



Does AI Need Governance? Examining the Political Economy of Machine Learning

OCTOBER 17-18, 2024. THE CODA BUILDING 9th FLOOR ATLANTIC ROOM, 756 W PEACHTREE ST NW, ATLANTA, GA 30308

IGP's 9th Annual Workshop moves the dialogue on "AI governance" in a more informed and constructive direction, challenging unrealistic "doomer" scenarios while fostering policies and governance arrangements that attack real problems. The conference will foster research, commentary and discussion of the following topics and issue-areas:

- Why is governance needed? Situating AI in the wider digital ecosystem
- Challenging the myth of artificial general intelligence (AGI)
- The political economy of data as an input to AI applications: property rights, exclusion, fair use and copyright.
- Exploring the relationship between AI applications and freedom of expression: propaganda, disinformation, content "guardrails," cultural bias.
- Global or national governance? Cataloguing, comparing and critiquing global regulatory and industrial policy initiatives in the EU, China, India and the US
- AI and international relations: assessing efforts to militarize AI development through export controls, bans on foreign AI apps, and industrial policies.

Program and Schedule

Wednesday October 16

7:00 pm Speakers' Dinner | Silla Del Toro 2893 N Druid Hills Rd, Atlanta, GA 30329

Thursday, October 17

9:00 am | Welcome and Introductions

- Karim Farhat, Assistant Director, IGP
- Cassidy Sugimoto, Tom and Marie Patton Chair, School of Public Policy, Georgia Tech

9:30 – 10:45 | Situating AI in the wider digital ecosystem: A systems approach to governance

- Milton L Mueller, Professor, Georgia Tech School of Public Policy
- Laura DeNardis, Professor, Georgetown Center for Digital Ethics
- Viktor Mayer-Schönberger, Professor, Oxford Internet Institute

10:45 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 12:00 pm | Controlling Compute and Models

- Lennart Heim, Associate Information Scientist, RAND Corporation
- Andrew Strait, Associate Director, Ada Lovelace Institute
- Dean W. Ball, Research Fellow, Mercatus Center
- Justin Biddle, Associate Professor, Georgia Tech School of Public Policy, Moderator

12:00 – 1:30 | Lunch break

1:30 – 2:45 | Is AGI a Myth?

- Milton L Mueller, Professor, Georgia Tech School of Public Policy
- Andrew Strait, Associate Director, Ada Lovelace Institute
- Nirit Weiss-Blatt, Researcher, Independent Investigative Reporter

3:00 – 4:30 | The political economy of data as an input to AI applications: property rights, exclusion, fair use and copyright

- Brenden Kuerbis, Research Scientist IGP, Executive Director OMS Cybersecurity Program, Georgia Tech
- Deven Desai, Sue and John Staton Professor, Area Coordinator for Law and Ethics, Georgia Tech
- Mark Reidl, Professor and Associate Director of the Georgia Tech Machine Learning Center
- Jyoti Panday, Regional Director, IGP

4:30 – 5:15 pm | Guided discussion: Identifying priorities for public policy

6:00 – 7:30 pm | Reception (Clough Commons Rooftop)

Friday, October 18

8:30 – 9:00 am | Coffee and breakfast

9:00 – 10:15 | Comparative analysis of governance efforts. Cataloguing, comparing and critiquing global regulatory and industrial policy initiatives in the EU, China, India and the US and international organizations

- Karine Perset, Acting Head of the OECD Division on AI and Emerging Digital Technologies, OECD
- Sarah Box, New Zealand Harkness Fellow, Observer Research Foundation America
- Grace Abuhamad, Tech Policy Strategist, former Chief of Staff NTIA
- Andreas Kuehn, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation America, Moderator

