

Conference on  
*«How does Artificial  
Intelligence challenge  
our traditional  
understanding of legal  
reasoning?»*

27.–28. August 2026  
Square

**REGISTRATION:  
HERE**

Universität St.Gallen  
SQUARE  
Guisanstrasse 20  
9000 St.Gallen  
[www.hsg-square.ch](http://www.hsg-square.ch)  
Contact: [conference-ile@unisg.ch](mailto:conference-ile@unisg.ch)

# Provisional programme

Thursday, 27 August 2026

08:30 – 08:45

Welcome & Opening Remarks

08:45 – 09:30

Keynote: Christoph Engel

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## Panel 1: AI and Judicial Decision-Making

09:30 – 09:45

Jed Stiglitz

The Predictable Court

09:45 – 10:00

Christina Dimitropoulou

AI automation and tax administration's discretion

10:00 – 10:45

Discussion

10:45 – 11:15

*Coffee Break*

11:15 – 11:30

Paolo Capriati

Beyond the Legal Syllogism: The Case of the Machine Judge\*

11:30 – 11:45

Jahangir Badar

Generative AI Hidden Probabilities and Doctrinal Reasoning in Indian Real Estate Law\*

11:45 – 12:00

Tathagat Sharma

Proportionality as Bayesian Optimisation: What Language AI Reveals About the Hidden Formal Structure of Constitutional Reasoning\*

12:00 – 12:45

Discussion

12:45 – 13:45

*Lunch*

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## Panel 2: Legal Interpretation & Reasoning

13:45 – 14:00

Benjamin Genta

Outsourcing Similarities: How AI is Creating Legal Analogies

14:00 – 14:15

Amit Haim

Reasoning and Reason-giving in AI and Law

14:15 – 14:30

Désirée Klingler

Argumentation Patterns in Public Law

14:30 – 15:15

Discussion

15:15 – 15:30

*Break*

**15:30 – 15:45**  
Shira Gur-Arieh

Ambiguity Collapse\*

**15:45 – 16:00**  
Daniel Schwarcz

Artificial Intelligence and Human Legal Reasoning\*

**16:00 – 16:15**  
Murtaza Mohiqi

When Text Interprets Itself: Legal Hermeneutics in the Age of Generative AI\*

**16:15 – 17:00**

Discussion

**17:00 – 19:30**

Drinks & Snacks

## Friday, 28 August 2026

**08:30 – 09:15**

Keynote: Joel Niklaus

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### Panel 3: Risks, Limits & Normative Challenges

**09:15 – 09:30**  
Michael Lissack

Beyond Mimicry:  
Second-Order Observations on What Language AI Reveals About Legal Reasoning

**09:30 – 09:45**  
Zarja Hude

Legal Reasoning as AI Design Principle:  
A Neuro-Symbolic Approach

**09:45 – 10:30**

Discussion

**10:30 – 11:00**

*Coffee Break*

**11:00 – 11:15**  
José Pablo Lapostol Piderit

Choosing how to interpret: An agent design approach to the meta-rules of legal interpretation

**11:15 – 11:30**  
Michael Sierra

Algorithmic Inequality as Epistemic Exclusion:  
Artificial Intelligence, Legal Reasoning, and Vulnerability in Public Administration\*

**11:30 – 11:45**  
Vlada Druta

On the concept of legal relevance in case law search: A judicial perspective

**11:45 – 12:30**

Discussion

**12:30 – 13:30**

*Lunch*

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### Panel 4: Empirical & Technical Approaches

**13:30 – 13:45**  
Zhivko Taushanov

Key Cases at the ECtHR: An Empirical Investigation of Importance Predictors and Citation Patterns

**13:45 – 14:00**

Sebastian Nagl

Replicating LEXam on German First State Exam–Style Essay Cases to Probe the “Statistical” Face of Legal Reasoning

**14:00 – 14:15**

Ali Hamza Bashir

Domain-Adaptation through Synthetic Data: Bridging Statistical Mimicry and Legal Grounding in German Law

**14:15 – 15:00**

Discussion

**15:00 – 15:30**

*Break*

**15:30 – 15:45**

Stefanos Papastavrou

Is Law Structurally Computable? AI as Statistical Mirror of Legal Reasoning\*

**15:45 – 16:00**

Daniel F. Bracker

Should the Legal Concept of Speech Include Chatbot Output?

