their dissemination. They influence data availability, collection, and management. Thus, a mathematical set of rules specifies the behaviour of different data groups and influences the decision-making process at different levels of societal developments, private, business, national or international. Henceforth, **the IT security, and the role of AI become vital for the debate about decision-making and security in contemporary international environment.** In the context of growing use of algorithms in the decision-making processes, that is becoming increasingly AI-based and automatic, with less and less reliance on human resources, the issue of security positions itself at the top of priority list of every serious decision-making process.

- ♦ Can AI influence the geopolitical positioning of member states and of the EU itself?
- ♦ What is the EU's perspective on AI, cyber security and/or defence?
- ♦ Is it possible to regulate the influence of AI? Where is the line between the information necessary for learning and the excessive usage of information which could lead to security and democratic threats?
- ♦ How can AI be governed in the public sector so that it can simultaneously provide efficient public services and the protection of individuals?

We look forward to seeing you!

REGISTRATION QR CODE

ZOOM LINK

PASSCODE: 102030

PROGRAMME	
09:30 - 10:00	Registration
10:00 - 10:10	<u>Introductory speeches</u>: **Aleksandra Markić Boban, MSc**, *Head of Project Office Zagreb, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung* **Sandro Knezović, PhD,** *Research Adviser, Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO), Zagreb*
10:10 - 10:30	<u>KEYNOTE SPEECH</u> **Ognian Zlatev,** *Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Croatia*
10:30 - 12:00	I. **PANEL: EU and Decision-making in Contemporary Digital Governance** Digital Sovereignty of the EU **- Karlo Ressler, PhD,** *Vice President of AIDA (Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in the Digital Age), European Parliament* Development of Digital Infrastructure: Threats and Challenges – a View from Croatia **- Bernard Gršić**, *State Secretary of the Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society* Strategic Aspects of Cyber and Information Security – a view from Slovenia **- Ivana Boštjančič Pulko**, **PhD**, *Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Information Security* Moderator: **Sandro Knezović, PhD,** *Research Adviser, Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO), Zagreb*
12:00 - 12:30	*Coffee break*
12:30 - 13:45	II. **PANEL: Artificial Intelligence – a View from Academia and Private Sector** Digital Policy and Data Governance **- Anke Obendiek**, **PhD**, *Centre for European Integration Research, University of Vienna* AI in Digital Era, Benefits, And Challenges in Private Sector **- Mislav Malenica**, *President of the Croatian Association for Artificial Intelligence (CroAI), Mindsmiths* Security Threats and the Resilience of Private and National Security Systems **- Boris Bajtl**, *Vice President of Croatian Cyber Security Institute, Atos Croatia* Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence in Diplomacy **- Prof. Đana Luša, PhD**, *Faculty of Political Science* Moderator: **Aleksandra Markić Boban, MSc**, *Head of Project Office Zagreb, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung*
13:45	*Reception*
	Working language is English

Sandro Knezović, PhD, *senior researcher associate, IRMO*

Dr. Sandro Knezović is a Senior Research Associate at the Institute for Development and International Relations in Zagreb (Croatia). He earned his academic degree in Political Science at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb. His research is concentrated on IR topics, especially those related to international and European security (CFSP/CSDP), the EU and NATO enlargement and its impact on the region of Southeast Europe. He is a member of numerous international expert and he has published a number of scientific and professional papers and books.

Aleksandra Markić Boban, *Head of Project Office Zagreb, Hanns Seidel Foundation*

Aleksandra Markić Boban graduated from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb in English and German Language and Literature (MA), and holds a MScs in European Studies from the Faculty of Political Science of the University of Zagreb. Before joining the Hanns Seidel Foundation, Aleksandra worked for the ECMM and the EUAM as well as for the German Ambassy in Zagreb. In her capacity as the Head of Project Office in Zagreb she was responsible for initiating, organizing and evaluating more than 1,000 events dealing with politics, diplomacy, law and local self-government. Her main focus is on the European affairs, international affairs and development cooperation. Aleksandra is co-editor of the book "Public Diplomacy: Nation Branding and Image" and co-editor of the collection of papers "A Chance or a Threat? Reform of Local and Regional Self-Government in Croatia".