10:30 – 11:30 | The geopolitics of AI governance

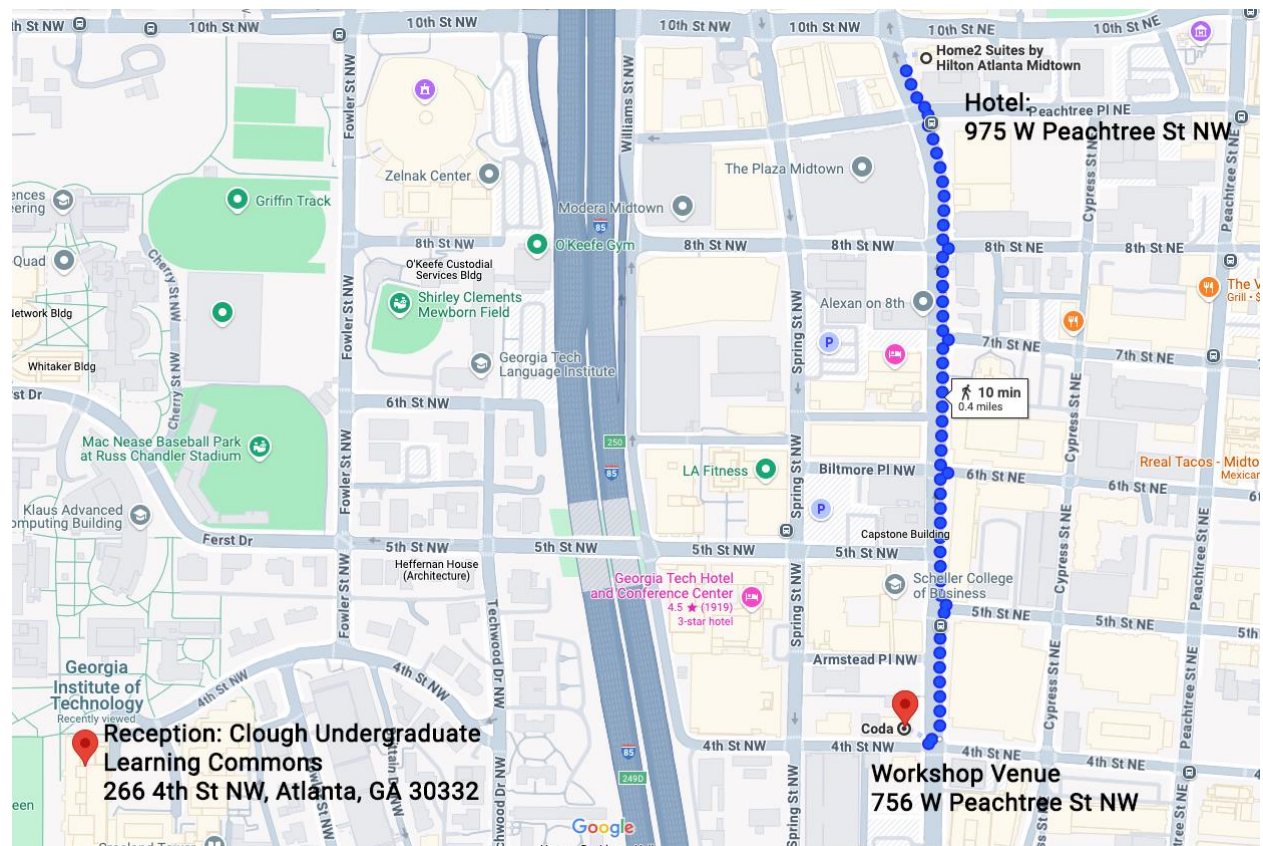
- John Tien, Former Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, moderator
- Jon Lindsay, Associate Professor, GT School of Cybersecurity and Privacy
- Jason Luo, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, George Washington University
- Karmen Lucero, Associate Research Scholar and Fellow at the Paul Tsai China Center, Yale Law School

11:30 – 12:30 | AI applications and freedom of expression: propaganda, disinformation, content “guardrails,” etc.

- Seungtae Han, Doctoral candidate, GT School of Public Policy
- Clay Calvert, Brechner Eminent Scholar Emeritus, University of Florida Levin College of Law
- Tarek Naous, Doctoral candidate, GT School of Computer Science

12:15 – 1:00 pm | Guided discussion and next steps.

Map



Legend:

- Coda Tech Square (Workshop Site): 756 West Peachtree St. 9th Floor Atlantic Room
- Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons: Thursday, October 17th, Reception at Rooftop at 6:00 pm.
- Hotel: Home2 Suites by Hilton Atlanta Midtown, 975 West Peachtree Street Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Workshop Speakers



Andreas Kuehn is a Senior Fellow at ORF America where he leads research on international cybersecurity cooperation within ORF America's Cyberspace Cooperation Initiative. His work focuses on the new risks and challenges in international security at the intersection of emerging technology, cybersecurity, and technology governance. Prior to joining ORF America, Dr. Kuehn was a Senior Program Associate at the East West Institute, where he led the development of EWI's breakthrough group efforts and worked on U.S.-Russia and U.S.-China cybersecurity issues. Before that, he was a Cybersecurity Fellow at Stanford University and an adjunct researcher at RAND Corporation. Dr. Kuehn is affiliated with Stanford's Center for International Security and Cooperation in Palo Alto, CA and the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers in Paris. He received his M.Sc. from the University of Zurich and a Ph.D. from Syracuse University.

