Tilburg Institute for Law, Technology, and Society (TILT)
TILT studies emerging technologies and their impact on the individual and society, recognizing the interplay between technology, regulation and fundamental values & human rights.

TIL Newsletter
October, 2017

Tilburg Institute for Law, Technology, and Society

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Dr. Linnet Taylor received an ERC grant from the European Research Council! She will work five years on the idea of data justice. It is going to be a largely conceptual project, but it will be based on insights from individuals, activists, technology developers and policymakers around the world.

The highly competitive ERC Starting Grants are awarded to researchers with two to seven years of experience since completion of their PhD and a scientific track record showing great promise. The funding of up to €1.5 million per grant is provided for up to five years and will help the selected researchers to build their own teams.

Read more

Inaugural address Prof. dr. Eleni Kosta

Save the date!

The Inaugural address of Prof. dr. Eleni Kosta will take place on 15 December at 16:15.

Read more

Staff news

Bart van der Sloot successfully defended his PhD thesis in Amsterdam at the Agnietenkapel on June 30th. His PhD thesis was about: Privacy As Virtue: Moving Beyond the Individual in the Age of Big Data.

Volha Parfenchyk successfully defended her PhD thesis in Tilburg on June 28th. Her PhD thesis was about: Contesting rights: bioconstitutionalism and the debate on preimplantation genetic diagnosis in Italy

New TILT staff members:

The last months, TILT has grown a lot. Please find below the new staff members of TILT.
Visiting professor - Prof. Janet Chan

Since September 2017 we have a new visiting professor at TILT. Her name is Janet Chan and she will be with us till the end of October 2017.

Janet Chan is currently Professor at UNSW Law, Key Researcher at the Data to Decisions Cooperative Research Centre (D2D CRC) and a member of the Law, Technology and Innovation Research Network.

Visiting scholar - Monika Hanych

Monika Hanych is a visiting scholar. She will be with us till mid December.
Farewell to:
Desara Dushi: EMJD student
Ruben Greidanus: Research intern
Izarne Marko Goikoetxea: EMJD student
Bryce Newell: Post doc. VICI project
Tjerk Timan: Post doc. VICI project
Yukai Wang: EMJD student
Lulu Wei: PhD student

Awards
Silvia de Conca was honoured with the Best Paper Award for her piece titled “From the glass house to the hive: the private sphere in the era of intelligent home assistant robots”, during the IFIP Summer School 2017 on the Smart World Revolution held at the JCR of Ispra (Italy) at the beginning of September.

Projects

Anti-doping project
The EU accepted the TILT proposal for a study on anti-doping and data protection (implementing framework contract JUST/2014/DATA/FW/0038). One of the objectives is to prepare a complete list of all relevant legislation at national level in the 28 EU Member States, defining provisions (purpose, scope and nature) providing a legal basis for the processing (which includes collection and transfers) of personal data in the context of anti-doping activities. Bart van der Sloot (researcher), Ronald Leenes (researcher) and Mara Paun (junior researcher) will be involved in the project, together with many other TILTies for the work on the 28 EU Member States.

EU Study on certification mechanisms
TILT is leading a study for the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers on certification mechanisms, seals or marks under Articles 42 and 43 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679. The study aims to analyze existing certifications and to provide recommendations for requirements for data protection certification mechanisms, accreditation criteria, and technical standards in the field of data protection certification. The output from the study will support the establishment of data protection certification mechanisms and of data protection seals and marks pursuant to Articles 42 and 43 of the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679. Ronald Leenes, Irene Kamara, Eric Lachaud and Kees Stuurman (TILT) are involved in this study together with researchers from TNO and Civic Consulting.

Education & Teaching

TILT-Brinkhof Clinic
Clinic Topic: The upcoming General Data Protection Regulation imposes, as opposed to the current Data Protection Directive, many obligations for ‘processors’ (as defined in Art. 4 (8) GDPR), such as providers of IT-services. If processors do not meet such obligations, this is sanctioned in the GDPR with very high fines (i.e. fines up to EUR 20.000.000 or 4 % of the total worldwide annual turnover of the undertaking). Under the Directive obligations and sanctions were mainly directed towards ‘controllers’ (as defined in Art. 4(7) GDPR). This change towards more responsibility for processors will have consequences for obligations and liabilities of such processors. This might create
the need for them to adapt existing clauses in general terms and conditions and data processing agreements regarding obligations and liabilities in relation to privacy and data protection in order to mitigate their exposure.

