

Ethical and Societal Implications of Security Technologies in Border Management

TIME 10:00 CET
DURATION 2.5 hours
PLATFORM ZOOM



1 OPENING AND WELCOME ; 10 minutes

ISIG; chair

- Introduction: Purpose of the workshop, collaboration between the projects, and the importance of ethical considerations in security technologies.
- Speakers: Representatives from all organising projects (coordinators)

2 ODYSSEUS PRESENTATION ; 15 minutes

'Unpacking the AI Act: Insights from the ODYSSEUS project on research impact, challenges, and concerns'

Marina Andeva – Institute of International Sociology of Gorizia
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- The presentation will examine the implications of the AI Act through the lens of the ODYSSEUS Project, focusing on its impact, challenges, and concerns for AI research and development. As the first comprehensive regulatory framework for artificial intelligence in Europe, the AI Act sets new standards for innovation, transparency, and risk management. The ODYSSEUS Project, a multi-disciplinary research initiative, provides a unique perspective on how these regulations affect research projects, addressing concerns related to compliance, ethical considerations, and potential barriers to technological advancement. By analyzing the Act's meaning and its influence on AI research, the presentation aims to offer actionable insights and recommendations for navigating the regulatory landscape, fostering responsible innovation, and ensuring the successful integration of AI technologies in diverse sectors.

+ Q&A Session

3 BAG-INTEL PRESENTATION ; 15 minutes

'Navigating ethical challenges in AI-powered baggage screening: BAG-INTEL's approach'

Javier Valls-Prieto – University of Granada; jvalls@go.ugr.es
Henrik Larsen – Legind Technologies; henrik@legind.com

- The BAG-INTEL project aims to improve airport baggage screening systems to detect and process cases of baggage containing contraband. The project consortium faces ethical challenges related to the fact that the project focuses on human research, the use of AI, data protection, and the use of animals (detection dogs). To address these four issues, BAG-INTEL is developing an ethical strategy to comply with the legal requirements, mainly the GDPR and AI Act, as well as the ERC guidelines. As a multidisciplinary project, and given that it operates in the field of security and border control, BAG-INTEL has developed an ethical control of the project activities adapted to the needs of the project consortium. The focus is on ad hoc solutions that can also be used by other research projects facing similar challenges. The presentation aims to offer an overview of ethical solutions developed and incorporated by BAG-INTEL in light of its challenging operational scenario.

+ Q&A Session

4 FLEXI-CROSS PRESENTATION ; 15 minutes

'Ethics Risk Assessment and Mitigation for the FLEXI-cross Toolkit'

Ioana Cristina Cotoi – Engineering Ingegneria Informatica SpA;
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- As part of the FLEXI-cross project, a comprehensive risk assessment was performed on the modules of its toolkit to ensure compliance with ethical and legal standards. This assessment aimed to identify, evaluate, and mitigate potential risks associated with the deployment and use of the FLEXI-cross toolkit in relation to the rights and freedoms of citizens while crossing borders. In addition to the risk assessment, it was also evaluated the benefits for each module, to better reflect the trade-off between the potential positive outcomes of the use of FLEXI-cross toolkit against the potential negative consequences towards travellers' fundamental rights, freedoms and safety. During the presentation, the main hazards linked to the use of innovative border-checking solutions will be shown and also the mitigation strategies aimed at reducing these risks will be presented.

+ Q&A Session

5 I-SEAMORE PRESENTATION ; 15 minutes

'Navigating public trust and ethical boundaries in EU maritime border and security technologies: the I-SEAMORE approach to citizen engagement'

Lorenzo De Sabbata – Institute of International Sociology of Gorizia;
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- The presentation will delve into the societal challenges and ethical concerns surrounding border technologies through the perspective of the I-SEAMORE research project, focusing on its efforts to address public trust and inclusivity in EU maritime security. As Europe advances its maritime security frameworks, one of the fundamental challenges to face is the marginalization of human rights groups, hampering a more fundamental rights' informed approach to border surveillance. To tackle this conundrum, I-SEAMORE aims to foster the creation of a broader "EU Maritime Security Community," enabling cohesive, rights-oriented cooperation among stakeholders. In order to do this, the presentation will detail the conception of the I-SEAMORE Engagement Framework and the initiative undertook to explore citizens' perception and acceptance of EU Maritime Security System and foster civil society organisation and human rights groups participation in technology development for border management.

+ Q&A Session

6 Breakout sessions ; 50 minutes

'Interactive discussions'

Participants will split into breakout rooms to discuss specific topics brought forward by the presenters.

- Room 1: Legal and regulatory frameworks for ethical border technologies:**
 - How do legal frameworks affect border security technologies and how can we ensure compliance with ethical standards?
- Room 2: Addressing societal challenges and ethical dilemmas:**
 - Discussion on privacy, bias, and human rights concerns, and involving communities in technology development.
- Room 3: Operationalising ethical and societal principles in border management technologies:** How can ethical principles be integrated into border operations – discussion on practical solutions.

Breakout group presentations ; 20 minutes

- Rapporteurs from each group will present key findings and recommendations.

Closing remarks and next steps ; 10 minutes

- Summary: Key takeaways and planned collaborative efforts moving forward.