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**7th GIG-ARTS Conference**  
**15-16 May 2023, Padova**

## **The Governance of Cybersecurity: Resilience, Human Rights and Democracy**

**Department of Political Science, Law and  
International Studies (SPGI)  
University of Padova, Italy**

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### **GIG-ARTS 2023 Theme and Main Topics**

While during the early stage of Internet development security concerns were generally dealt with as a regulation matter with law enforcement authorities fighting cybercrime, cybersecurity has recently become one of the most debated and controversial issue in the field of internet governance.

Cyberattacks have changed in nature and intensity: their growing number; the variety of their targets (public institutions, critical infrastructures and utilities, large and strategic companies); in some cases the terrorist and/or quasi-military objectives of their proven or alleged authors, sponsors or beneficiaries; the expansion of their surface, making profit of digitalization progresses in all sectors; together with the escalation of geopolitical tensions and conflicts; are all features pushing cybersecurity issues to the top of the agendas of both public and private actors.

The increasing relevance of cybersecurity is reshaping state powers, public administration, private businesses, civil society and academic research as well. New agencies, procedures, and structures have been institutionalised both by national governments and international organisations to deal with cybersecurity policy problems. New power relations are being established, both inside and beyond the state. Governments, both at the national and local levels, are still struggling to find their own governance structures and set of instruments in the range of different cybersecurity models (e.g. cyber defence, cyber offence, cyber resilience, etc.) and

their possible implementations. The provision of public goods and services is undergoing a profound re-design and re-engineering process led by cybersecurity concerns, that implies new models of citizenship and new modes of public administration. Private companies are facing new challenges, often dealing with a shortage of skills and competences of the workforce, while new companies and new business models are emerging around the transnational market of cybersecurity.

At the global level, states, through their representatives at the United Nations and its different bodies, confirmed that international law applies online as it does offline. They also identified the need to better understand how international law could be applied in cyberspace, with issues of attribution, liability, sovereignty, rule of law and due diligence being raised. Given the multistakeholder feature of global internet governance, private companies have also jumped in with their own proposals, promoting their roles as possible norms entrepreneurs. Technical management and standardisation organisations have a prominent role to play as well when dealing with global cybersecurity.

As a consequence, new research agendas and scientific perspectives on cybersecurity are consolidating, shaping a novel multidisciplinary field of inquiry that is not only exceeding the original field of internet governance, but seems also phagocytizing it: internet governance as an issue of cybersecurity governance.

After having addressed “Global Internet Governance as a Diplomacy Issue” at its first edition in 2017, “Overcoming Inequalities in Internet Governance” in 2018, “Europe as a Global Player in Internet Governance” in 2019, “Online Information Governance” in 2020, and “Global Internet Governance and International Human Rights” in 2022, the European Multidisciplinary Conference on Global Internet Governance Actors, Regulations, Transactions and Strategies turns its attention this year to the governance of cybersecurity, in view of further investigating and inquiring the political, economic and epistemic transformations connected to the rise of cybersecurity and how they impact on democracy and human rights.

In addition to general internet governance issues and topics, submissions are particularly welcome on the following themes:

- Cybersecurity and democracy: civil liberties and human rights;
- Cybersecurity, citizenship and digital sovereignty;
- Institutionalisation of cybersecurity as a field of public policy;
- From cybersecurity to cyber resilience: risk analysis, organisational challenges and capacity building;
- Models and typologies of cybersecurity;
- Relationships between cybersecurity and internet governance;
- New theoretical frameworks and methods for the study of cybersecurity;
- Cybersecurity and public administration digitalization;
- The cybersecurity market and business models;
- New technological developments and cybersecurity;
- Cybersecurity narratives: policy discourses, cultures and ideologies;
- Cybersecurity strategies, policies, instruments, and their implementation;
- Multilateral and multistakeholder discussions and instruments for the global governance of cybersecurity;

- Cybersecurity in international relations: cyber warfare, cyber peace, diplomacy and international law;
- Cybersecurity in Europe Union strategy and policies.

### **Submission information**

Authors are invited to submit their extended abstracts (no longer than 500 words), describing their research question(s), theoretical framework, approach and methodology, expected findings or empirical outcome. Submitted abstracts will be evaluated through a peer-review process.

Abstracts and authors' information should be submitted through the EasyChair conference management system at:

**<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=gigarts2023>**

### **Key dates**

- Deadline for abstract submissions: 26 February 2023
- Notification to authors: 5 April 2023
- Authors registration (at least one author must register for a selected presentation to appear on the programme): From 5 to 15 April 2023
- Programme publication: 25 April 2023
- General registration: From 25 April to 5 May 2023
- Conference dates: 15 & 16 May 2023

### **GIG-ARTS 2023 Co-Sponsors (tbc)**

- Department of Political Science, Law and International Studies (SPGI) / University of Padova, Italy
- Grant programme PRIN: Progetti di Ricerca di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale – Bando 2020 Prot. 2020X5LAK7 / Ministry of University and Research, Italy
- Internet & Communication Policy Centre / University of Salerno, Italy
- LIP6 Laboratory, Sorbonne Université & CNRS, France
- Lodz Cyber Hub / University of Lodz, Poland

### **GIG-ARTS 2023 Committees**

#### *Co-Chairs*

- Joanna Kulesza, Łódź Cyber Hub, University of Łódź, Poland
- Meryem Marzouki, Global Internet Governance & Digital Rights Expert, France
- Maria Stella Righettini, Department of Political Science, Law and International Studies (SPGI), University of Padova, Italy

#### *Organizing Committee*

- Joanna Kulesza, Łódź Cyber Hub, University of Łódź, Poland
- Meryem Marzouki, Global Internet Governance & Digital Rights Expert, France
- Claudia Padovani, Department of Political Science, Law and International Studies (SPGI), University of Padova, Italy
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### **Venue**

GIG-ARTS 2023 will be held in Padova city centre, at The University of Padova (Archivio Antico room), Via VIII Febbraio, 2, 35122 Padova, Italy.

### **Conference Registration and Fees**

Registration fees are 100€ for regular participants and 50€ for students showing proof of status. Conference fees include a participant kit as well as coffee breaks and meals.

### **GIG-ARTS 2023 Communication Details**

- Website: [events.gig-arts.eu](https://events.gig-arts.eu)
- Email for information: [events@gig-arts.eu](mailto:events@gig-arts.eu)
- Submissions: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=gigarts2023>
- Twitter: @GigArtsEU - Hashtag: #GIGARTS23
- Mailing list for updates: <https://listes.lip6.fr/sympa/subscribe/info-gig-arts>