Amicus Brief before the ECtHR in Kharitonov v. Russia (in collaboration with HSE)
The pending case Vladimir Vladimirovich Kharitonov v. Russia is considered of utmost importance for the future of the information society and the place for freedom of expression in it. This is the reason why a law clinic has been set up to intervene as Amicus Curiae in this case. It is important that the European Court of Human Rights receives a full picture of the problem before it makes its important decision that, without doubt, will set a human rights standard for the freedom of expression online.

The aim of the clinic is to aid the Court through a third party submission in several ways. As friends of the Court, the clinic's participants will offer a brief comparative research of “balancing of interests” involved in the blocking of hosting services cases touching upon the issues of freedom of expression, taking into consideration not only the ECtHR jurisprudence in similar cases (see, e.g., Ahmet Yıldırım v. Turkey (no. 3111/10, ECHR 2012), but also other relevant international material (see, e.g., the UN Joint declaration on freedom of expression and the Internet of June 1st, 2011). Second, the participants will suggest possible human rights limits against the indiscriminate blocking of access to a website that only contains lawful contents, in the context of Art. 10 of the European Convention of Human Rights.

The clinic is a joint collaboration between selected students from the Master in Law and Technology of Tilburg University and the Higher School of Economics of Moscow.

Haifa
Three students from TILT - Magda Brewczynska, Iro Chatzinikolaou and Ivan Podraza – and Bart van der Sloot visited Haifa University and stayed in Israel for a week long research visit. TILT has entered into a cooperation with Tal Zarsky from Haifa University (Israel) and Michael Geist from Ottawa University (Canada), who visited Haifa with a group of students as well. The goal of the project is to have students from each university write a paper together on topics such as autonomous cars, smart grids, smart cities, cyber-warfare and internet of things. Three more TILT students will join the project next year.

Upcoming seminars

Seminar by Prof. David Wall, 24 October 2017

On 24 October 2017 Prof. David Wall, Professor of Criminology in the Centre for Criminal Justice studies, School of Law, University of Leeds, will give a seminar on: “Conceptualising Cybercriminals Today”.

Read more
Seminar by Dr. Alex Ingrams, 2 November 2017

On 2 November 2017 dr. Alex Ingrams, Assistant Professor at Tilburg School of Politics and Public Administration of Tilburg University, will give a seminar at TILT. The topic of the seminar will be announced soon.

Seminar by Dr. Aline Reichow, 21 November 2017

On 21 November 2017 Aline Reichow, Post Doc researcher at the German Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (BAuA), in the Division Hazardous Substances and Biological Agents, will give a seminar on: "Co-Regulation of Chemicals: Governance Networks to Keep Pace with Technological".

Past seminars

11 October 2017: Dr. Nicolo Zingales (Sussex Law School) Dr. Nicolo Zingales, Lecturer at Sussex Law School, gave a seminar on: "The rise of infomediaries and the marketization of data protection enforcement".

26 September 2017: Prof. dr. Eleni Kosta (TILT, Tilburg University) Prof. dr. Eleni Kosta gave a seminar on: "Guidelines for ethical assessment of EU projects".

14 September 2017: Tim Falkiner (retired lawyer and town planner from Melbourne, Australia) Tim Falkiner gave a seminar on: "THE LAW AND SCIENCE -
27 June 2017: Dr. Lennong Chang (School of Social Sciences at Monash University, Australia)
Dr. Lennon Chang gave a seminar on: "Co-Production of Cyber Security".

27 June 2017: Dr. Damian Clifford (KU Leuven Centre for IT and IP law (CiTiP))
Dr. Damian Clifford gave a seminar on: "Following the data and consumer protection crumbs toward more aligned protection?"

30 May 2017: Prof. Gregor Urbas (University of Canberra)
Prof. Gregor Urbas gave a seminar on: "Public surveillance, private surveillance and automated covert evidence-gathering."

24 May 2017: Gary T. Marx (Emeritus Professor from M.I.T)
Prof. Gary T. Marx gave a seminar for students on: 'Windows Into the Soul: Surveillance and Society in an Age of High Technology'.

Upcoming events

Wednesday, 25 October
09:30-14:00 Workshop held by Prof. Janet Chan (Faculty Lounge, Tilburg University)

Wednesday, 29 November
10:00 hrs.: PhD Defense Milda Macenaite (Aula)

Friday, 1 December
14:00 hrs.: PhD Defense Sebastian Dengler (Aula)

Friday, 15 December
16.15 hrs.: Inaugural address Prof. dr. Eleni Kosta (Auditorium)

Publications

Please follow the link below to find the most recent publications by TILT staff.
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