Karlo Ressler, PhD, *Vice President of AIDA (Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in the Digital Age), European Parliament*

MEP Karlo Ressler (EPP) is the general rapporteur of the European Parliament for the EU budget 2022. He also sits in the Committee on Civil liberties, Judiciary and Home Affairs. He was Vice-President of the Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in a Digital Age. Prior to his term in the European Parliament, he served as an advisor in the Cabinet of Prime Minister of Croatia Andrej Plenković. From 2018 to 2021, he was Vice-President of the Youth of the European People's Party (YEPP). Ressler graduated law with honours (magna cum laude) at the Faculty of Law in Zagreb. In 2022, he defended his doctoral dissertation at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law in Freiburg.

Bernard Gršić, *State Secretary in the Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society*

Bernard Gršić is State Secretary in charge of the development of the Croatian digital society, i.e., focusing on digitising public administration, economy, enhancing digital skills of citizens and promoting cybersecurity. His work and teaching activities focus on digital policy, informatisation, use of digital technology and cybersecurity within private and public sector. His fields of interest include the implementation of projects which facilitate the deployment of evolving and emerging technologies. He studied electrical engineering.

Mislav Malenica, *President of the Croatian Association for Artificial Intelligence (CroAI),* Mindsmiths

Mislav is the CEO and founder of Mindsmiths and the president of the Croatian Artificial Intelligence Association (CroAI). He's an expert in AI, machine learning, game theory, and the modelling of human behavior. Mislav has 18 years of experience in AI, first as a research fellow at Ruđer Bošković Institute and later through AI startup endeavors both in Silicon Valley and Europe. At Mindsmiths, Mislav and his team are building a tool for developing AI-first applications.

Anke Obendiek, PhD, *Centre for European Integration Research, University of Vienna*

Anke Obendiek is a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for European Integration Research at the University of Vienna. She received her PhD from the Hertie School, Berlin, in 2020. Her book "Data Governance: Value Orders and Jurisdictional Conflicts" was published by Oxford University Press in 2022. From 2017 to 2020, she was a research associate in the DFG-funded project 'Evolving Internet Interfaces: Content Control and Privacy Protection' at the Hertie School and a research affiliate at the Berlin Graduate School for Global and Transregional Studies. Her research focuses on digital policy and data governance from a global perspective.

Boris Bajtl, *Head of Global Delivery Centre Croatia at Atos - Vice-president of Croatian Cyber Security Institute*

Mr. Boris Bajtl holds more than 25 years of experience in the IT industry, having a strong skill set and expertise in areas of cyber security, R&D management, business strategy, people management, sales operations, project management and more. Currently, as Head of the Global Delivery Centre at Atos Croatia, he is responsible for

the performance and efficiency of delivery services, operational quality and productivity based on defined KPI's, attracting, retaining and developing the best talent and compliance of overall operations with the referred business model. Boris is vice-president of the Croatian Institute of Cyber Security, an Executive MBA candidate at Cotrugli Business School and Associate Assistant at the University of Osijek in the area of Technical Sciences, Scientific Fields of Computer Science and Information Technology.

Đana Luša, PhD, *associate professor, Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb*

Đana Luša, PhD, is an associate professor at the Department of International Relations and Security Studies, Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb. Her primary fields of interests are US foreign policy, small states and diplomacy. She served as the Vice-Director of the Postgraduate programme of Foreign Policy and Diplomacy, the Vice-Dean for Science and International Cooperation and an Executive Editor of the Publishing house *Politicka misao*. In 2020 she was elected as a Vice-Dean for academic and student affairs. During the early stages of her career, she held positions as Secretary General of the Atlantic Council of Croatia and the Centre for International Studies as well as President of the Youth Atlantic Council of Croatia. Her teaching experience includes courses in International Relations, Diplomacy, US Foreign Policy and Transatlantic Relations at the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level. She actively takes part in the most relevant international conferences in political science, resulting in publications in international peer-reviewed journals. Currently she participates as a researcher in three competitive European projects.

Ivana Boštjančić Pulko, *Head of International Affairs Division at the Government Information Security Office of the Republic of Slovenia*

Ivana Boštjančič Pulko is the Head of International Affairs Division at the Government Information Security Office of the Republic of Slovenia and is responsible for strategic aspects and international relations related to cybersecurity of the Republic of Slovenia at the national competent authority for cybersecurity. Her responsibilities involve mainly the work in the framework of the European Union, bilateral relations, European Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA), OSCE and NATO. She previously worked as the Head of Peace and Security programme at the Slovenian government organisation CEP (Centre for European Perspective) affiliated with the Slovenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is a PhD candidate in International and Diplomatic Studies.