

39th Annual Conference
17-19 April 2024
Dublin City University, Ireland

Digital and Green: Twin Transitions?



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39th BILETA Annual Conference
Digital and Green: Twin Transitions?
Dublin City University and Online
17-19 April 2024

Call for papers

The British and Irish Law, Education and Technology Association (BILETA) warmly invites individuals to attend and participate in its 39th Annual Conference hosted by [Dublin City University's Law and Tech Research Cluster](#) in partnership with the [Law Society of Ireland](#), the [Erasmus Mundus Master in Law, Data and AI \(EMILDAI\)](#) and the [ADAPT Centre for AI-driven Innovation](#).

As usual, the BILETA Annual Conference aims to foster critical and topical discussions on the future of law, technology and legal education. Papers are welcome from academics, researchers, practitioners, postgraduate students, those in business or practice, activists and anyone else with an interest in technology in the law (broadly construed) and legal education. Participants are welcome from any country to enjoy the scholarly, social and cultural experience of BILETA.

In 2024, the BILETA Annual Conference will return to the island of Ireland, this time convened in the premises of Dublin City University's historical St Patrick's Campus, located in Drumcondra, in the northern part of Dublin. Although the conference is fully hybrid, we hope to meet you in person here to enjoy the BILETA experience and the vibe of Dublin.

The theme of this year is 'Digital and Green'. July 2023 recently made the record as the hottest month on Earth since temperatures have been measured. Climate change has become a tangible reality and a plurality of actors, ranging from supranational institutions to civil society, is mobilising to fight the nefarious consequences of global warming. Digital technology is considered to be a strategic ally to achieve environmental sustainability. Digitalisation can enhance the possibility to measure and predict the effects of human activities as well as to allow for a better management of resources. Yet, the increasing use of digital technologies itself has an environmental impact. For example, data centres consume enormous amounts of electricity; keeping the pace of technological innovation may determine an increase of waste; technological equipment is made of rare materials whose extraction affects unique ecosystems. Are the digital and green transformations really two twin transitions? How can digitalisation help the environment without further impacting it? Can the current climate change justify an appeal to a systematic digital degrowth? How are supranational institutions, national governments and local authorities reacting?

BILETA invites the submission of abstracts of **maximum 500 words** using the Oxford Abstracts portal (link [here](#)) **by 8th January 2024**. The conference will be organised around a number of parallel sessions. Abstracts can be related to the broader theme of the conference or present original research in one of the following themes:

- Privacy and data protection
- Surveillance
- Artificial Intelligence
- Legal education and technology-enhanced teaching and learning
- Intellectual property law and technology
- Cybercrime and cyber security
- Internet regulation and governance
- E-commerce
- E-democracy and e-government
- Communications law and regulation
- Future technologies and the law
- Human rights and technology
- Sustainability, energy, technologies and the law.

Sustainability

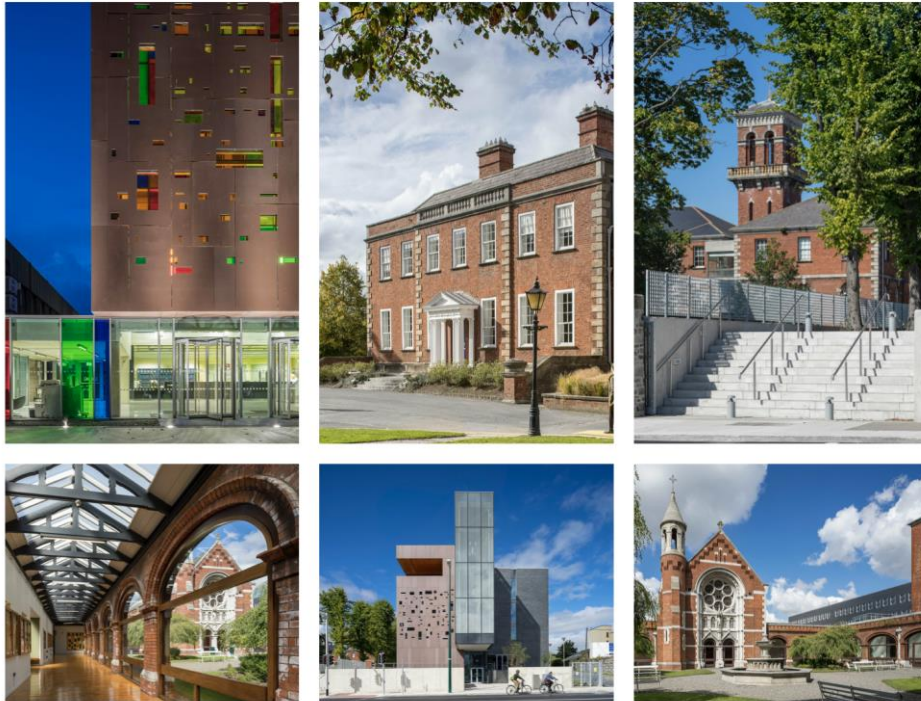
The theme of the 39th annual conference is not only of academic relevance but also it also affects our everyday life. The organisers of this year's conference aim to organise an event as sustainable as possible and they encourage you to contribute to these efforts.

