Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and the Rule of Law

Programme

Chair

- Christina Blacklaws, Vice President of the Law Society

Opening remarks

- Iain Bourne, Information Commissioner's Office

Speakers

- Silkie Carlo, Liberty
- Prof Lorna McGregor, University of Essex
- Marion Oswald, University of Winchester
- Prof Ian Walden, Queen Mary University of London

Q&A discussion

Networking drinks reception

Biographies

Christina Blacklaws, Vice President, The Law Society
Christina studied Jurisprudence at Oxford and qualified as a solicitor in 1991. She has developed and managed law firms including a virtual law firm. In 2011 she set up the Co-operative Legal Services family law offering, later becoming their Director of Policy. She is currently Director of Innovation at top 100 firm Cripps LLP. Christina holds a range of public appointments including member of the Family Justice Council, trustee of LawWorks and council member for the Women Lawyers Division. Christina is Vice President of the Law Society of England and Wales and will become President in 2018. She is an award winning published author, speaker and lecturer and frequent media commentator.
Iain Bourne, Group Manager, Information Commissioner’s Office
Iain Bourne is Group Manager in the ICO’s Parliament and Government Affairs Department (Information Rights Law Reform). During his time with the Commissioner, Iain has dealt with a wide range of areas, including health service compliance, new technologies, international issues and privacy at work. Iain worked for a couple of years on the freedom of information side of the ICO. During the last few years Iain has been very involved with the ICO’s work on information sharing, privacy notices, personal information online, the right to be forgotten and anonymisation. Iain has just joined the ICO’s new Parliament and Government Affairs Department, looking at the UK’s future data protection options and data ethics.

Silkie Carlo, Senior Advocacy Officer, Liberty
Silkie Carlo is Senior Advocacy Officer at Liberty, the UK’s leading human rights campaign organisation. She leads Liberty’s programme on Technology and Human Rights, advocating for the protection of rights in areas including state surveillance, new policing technologies, uses of big data, artificial intelligence and free expression online. Liberty recently launched a landmark legal challenge to the mass surveillance powers in the Investigatory Powers Act 2016. Before joining Liberty, Silkie provided technical training to journalists and lawyers at risk and worked for Edward Snowden’s official defence fund. Silkie is the co-author of ‘Information Security for Journalists’.

Prof Lorna McGregor, Professor in Law, University of Essex
Lorna McGregor is a Professor in the Law School and Director of the Human Rights Centre (on study leave 2017) at the University of Essex. She is the Principal Investigator and Co-Director of an ESRC Large Grant (£5 million) on Human Rights, Big Data and Technology; the Principal Investigator of a Nuffield-funded project on the role of National Human Rights Institutions in Complaints-Handling; a Co-Investigator on an ESRC-funded project on Utilising Big Data in the Practice of Torture Survivors’ Rehabilitation and a Co-Investigator on a British Academy Newton Fund grant on The Effects of International Human Rights Law on Public International Law and its Sub-Branches. Lorna is a Co-Chair of the European Society of International Law's Interest Group on Human Rights, a Co-Chair of the International Law Association’s Study Group on Individual Responsibility in International Law, a Contributing Editor of EJIL Talk! and a Commissioner of the British Equality and Human Rights Commission.

Marion Oswald, Senior Fellow in Law, University of Winchester
Marion Oswald is a Senior Fellow in Law, Solicitor (non-practising) and Head of the Centre for Information Rights at the University of Winchester. Following a career as an in-house lawyer with international technology companies and the UK Government, she joined the University of Winchester in 2009 establishing the Centre for Information Rights in 2012. Her research focuses on information technology, privacy and information law. Recent work includes a collaboration with Durham Constabulary to reflect upon the recent operational deployment of an algorithmic risk assessment tool within the force, and a consultation report relating to the depiction of young children on digital, online and broadcast media. She is an executive member of the British and Irish Law Education and Technology Association, and sits on the National Statistician’s Data Ethics Advisory Committee.
Prof Ian Walden, Professor of Information and Communications Law, Queen Mary University of London
Ian Walden is Professor of Information and Communications Law in the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary, University of London. His publications include EDI and the Law (1989), Information Technology and the Law (1990), EDI Audit and Control (1993), Cross-border Electronic Banking (2nd ed., 2000), Telecommunications Law Handbook (1997), E-Commerce Law and Practice in Europe (2001), Media Law and Practice (2009), Telecommunications Law and Regulation (4th ed., 2012), Free and Open Source Software (2013) and Computer Crimes and Digital Investigations (2nd ed., 2016). Ian has been a visiting professor at the universities of Texas, Melbourne and KU Leuven. Ian has been involved in law reform projects for the World Bank, European Commission, Council of Europe, Commonwealth, UNCTAD, ITU, UNECE and the EBRD, as well as numerous individual states. Ian was awarded a Council of Europe Human Rights Fellowship (1987-88); a seconded national expert to the European Commission DG-Industry (1995-96); Board Member and Trustee of the Internet Watch Foundation (2004-09); on the Executive Board of the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (2010-12); the Press Complaints Commission (2009-14), a member of the RUSI Independent Surveillance Review (2014-15) and a member of the Code Adjudication Panel at the Phone-paid Services Authority (2016-). In September 2017, Ian was appointed a member of the European Commission’s Multistakeholder expert group to support the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/679. Ian is a solicitor and Of Counsel to Baker McKenzie. Ian leads Queen Mary’s qLegal initiative and is a principal investigator on the Cloud Legal Project.