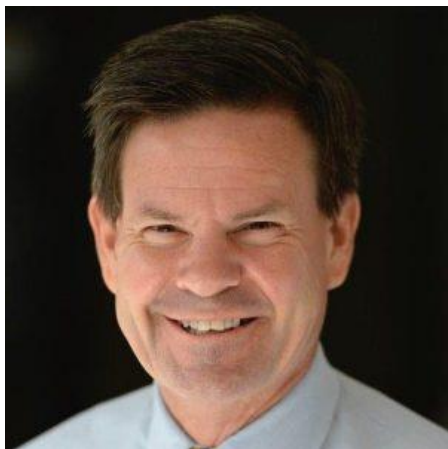


Andrew Strait is an Associate Director at the Ada Lovelace Institute and is responsible for Ada's work addressing emerging technology and industry practice. Mr. Strait has spent the last decade working at the intersection of technology, law and society. Prior to joining Ada, he was an Ethics & Policy Researcher at DeepMind, where he managed internal AI ethics initiatives and oversaw the company's network of external partnerships. Previously, he worked as a Legal Operations Specialist at Google where he developed and implemented platform moderation policies on areas such as data protection, hate speech, terrorist content and child safety. He received his B.A from Pomona College, MPhil from University of Cambridge and MSc from Oxford University.



Brenden Kuerbis is a Research Scientist at the Internet Governance Project, and the Executive Director of the Online Masters in Cybersecurity at Georgia Tech. His research focuses on the political economy of technical identifiers and cybersecurity. Dr. Kuerbis is a former Fellow of the Internet Security Governance at the Citizen Lab, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto. He is a longtime observer of the Regional Internet Registries and ICANN, participating in its governance processes as a volunteer in its Nominating Committee, CWG-IANA

Working Group, and the Nomcom Review Working Party. He received his BA from the University of Colorado, MSIT/MBA from University of Denver, and PhD from Syracuse University.



Clay Calvert is the Brechner Eminent Scholar Emeritus and former Director of the Marion B. Brechner First Amendment Project at the University of Florida. Since 2010, Professor Calvert has published more than 30 articles in flagship law reviews and more than 40 articles in a combination of specialty law reviews and peer-reviewed journals. In April 2021, Calvert received the University of Florida Teacher/Scholar of the Year Award for 2020-2021. In doing so, he became the first faculty member ever from the Levin College of Law and the College of Journalism and Communications to win

UF's most prestigious and oldest faculty award. Additionally, Calvert was inducted in April 2021 into the University's Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars. In 2022, Professor Calvert won the Southeastern Conference Faculty Achievement Award for the University of Florida. Calvert has authored or co-authored more than 150 law journal articles on topics related to freedom of expression. He received his J.D. with Great Distinction in 1991 from the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law and then earned a Ph.D. in 1996 in Communication from Stanford University, where he also completed his undergraduate work with a B.A. in Communication in 1987. He is a member of both the State Bar of California and the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States.



Dean W. Ball is a Research Fellow at George Mason University's Mercatus Center. His work focuses on AI, emerging technologies, and the future of governance. Previously, he was Senior Program Manager for the Hoover Institution's State and Local Governance Initiative. He has published on topics including AI, neural technology, biotechnology, political theory, public finance, infrastructure, and prisoner re-entry. Previously, he served as the Executive Director of the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation. He also worked as the Deputy Director of State and Local Policy at the Manhattan Institute for Policy

Research, and as the Director of the Adam Smith Society. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Alexander Hamilton Institute and is on the Advisory Council of the Krach Institute for Tech Diplomacy at Purdue University. He graduated magna cum laude from Hamilton College with a B.A. in History.



