



## THE VALUE OF A



### SOCIAL NETWORK INVESTIGATIONS AND LEGAL STRATEGIES IN THE AGE OF DIGITAL CRIME

Online, 9-10 April 2025



EXCELLENCE IN  
**EUROPEAN LAW**<sup>7</sup>

#### Speakers and Chairs

**Linda Bertram**, Public Prosecutor, Cybercrime Centre,  
Prosecutor General's Office, Frankfurt

**Laviero Buono**, Head of Section, European Criminal Law,  
ERA, Trier

**Martijn Egberts**, Prosecutor, Digital Investigations, Dutch  
Public Prosecution Service, Amsterdam

**Damir Kahvedžić**, Solutions Advisor and Operations  
Manager, ProSearch, Dublin

**Emmanuelle Legrand**, Magistrate, AI Project Manager,  
Ministry of Economy, Finance, Industrial and Digital  
Sovereignty, Paris

**Bilal Sen**, Corporate Investigations and Cybercrime Advisor,  
Coninsec, Cologne

**David Silva Ramalho**, Defence Lawyer, Morais Leitão,  
Galvão Teles, Soares da Silva & Associados; Lecturer,  
Faculty of Law, University of Lisbon

**Catherine Van de Heyning**, Professor, European  
Fundamental Rights, University of Antwerp; Public  
Prosecutor, Prosecutor's Office, Antwerp

**George Zlati**, Defence Lawyer, Zlati Ionescu Chiperi Law  
Firm, Cluj

#### Key topics

- Basics of computer forensics for social network investigations
- Open-source intelligence tools
- Social networks and the cha(lle)nges for the criminal justice system
- Hunting on social platforms

**Language**  
English

**Event number**  
325D59

**Organiser**  
Laviero Buono, ERA

## Wednesday, 9 April 2025

- 09:00 Connecting to the platform  
*Time indicated is CEST (Brussels local time)*
- 09:30 Welcome and introduction to the programme  
*Laviero Buono*

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### I. THE TECH BEHIND SOCIAL NETWORKS

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*Chair: Laviero Buono*

- 09:35 **Searching, extracting and analysing data from social networks: a computer forensics view and some case studies**
- Social media collections, problems, and current solutions
  - Illustration of complexity, size and variety of datatypes and information
  - The rise of AI and (un)intended consequence on social media
  - Analysis of trends and the changing tech landscape
  - Examination of sample cases
- Damir Kahvedžić*
- 10:15 Discussion
- 10:30 **Digital evidence collection on social networks with Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT)**
- Introduction and the role of OSINT
  - Efficient dialogue with search engines
  - Use: case scenarios and OSINT tools
  - Live case demonstration
- Bilal Sen*
- 11:00 Discussion
- 11:15 Break

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### II. LEGAL CHALLENGES IN SOCIAL NETWORK INVESTIGATIONS

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*Chair: Laviero Buono*

- 11:45 **The criminal liability of a 'like': multi-actor liability on social media and the role of social media intelligence (socmint)**  
*Catherine Van de Heyning*
- 12:15 Discussion
- 12:30 **Social network platforms: “thumbs up” as a sign of the general coarsening of society? Investigative measures to drag users of this modern anonymous weapon into the spotlight of justice**  
*Linda Bertram*
- 13:00 Discussion
- 13:15 End of the first day

## Content

Social networks have become crucial tools for communication and information exchange. However, they also present unique challenges for investigators who seek to uncover and analyse data that may be relevant to criminal investigations. This seminar is designed to equip legal practitioners with the necessary skills and knowledge to conduct effective investigations in the world of social media. It will scrutinise the fundamental principles of social network investigation, including the collection, analysis, and presentation of data from social media platforms. Participants will be introduced to the various tools and techniques used in social network investigation, including open-source intelligence tools (OSINT) gathering, data mining, social network analysis and digital forensics.

## Who should attend?

Lawyers in private practice, defence lawyers, in-house counsel, judges, prosecutors, law enforcement authorities, civil servants and policymakers active in the field of criminal law.

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## Your contacts



Laviero Buono  
Head of Section  
European Criminal Law



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Assistant  
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E-Mail : CLaux@era.int

## Thursday, 10 April 2025

09:15 Connecting to the platform  
*Time indicated is CEST (Brussels local time)*

### III. SOCIAL NETWORK INVESTIGATIONS: *MODUS OPERANDI* AND DEFENCE RIGHTS

*Chair: Laviero Buono*

09:30 **Crime-fighting on social media platforms: just another medium?**  
*Martijn Egberts*

10:00 Discussion

10:15 **Technical insights for the preparation, identification and preservation phase**

- The importance of the chain of custody in handling electronic evidence
  - Case studies
- David Silva Ramalho*

10:45 Discussion

11:00 Break

11:30 **Social network investigations and defence rights**  
*George Zlati*

12:00 Discussion

12:15 **Emerging trends in social network investigations and how technology is changing this landscape**  
*Emmanuelle Legrand*

12:45 Discussion

13:00 End of seminar



**Time indicated is CEST (Brussels local time)**

## CPD

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## Save the date

### Artificial Intelligence (AI) and 'Smart' Criminal Justice Systems

Lisbon & online, 5-6 June 2025

### Understanding Bitcoins and Cryptocurrency Technology

Bucharest, 25-26 September 2025

### Basics of artificial intelligence for criminal legal professionals: how AI is reshaping the criminal justice systems

Budapest, 13-14 October 2025

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Online, 9-10 April 2025 / 325D59



### Registration

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Postal address:  
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### Language

English

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Fee	Standard	EU & ERA patrons*	Young lawyers & other groups**
Registration by 09/03/2025	€ 441.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	€ 330.75 <input type="checkbox"/>	€ 330.75 <input type="checkbox"/>
Registration after 09/03/2025	€ 490.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	€ 367.50 <input type="checkbox"/>	€ 367.50 <input type="checkbox"/>

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#### \*\* Young lawyers & other groups

- For young lawyers up to 30 years of age (important: the participant must provide a copy or details of his or her passport or identity card on request).
- Full-time staff of universities or comparable academic institutions.
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