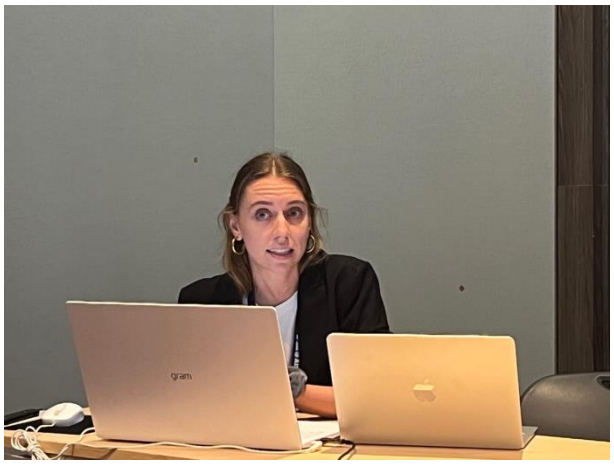
Digital Democracy and Gender Equality: A Critical Look at the Future of Governance

Organising Team

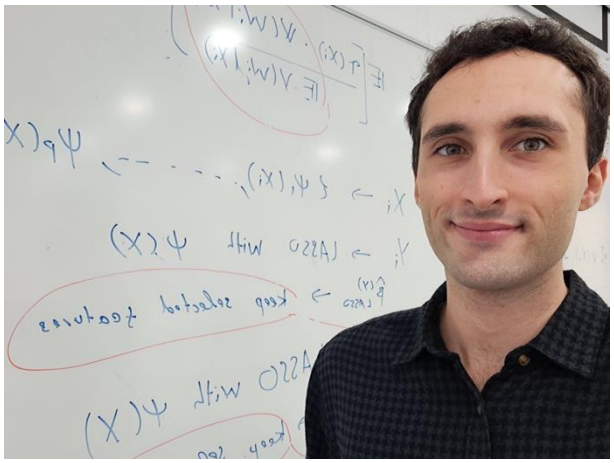


Flavia LUCENTI is a postdoctoral research fellow and an adjunct professor at LUISS University, Department of Political Science. Previously, she worked as a research assistant at the University of Oxford and as a postdoctoral research fellow and an adjunct professor at the University of Bologna. She was a visiting PhD candidate at the Hong Kong University, the Moscow State Institute of International Relations, and the European University Institute. Her publications have appeared in International Politics, the Journal of Contemporary European Studies, and the Cambridge Review of International Affairs, among other journals. Recently, she co-edited, with Cecilia Ducci, Carmen Wunderlich and Jeffrey Lantis, *Contestation in Prism. The Evolution of Norms and Norm Clusters in Contemporary Global Politics* (Cham: Springer, 2025).



Carolina POLITO is a PhD Candidate in Politics at LUISS Guido Carli University in Rome. Her doctoral research investigates how biometric technologies shape identity governance,

citizenship, and state–market relations through a socio-technical and historical lens. Her work bridges International Relations, Science and Technology Studies, and Information Systems, examining the political and epistemic dimensions of digital infrastructures. She is also an Associate Researcher at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels, where she contributes to EU-funded projects and policy studies on cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and quantum technologies. Her research and policy work focus on the intersection between technology governance, security, and digital geopolitics. Carolina has been a Visiting Fellow at Stellenbosch University and ESSEC Business School and serves as a peer reviewer for journals such as Information Technology for Development and Digital Culture & Society.



Pablo FIORENTINI MIGUEL is a PhD candidate in Economics in the Rome Economics Doctorate (RED). His research has a focus on how institutions, firms, and regulations interact to shape economic outcomes. His toolbox includes theoretical modelling and applied econometric and computational methods, including dynamic programming, heterogeneous-agent models, and text-based policy analysis. Before joining RED, Pablo completed an M.Sc. in Economics and Finance at the Centre for Monetary and Financial Studies (CEMFI) in Madrid, and a B.Sc. (Honours) in Economics at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. His ongoing projects examine the political economy of financial supervision and the role of regulation and lobbying within the European Union's policymaking. Pablo has previously worked as a Research Assistant at the Bank of Spain, where he implemented advanced Difference-in-Differences estimators and contributed to fiscal policy simulations using DSGE frameworks. He is fluent in Italian, Spanish, and English, and has independently attained B2 (HSK 5) proficiency in Mandarin Chinese, reflecting his long-standing interest in cross-cultural communication. Across his research and collaborations, Pablo aims to bridge quantitative rigour with policy relevance, contributing to a more transparent and data-driven understanding of European economic governance.