In the section **'transport'** below, you will find information about how to reduce your carbon emissions when reaching the conference venue. When registering for the conference, you will be asked to complete a **survey** that collects data about your chosen transportation mean and distance from DCU. This will be used to **calculate the total number of carbon emissions** generated by conference travel. The sponsors of the BILETA 39th annual conference have kindly agreed to offset these emissions by contributing to selected **carbon offsetting** programmes.

Furthermore we are committed to **reduce our environmental impact** when organising the conference. No paper programme will be printed. Participants **tags** will be printed on **recycled paper** and laces will be returned at the end of the conference. Our caterer will source **local and organic products**. The **hotels** offering accommodation to conference attendees have been chosen among those that are certified as environmentally sustainable.

Conference venue

The conference will be hosted in the premises of the historical St. Patrick's and All Hallows campus of Dublin City University, as well as online.



Programme

Wednesday 17 April

16.30-18.30 - AGM

18:30 - Social event: Informal dinner at [Cat & Cage](#) (PGR students welcome!)

Thursday 18 April

9.00-9.30 - Welcome note

9.30-11.00 - Parallel sessions 1

11.00-11.30 - Coffee break

11.30-13.00 - Parallel sessions 2

13.00-14.15 - Lunch

14.15-15.00 - Launch of BILETA Online Teaching Policy

15:00-16:00 - Keynote speaker - Anna Davies (Sustainability & software: challenges and opportunities)

16:00-17:30 - Parallel sessions 3

17.30-19.00 - Social event: Joyce's Dublin Walking Tour
19.00 - Conference dinner

Friday 19 April

7.30-8.30 - Social event: Running in the Tolka Valley Park
10-11.30 - Parallel sessions 4
11.30-12.00 - Coffee break
12.00-13.00 - BILETA-EJLT prize presentation session
13.00-14.30 - Lunch
14.30-16.00 - Parallel sessions 5
16.00-16.30 - Prize award ceremony and Farewell

Saturday 20 April

11.00-12.00 - Social event: Irish History Tour in the Glasnevin Cemetery

Keynote Speaker - Thursday 18 April 14:30

Anna Davies - Sustainability & software: challenges and opportunities

Anna Davies is Professor of Geography, Environment and Society at Trinity College Dublin where she leads the Environmental Governance Research Group. A founding member of Future Earth's Knowledge Action Network on Systems of Sustainable Consumption and Production and Future Earth Ireland, Anna examines whose voices, values and visions count when shaping policy and practice in matters of sustainability and how this impacts people and the planet. She is a member of the Royal Irish Academy, a Fellow of the International Science Council and currently chairs The Rediscovery Centre in Dublin; Ireland's national centre for the circular economy.



We are excited to announce that we also have an action-packed agenda of activities and social events – please see below:

Wednesday 17 th April - 7 pm

Informal dinner at [Cat & Cage](#) (PGR students welcome!)

Thursday 18 th April - 6 pm

James Joyce Centre Walking Tour – a delegate from the James Joyce Centre will be coming out to Drumcondra to give a historic tour of the area. The guide is a local historian who will start at Griffith Avenue and stop at various points of interest eg. DCU, Drumcondra Church, High Park, Clonturk Park, Millbourne Avenue, Lower Drumcondra and St George's Churchyard.

Friday 19 th April - 7:30 am

Running in the Tolka Valley Park

Saturday 20 th April - 11:00

Glasnevin Cemetery Tour “Glasnevin Cemetery, established by Daniel O’Connell in 1832, is one of the most significant historical sites in Ireland. Covering 124 acres, the original Victorian garden cemetery has grown to encompass new lawn-style plots and memorial gardens, all nestled in amongst mature trees and the beautiful monuments to Ireland’s past for which Glasnevin is famous.” The cost for the tour is €11 per person.

Registration

Registration for the conference will be open from 8th January 2024 to 5th April 2024. To register please click [here](#).

Fees

If your institution is a BILETA member you can avail of the discounted BILETA member rate. A list of BILETA institutional members can be found [here](#). In person attendance includes the conference dinner and the lunches on the 18 and 19 April.

In person attendance

BILETA member: €250

BILETA non-member: €300

Postgraduate students: €150

Virtual attendance

BILETA member: €100

BILETA non-member: € 150

Postgraduate students: €50

Transport

There’s no getting around the fact that Ireland is an island. You will need to either fly or sail here and both these forms of transport have an impact on the environment. However, by making **greener** travel choices, you can monitor, reduce and offset your own personal carbon footprint.