Deven Desai is the Sue and John Staton Professor, Area Coordinator for Law and Ethics at Georgia Tech. Prior to that, he was an Associate Professor of Law at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law. He was also the first, and to date, only Academic Research Counsel at Google, Inc., and a Visiting Fellow at Princeton University's Center for Information Technology Policy. His works have appeared in leading law reviews and journals including the Georgetown Law Journal, Minnesota Law Review, Notre Dame Law Review, Wisconsin Law Review, U.C. Davis Law Review,

Florida Law Review, and Brigham Young University Law Review. Prior to becoming a professor, Desai was a litigator handling intellectual property and technology matters with Quinn, Emanuel, Urquhart, & Sullivan, LLP. He blogs about technology, intellectual property, and privacy at Concurring Opinions and Madisonian. He is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley with highest honors and the Yale Law School, where he was co-editor-in-chief of the "Yale Journal of Law & the Humanities."



Grace Abuhamad is the former Chief of Staff at the US Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), where she previously served in 2016 as a policy analyst in the Office of International Affairs. Prior to government service, she managed the research program on trustworthiness at Element AI, an artificial intelligence company based in Montreal that was acquired by ServiceNow in 2021. Previously, she managed public policy and multistakeholder strategy for the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers. She holds a bachelor's degree from Wellesley College, and a master's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Jason Luo is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow, at the Department of Political Science and the Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University. His research advances a narrative that AI has the potential to act as a decentralizing agent. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and an M.A. in East Asian Studies from Stanford University. He received his B.A. in International Political Economy from Peking University.



John Tien is the former Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. He is the first Asian American to be confirmed as the Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security. Tien also served as a managing director at Citigroup. He previously served in the Obama Administration as the National Security Council Senior Director for Afghanistan and Pakistan from 2009-2011, the Bush Administration as the National Security Council Director for Iraq from 2008-2009, and the Clinton Administration as a White House Fellow in the Office of the United States Trade Representative from 1998-1999. Tien began his career of public service at the United States Military Academy at West Point where he was the

first Asian American to ever serve as the First Captain and Brigade Commander. He is a veteran of three combat tours. His military decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Combat Action Badge, and the Valorous Unit Award. Tien holds a BS from West Point and a MA from Oxford University where he was a Rhodes Scholar, and was also a National Security Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School



Jon Lindsay is an Associate Professor at the School of Cybersecurity and Privacy and Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech. Previously he was at the University of Toronto. He is the author of Information Technology and Military Power (Cornell University Press, 2020) and co-editor of Cross-Domain Deterrence: Strategy in an Era of Complexity (Oxford University Press, 2019), with Erik Gartzke, and China and Cybersecurity: Espionage, Strategy, and Politics in the Digital Domain (Oxford University Press, 2015), with Tai Ming Cheung and Derek Reveron. He also published articles on international

relations, intelligence studies, and the sociology of technology. He is currently working on a book project called "Age of Deception: Intelligence and Cybersecurity in International Relations." He has also served in the U.S. Navy. He holds a Ph.D. in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an M.S. in computer science and B.S. in symbolic systems from Stanford University.



Justin B. Biddle is an Associate Professor in the School of Public Policy at Georgia Tech. His research explores the relationships between three sets of issues: the role of values in science, technology, and medicine; the epistemic implications of the social organization of research; and ethics and policy. He is currently exploring these relationships in AI/ML. He has also worked in the areas of biomedical research and agricultural biotechnology. Prior to arriving at Georgia Tech, he was a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Philosophy at Bielefeld University in Germany. He received a M. A and PhD in History and Philosophy of Science from the University of Notre Dame and was later a Distinguished

Fellow at the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study.



Jyoti Panday is a researcher and the Regional Director at the Internet Governance Project (IGP) who focuses on the governance of platforms and data. Before joining IGP, Jyoti was with the Telecom Centre of Excellence at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA). She previously served as Asia Policy Fellow for the Electronic Frontier Foundation and is the author of the 2017 UNESCO Media Freedom Report for Asia Pacific. Jyoti has helped develop the Manila Principles, a framework of baseline safeguards and best practices to guide development of intermediary liability regimes for third-party content. She received her B.A. from St. Xavier's College, Post Graduate Diploma from Indian Institute of Mass Communication, and M.Sc from Queen Mary University of London.