Martina LOGI is a PhD candidate at the Ramon Llull University of Barcelona, where she has also pursued her master's degrees in project management and ICT Management. She has a humanistic and sociological background, having an undergraduate degree in Communication Science at the University of Bologna, Italy. The combination of a humanistic background with ICT management pushed her to address her research in exploring the relationship between technological innovation, smart cities and social inclusion, adopting a socio-constructivist approach to technology.



Dr **Ignasi MEDA-CALVET** is a full-time professor and researcher in Economics and Technology Studies at La Salle, Ramon Llull University. He holds a PhD in the History of Science from the Institut for the History of Science (IHC-UAB), where his doctoral research explored the social and cultural processes surrounding the emergence and popularisation of home computers and video games in Spain. Previously, he earned his undergraduate degree in Sociology from the University of Barcelona. Dr Meda-Calvet has taught at several universities and business schools, including Tecnocampus University, the Autonomous University of Barcelona, and EU Business School. His academic interests lie at the intersection of history, economics, sociology, and technology. His research interests focus on how societies, communities, and individuals actively engage with (or resist) various forms of technology, emphasising the role of agency in technological adoption and use.



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His current research explores the long history of computation and calculation, encompassing the economic, social and political forces that have shaped - and been shaped by - their development. He has published widely and has received several awards. His first book, Making Time Fit: Chronometers, Computers and the Calculative State, 1770-1820 will be published by Brill later this year.



Maryam VAZIRI is a researcher and professor at La Salle International School of Commerce and Digital Economy – Ramon Llull University. She is a member of the Smart Society Research Group and earned her PhD in International Entrepreneurship and Management from the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), specialising in International Marketing. She also holds master's degrees in Applied Research in Economy and Business, International Business Management, and an MBA. Her primary research interests include consumer behaviour and generative AI, sustainable consumption and production, and brand strategies in the digital era. Her future research focuses on consumer behaviour and robots within emerging robonomic systems. She is currently involved in the ENGAGE.EU Research Label 2025 project titled "Digital Technologies and Democratic Practices for Gender Equality." Maryam has published in several academic journals, including the Journal of Open Innovation: Technology, Market, and Complexity, the Spanish Journal of Marketing – ESIC, Visualising Quantum Innovation: A Regional Case Study, and Sustainable Development.



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Anna-Maria NIKOLAEVA is a PhD candidate at the University of National and World Economy (UNWE), Department of National and Regional Security, where her doctoral research focuses on the management of innovation processes in maritime and nuclear security within the context of the Black Sea region as an external border of the European Union. Her academic work bridges strategic innovation, sustainability, and digital transformation in contemporary security governance. She has professional and research experience with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, where she completed an internship within the Division of Nuclear Security (NSNS), contributing to international initiatives in nuclear safety, non-proliferation, and critical infrastructure protection. Anna-Maria is an active member of the Nuclear Security Support Centre (NSSC) at UNWE and has participated in leading international academic initiatives, including the ENGAGE.EU network and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme, focusing on innovation policy, foresight, and resilience. Her publications and research have been referenced in Scopus-indexed journals and presented at international conferences in the field of security and innovation management. Her current research interests include sustainable innovation strategies, nuclear and maritime security governance, artificial intelligence applications for critical infrastructure resilience, and the role of gender in security policy. She is also working on establishing the first Women in Nuclear Security Collaboration Platform in Bulgaria, in partnership with Women in Nuclear (WiN) and the IAEA, aiming to foster interdisciplinary exchange and support for female experts in the nuclear security field.