



#Digitalisation and #AI in Criminal Justice

Internet architecture, digital
evidence, videolinks in trials, AI

Barcelona, 12-13 February 2026



EXCELLENCE IN
EUROPEAN LAW

Speakers and chairs

Patricia Ayodeji, Dual-Qualified Solicitor for England & Wales,
Lawyer (Abogado) for Spain, Barcelona

María Barbancho, Criminal Lawyer, Member of the
Committee of International Relations, ICAB, Barcelona

Steven David Brown, International Cybercrime Consultant,
Vienna

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

Andrea Cruciani, Judge, Military Court, Naples

Gizem Gültekin-Várkonyi, Assistant Professor, Expert in EU
Legal Tech, IR Expert, University of Szeged (Hungary)

Damir Kahvedžić, Senior Global Data Services Manager,
ProSearch, Dublin

Joachim Meese, Professor, Criminal Law and Procedure,
University of Antwerp; Attorney, Bar of Ghent

Andreu Van den Eynde, Lawyer in Criminal Law, ICAB,
Barcelona

Cristos Velasco, Adjunct Professor of IT Law DHBW
Cooperative State University, Mannheim & Stuttgart; Consultant
on Cybercrime & AI

Key topics

- Technical issues (internet caches, proxy servers, encryption, deep/dark web, etc.)
- Legal issues (evaluation of the search results, reliability and credibility of authentication, search across jurisdictions)
- Challenges posed by websites, social networks, emails and other computer-generated or stored documents
- Presenting internet searches in court
- Videoconferencing
- Artificial intelligence (AI)

Language
English

Event number
326DT001

Organisers
ERA (Laviero Buono) in cooperation
with the Barcelona Bar Association
(ICAB)



#Digitalisation and #AI in Criminal Justice

Thursday, 12 February 2026

09:00 Arrival and registration of participants

09:30 **Welcome and introduction to the programme**
NN, ICAB & Laviero Buono

PART I: TECHNICAL ISSUES AND BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF INTERNET ARCHITECTURE AND CONCEPTS

Chair: Laviero Buono

09:35 **Learning the Machine**

- Binary basics
- Internet Architecture
- Logs as leads
- The Tech constant of change
- AI Implications
- The Good, the Bad and the AI

Steven David Brown

10:45 Discussion

11:00 Break

11:30 **Conducting forensic analysis at the crime scene**

- Triage of the crime scene (search warrant, equipment considerations, protocols, interviewing the suspect)
- Gathering digital evidence from live memory
- Labs
- Scripts in digital forensic examinations
- Computer and mobile forensics

Damir Kahvedžić

12:15 Discussion

12:30 Lunch

PART II: LEGAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE COLLECTION AND PRESENTATION OF E-EVIDENCE IN COURT

Chair: Steven David Brown

13:30 **Handling electronic evidence on mobile devices in courts: perspectives of the defence**

- The importance of the chain of custody in handling the evidence
- Trial considerations: methods of presentation and admissibility tests

María Barbancho

14:00 Discussion

14:15 **Digitalisation of justice: what impact on the defence?**

Andreu Van den Eynde

14:45 Discussion

15:00 Break

15:30 **Dealing with e-evidence in cross-border cases: best practices and possible new scenarios in light of the new EU legislation**

Joachim Meese

16:00 Discussion

16:15 **Bogus opinions and fabricated case-law: pitfalls and risks faced by legal professionals relying on Generative AI**

Objective

This seminar addresses various challenges linked to digitalisation that judges, prosecutors and lawyers in private practice working in the field of EU criminal justice will have to face in the years ahead. Some of these challenges such as the exchange of electronic evidence, videoconferencing, use of open source intelligence, artificial intelligence, digital technology, etc. will become the “new normal”.

This event is part of a large-scale project sponsored by the European Commission entitled “Judicial training to prepare criminal justice professionals for #digitalisation and #artificialintelligence”. It consists of 12 seminars to take place in various EU cities over the period 2024-2027.

Who should attend?