Karim Farhat is the Assistant Director of the Internet Governance Project and is an Instructor of Telecommunications Policy at Georgia Tech Professional Education. Dr. Farhat has published works on the digital economy, cybersecurity, telecommunications, and US-China tech relations. Previously, he served as a Research Fellow for the Cohen Group in Washington DC and a Sam Nunn Security Fellow at the School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech. He received his M.A from Ohio University, and Ph.D. from Georgia Tech.



Karine Perset is the Acting Head of the OECD AI and Emerging Digital Technologies Division, where she oversees the OECD.AI Policy Observatory, the Global Partnership on AI and Integrated Network of Experts, and the OECD Global Forum on Emerging Technologies. She oversees the development of analysis, policies and tools for OECD AI Principles. She has helped governments manage the opportunities and challenges that AI and emerging technologies raise for them. Previously she was an advisor to ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee and counsellor to the OECD's Science, Technology and Industry Director. Perset holds BAC Scientific from Lycee International, BA Economics from the University of Westminster, MS ICT and Telecommunications (Telecommunications Management) from the Université Paris Dauphine – PSL, and MS International Economics Université Paris Dauphine – PSL.



Karman Lucero is an Associate Research Scholar and Fellow at the Paul Tsai China Center at Yale Law School. He joined the Center in July 2018, after working for the Data & Society Research Institute and Microsoft's US Government Affairs Office, where he focused on issues related to AI law and policy, telecom law and policy, and criminal justice reform. He received a J.D. from Columbia Law School, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and Editor-In-Chief of the Columbia Journal of Asian Law. As a law student, he studied Chinese administrative and

judicial reform at Peking University, interned with the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control and the Defense Team of Nuon Chea at the United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials, and also worked for a group of human rights lawyers in Nepal during the drafting of Nepal's new Constitution. Prior to law school, he was a Teaching Fellow in Manghuai Township in Yunnan with Teach for China.



Laura DeNardis is a Professor and Endowed Chair in Technology, Ethics, and Society and Director of the Center for Digital Ethics at Georgetown University. Her book, *The Internet in Everything: Freedom and Security in a World with No Off Switch* (Yale University Press) was recognized as a Financial Times Top Technology Book of 2020. Among her seven books, *The Global War for Internet Governance* (Yale University Press) is considered a definitive source for understanding cyber governance debates and solutions. Professor DeNardis is an affiliated Fellow of the Yale Information Society Project, where she previously served as Executive Director, and is a life Member of the Council on Foreign

Relations. She holds an AB in Engineering Science from Dartmouth, a Master of Engineering from Cornell, a PhD in Science and Technology Studies from Virginia Tech, and was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship from Yale Law School.



Lennart Heim is an Associate Information Scientist at RAND and a Professor of Policy Analysis at the Pardee RAND Graduate School. He leads the compute research in the Technology and Security Policy Center within RAND Global and Emerging Risks. Heim's publications cover the impacts and governance of advanced AI systems and empirical trends in machine learning, such as compute, data, and AI hardware. He is also an adjunct fellow at the Centre for the Governance of AI (GovAI), a member of the OECD.

AI Expert Group on AI Compute and Climate, a pro forecaster at INFER Pub, and an advisor to Epoch, an organization investigating the trajectory of AI. Previously, he worked as a researcher at the Centre for the Governance of AI and as a machine learning researcher at ETH Zürich. He received both M. Sc. and B. Sc. in Computer Engineering from RWTH Aachen.



Mark Reidl is a Professor in the Georgia Tech School of Interactive Computing and Associate Director of the Georgia Tech Machine Learning Center. Dr. Reidl's research focuses on human-centered AI—the development of AI/ML technologies that understand and interact with human users in more natural ways. Dr. Reidl's recent work has focused on story understanding and generation, computational creativity, explainable AI, and teaching virtual agents to behave safely. He holds a PhD in Computer Science from North Carolina

State University.



Milton L. Mueller is Co-founder and Director of the Internet Governance Project and Professor at the School of Public Policy, Georgia Tech. He has authored seven books and several journal articles on cybersecurity, internet governance, telecommunications and internet policy. He has participated in proceedings and policy development activities of ICANN, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and regulatory proceedings in the European Commission, China, Hong Kong and New Zealand. He has

served as an expert witness in prominent legal cases related to domain names and telecommunication policy. He was elected to the Advisory Committee of the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN) from 2013-2016 and appointed in 2014 to the IANA Stewardship Coordination Group. Dr. Mueller led the creation of the Global Internet Governance Academic Network (GigaNet). He received both his M.A. and PhD from the University of Pennsylvania.