**16:00 – 16:15**

Shivam Saran / Eric Posner

AI Agents vs. the 7th Circuit Court\*

**16:15 – 17:00**

Discussion

**17:00 – 17:15**

*Closing Remarks*

\* Online presentations

## Speakers

<b>Badar Jahangir</b>	Assistant Professor of Law; School of Law, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi (IN)
<b>Bashir Ali Hamza</b>	Research Assistant; Fraunhofer-Institut für Intelligente Analyse- und Informationssysteme, Sankt Augustin (DE)
<b>Bracker Daniel Falk</b>	PhD Candidate; Department of Philosophy, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (NL)
<b>Capriati Paolo</b>	Research Fellow; Department of Law, Università di Palermo (IT)
<b>Dimitropoulou Christina</b>	Assistant Professor of International Tax Law; Department of Tax Law, Faculty of Law, Maastricht University (NL)
<b>Druta Vlada</b>	PhD Candidate; Faculty of Law, Criminal Justice and Public Administration, University of Lausanne (CH)
<b>Engel Christoph</b>	Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c.; Distinguished Senior Research Fellow, Center for Law & Economics, ETH Zurich; Director, Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, University of Bonn (DE/CH)
<b>Genta Benjamin Santos</b>	Postdoctoral Fellow; Department of Philosophy, New York University (US)
<b>Gur-Arieh Shira</b>	PhD Candidate; Graduate Student Fellow, Berkman Klein Center, Harvard Law School (US)
<b>Haim Amit</b>	Dr.; Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University (IL)
<b>Hude Zarja</b>	PhD Candidate; Law School, London School of Economics (UK)
<b>Klingler Désirée</b>	Assistant Professor of Public Law, Institute for Law and Economics; Director at Law & Tech Lab, University of St.Gallen (CH)

Lapostol Piderit José Pablo	Associate, Sargent & Krahn; Researcher, Universidad del Desarrollo (CL)
Lissack Michael	Professor of Design and Innovation, College of Design and Innovation, Tongji University; Executive Director, Second Order Science Foundation (US/CN)
Mohiqi Murtaza	Assistant Professor; Department of Law, University of Agder (NO)
Nagl Sebastian	Research Associate, Attorney-at-Law; TUM School of Computation, Information and Technology, Technical University of Munich (DE)
Niklaus Joel	Dr.; Machine Learning Engineer, Hugging Face (CH)
Papastavrou Stefanos	Policy Analyst; OECD (FR)
Posner Eric	Kirkland and Ellis Distinguished Service Professor of Law; University of Chicago Law School (US)
Saran Shivam	Bachelor of Science, Emory University; Research Specialist, University of Chicago Law School (US)
Schwarcz Daniel	Fredrikson & Byron Professor of Law, Distinguished University Teaching Professor, University of Minnesota Law School (US)
Sharma Tathagat	Assistant Dean; Vinayaka Mission's Law School, Chennai (IN)
Sierra Michael	PhD Candidate; Faculty of Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (IL)
Stiglitz Jed	Richard and Lois Cole Professor of Law, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Cornell Law School (US)
Taushanov Zhivko	Dr.; General Manager, Center for Legal Data Science; Law Faculty, University of Zurich (CH)

## Organizers

Klingler Désirée

Assistant Professor of Public Law, Institute for Law and Economics; Director at Law & Tech Lab, University of St.Gallen (CH)

Hongler Peter

Professor of Tax Law; Director of the Institute for Law and Economics, University of St.Gallen (CH)

Gubelmann Reto

Dr.; Research Group Leader in Philosophy and Language AI, University of Zurich (CH)

From insight  
to impact.