Judges, prosecutors, court staff and lawyers in private practice, who are citizens of eligible EU Member States participating in the EU Justice Programme (Denmark does not participate), Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Moldova and Ukraine.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Venue

ICAB Training Centre
C/Mallorca 283
08037 Barcelona
Spain

CPD

ERA's programmes meet the standard requirements for recognition as Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Participation in the full programme of this event corresponds to **9 CPD hours**. A certificate of participation for CPD purposes with indication of the number of training hours completed will be issued on request. CPD certificates must be requested at the latest 14 days after the event.

- Large Language Models (LLMs)
 - ChatGPT
 - OpenAI
 - Google Gemini
 - Concrete cases spanning the globe
 - Implications for the administration of justice and public confidence in the justice system
 - Lessons learned and regulatory bodies
- Patricia Ayodeji*

16:45 Discussion and end of the first day

19:30 Dinner offered by the organisers

Friday, 13 February 2026

PART III: VIDEOCONFERENCING AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Chair: Joachim Meese

09:30 **Remote trials, e-evidence and witness videoconferencing. Present challenges and future prospects**

- Remote trials during and after the pandemic
- Presenting e-evidence in court
- The impact of the CJEU jurisprudence
- Witness videoconferencing
- AI tools to evaluate witness evidence

Andrea Cruciani

10:15 Discussion

10:30 **The use of AI to counter organised crime and where we currently stand**
Cristos Velasco

11:15 Discussion

11:30 Break

12:00 **Artificial intelligence in the courtroom: a comparative analysis of machine evidence in criminal trials**
Gizem Gültekin-Várkonyi

12:45 Discussion

13:00 End of the seminar and light lunch

For programme updates: www.era.int.
Programme may be subject to amendment.

Your contacts



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Apply online for
“#Digitalisation and #AI in
Criminal Justice”:
www.era.int/?133868&en



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Application

#DIGITALISATION AND #AI IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Barcelona, 12-13 February 2026 / Event number: 326DT001



Terms and conditions of participation

Selection

1. Participation is only open to judges, prosecutors, court staff and lawyers in private practice from eligible EU Member States participating in the EU Justice Programme (Denmark does not participate) including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Moldova and Ukraine. *(this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence)*. The number of places available is limited (30 places). Participation will be subject to a selection procedure. Selection will be first come first served and according to nationality.
2. Applications should be submitted before **2 November 2025**.
3. A response will be sent to every applicant after this deadline. **We advise you not to book any travel before you receive our confirmation.**

Registration Fee

4. €135 including documentation, coffee breaks, lunches and dinner.

Travel and Accommodation Expenses

5. Participants will receive a fixed contribution towards their travel expenses and are asked to book their own travel. The condition for payment of this contribution is to sign all attendance sheets at the event. No supporting documents are needed. The amount of the contribution will be determined by the EU unit cost calculation guidelines, which are based on the distance from the participant's place of work to the seminar location and will not take account of the participant's actual travel costs.
6. Travel costs from outside Spain: participants can calculate the contribution to which they will be entitled on the European Commission website (<https://era-comm.eu/go/calculator>). The distance should be calculated from their place of work to the seminar location.
7. For inter-Member States return journeys between 50 and 400 km there are fixed rates: Portugal €53, France €82. Please note that no contribution will be paid for travel under 50km. For more information, please consult <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel> (COM Decision C(2021)35).
8. For those travelling within Spain the contribution for travel for a distance between 50km and 400km at is fixed at €52. Please note that no contribution will be paid for travel under 50km. For more information, please consult <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel> (COM Decision C(2021)35).
9. Accommodation costs: International participants travelling more than 50km one-way will receive a fixed contribution of €234. National participants travelling between 50km and 400km one-way will receive a fixed contribution of €117. For more information, please consult <https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel> (COM Decision C(2021)35).
10. Successful applicants will be sent the relevant claim form and information on how to obtain payment of the contribution to their expenses. Please note that no payment is possible if the registered participant cancels their participation for any reason.

Participation

11. Participation at the whole seminar is required and participants' presence will be recorded.
12. A list of participants including each participant's address will be made available to all participants unless ERA receives written objection from the participant no later than one week prior to the beginning of the event.
13. The participant will be asked to give permission for their address and other relevant information to be stored in ERA's database in order to provide information about future ERA events.

Accommodation

ERA neither provides nor endorses any accommodation options for this event. Kindly consult your preferred accommodation provider for options.

Apply online for
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www.era.int/?133868&en



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