Nirit Weiss-Blatt is a communication researcher and author of "The TECHLASH and Tech Crisis Communication." Dr. Weiss-Blatt is a Former Research Fellow at the University of Southern California, Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. Her research focuses on tech discourse around emerging technologies. Dr. Weiss-Blatt is a contributor to Techdirt and has also published in The Daily Beast, Newsweek, Big Think, and Tech Policy Press. Her investigative journalism on "AI Panic" has reached hundreds

of thousands of views, and it was named one of the "Top AI Newsletters of 2024." She was quoted in The Washington Post, WIRED, Forbes, VentureBeat, Engadget, Ars Technica, Slate, Fast Company, The Independent, the Financial Times, IEEE Spectrum, and Scientific American.



Sarah Box is a Principal Policy Advisor in the Digital Futures Policy team at the New Zealand Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. Ms. Box is a Visiting Fellow at ORF America and the 2024 New Zealand Harkness Fellow. With the support of this award and with hosting from ORF America, she is spending three months in the United States researching a project on AI Governance – exploring strategic alignment for New Zealand. Prior to joining the Ministry, Ms. Box held various positions in the OECD's Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation in Paris, France. As Senior Counsellor, she formed part of the senior management team developing and overseeing the Directorate's strategic direction, coordinated, and tracked critical work streams such as AI and technology governance, and advised on deliverables for the G20 and G7 digital streams. She also played a key role in establishing the OECD's hosting of the Global Partnership on AI secretariat. Previously, Ms. Box worked at the Australian Productivity Commission and the New Zealand Treasury. She holds an M. Commerce and a B. Commerce (Hons) in Economics from the University of Auckland, New Zealand.



Seungtae Han is a PhD candidate in the School of Public Policy at Georgia Institute of Technology. His main area of focus revolves around studying Information Operations on social media. Currently, Mr. Han is actively participating in a Coordinated Research Project of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) studying disinformation in nuclear emergencies. Mr. Han has a master's degree in Security Policy Studies and an undergraduate degree in Political Science and International Relations.



Tarek Naous is a PhD candidate in Machine Learning at Georgia Tech working on natural language processing. His research interests generally lie at the intersection of machine learning and natural language processing. In the past, he has worked on radiation analysis in 5G networks (IEEE 5GWF'20), and applied machine learning to problems in wireless communication technology (IEEE Access'22) and geological well placement optimization (JPSE'23). He is also an organizer with the Fatima Fellowship, an international mentorship program for aspiring computer science researchers. He holds Bachelor of Engineering from Beirut Arab University, and Master of Engineering from the American University of Beirut.



Viktor Mayer-Schönberger is the Professor of Internet Governance and Regulation at Oxford. His research focuses on the role of information in a networked economy. Professor Mayer-Schönberger has published seven books, and several articles in Science and book chapters. Ideas proposed in his most recent and award winning book, “Delete: The Virtue of Forgetting in the Digital Age” have now become official policy for the European Union. He founded the best-selling Ikarus Austrian software product, in 1986. He was voted Top 5 Software Entrepreneur in Austria in 1991 and Person-of-the-Year for the State of Salzburg in 2000. He chaired the Rueschlikon Conference on Information Policy, is the cofounder of the SubTech conference series, and served on the ABA/AALS National Conference of Lawyers and Scientists. He is on the advisory boards of Microsoft and the World Economic Forum. He is also a personal adviser to the Austrian Finance Minister on innovation policy and holds law degrees, including one from Harvard and an MS (Econ) from the London School of Economics

About the Internet Governance Project

Founded in 2004, IGP is now the leading source of independent analysis of global Internet governance. We are a group of professors, postdoctoral researchers and students hosted at the School of Public Policy at the Georgia Institute of Technology, one of the world's leading engineering universities. We conduct [scholarly research](#), produce timely [policy analyses and public comments](#), [blog](#) on current events in digital political economy, and bring our ideas and proposals directly into governance processes at the [United Nations](#), agencies of the U.S. government and the European Commission, the [Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers](#) (ICANN), the [Regional Internet Address Registries \(RIRs\)](#) and other venues. We also educate professionals and young people about Internet governance in various world regions.