Flights to Ireland

Dublin Airport is near to Dublin City University and has a number of different transport options available to get to your hotel or the conference venue quickly. Taxis are available outside of the Arrivals terminal, as are coaches and buses. The 16 and 41 buses travel from Dublin Airport directly to St. Patrick's Campus in Drumcondra, where the conference will take place. The 700 coach (Aircoach) also travels from the airport to Drumcondra rail station.

Ferries to Ireland

There are several ferry options for travelling between the UK and the island of Ireland: you can choose a fast ferry or slow ferry, travel by foot or as a car passenger to Dublin, Cork and Rosslare in the Republic of Ireland, or Larne and Belfast in Northern Ireland.

Irish Ferries runs 'slow ferry' services between Pembroke in Wales to Rosslare on Ireland's southeast coast, and between Holyhead in Wales to Dublin Port. Dublin Port is 6km from Dublin city centre. Foot passengers are welcome on most of these crossings. Irish Ferries also has a 'fast ferry' catamaran service, Dublin Swift, on the Holyhead to Dublin route, which takes 2 hours, although it is more prone to cancellation if the weather is choppy, in which case you will be put on the next slower crossing. Bikes may be taken on to the ferry at a cost of £10.00 each way, which you can add to your online booking.

Stena Line runs 'slow ferry' crossings from Holyhead in Wales to Dublin Port, from Fishguard in Wales to Rosslare in southeast Ireland, from Liverpool in England to Belfast, and from Cairnryan in Scotland to Belfast, all of which are available for both foot and car passengers. Bikes can be taken on the ferry from £10.00 each way. Choose the option for 'bicycle' when you book rather than 'foot passenger'. There are train stations at Fishguard and Rosslare with easy transfers on to the ferry. Cairnryan is a bit more tricky: take a train to Ayr, then a Stena Line shuttle bus to the port.

Public transport connections at ferry ports

There are train stations at most ferry ports (including Holyhead, Liverpool, Pembroke, Roscoff and Rosslare) but here are a few more details below of facilities at some of these and other ports.

Dublin

From Dublin Port there is an hourly [53 bus service](#) to various points in Dublin, including Connolly local DART Rail Station. There is also a private coach service which meets the Dublin Port ferries and takes you between Dublin Port and Westmoreland Street in the city centre, as well as Dublin's Heuston Station. With fares from €2, you can book these in advance online with [Ferrylink](#), or pay on board.

Belfast

If arriving into Belfast on a Stena Line ferry, you come into Victoria Quay. Take the 96 bus from Upper Queen Street, near Belfast's City Hall, to the ferry terminal. The return service which meets the ferries at the terminal takes you to Donegall Place in Belfast's city centre. Single adult cash fare is currently £2 single, children £1 single and you are advised to have

cash for this one. On the Isle of Man service into Belfast, you arrive into Albert Quay, and the nearest bus stop/station is at Yorkgate approximately 10 minutes walk from the terminal where you can catch the number 2 bus to Donegall Square in the city centre: [Belfast bus timetables](#).

There is more information available at:

- <https://www.ireland.com/plan-your-trip/travel/sustainable-travel-ireland/>
- <https://www.greentraveller.co.uk/post/how-to-travel-to-and-from-ireland-without-flying>

Carbon emissions above have been estimated for a trip from London to Dublin. They are indicative and shown only for the purpose of raising awareness on carbon emissions related to specific transportation means.

Accommodation

We have arranged three codes for conference attendees to enable them to book their accommodation for the conference with: the Skylon Hotel, located beside St. Patricks' Campus; the Bonnington Hotel, a short walk from St. Patricks' campus and DCU Rooms, located on the Glasnevin campus, approximately half an hours walk or a short bus ride from St. Patricks' Campus.

Skylon Hotel

Participants can use the corporate code **BILETA24** on the website www.dublinskylonhotel.com to book their accommodation.

On the homepage click BOOK NOW button (top right hand corner).

The code must be entered before you choose the dates or go through any booking steps.

- Double room for Single occupancy - € 149.00
- Twin room for Single occupancy - € 149.00
- King room for Single occupancy - € 159.00
- Executive Triple room for Single occupancy - € 179.00

All the above rates are non-commissionable per room per night inclusive of taxes and breakfast.

Deadline

The deadline for booking confirmations is 19th February 2024 – 100% of total unreserved rooms. After this date, all unconfirmed rooms being held will be released and rates and rooms will be subject to change and availability.

Bonnington Hotel

Use Promo code BILETA24 for bookings on our website www.bonningtondublin.com

Delegates may also click the below link to book

<https://the-bonnington-dublin-hotel.host.netaffinity.io/ibe/THEBONNIIBE01#!/accommodation/packages?sort=2&code=BILETA24>

Rates are active for 17 - 18 April 2024 inclusive, as follows:

Single Room: €150 Bed & Breakfast

Double/Twin Room: €170 Bed & Breakfast

Delegates may also book by calling Reservations on 01-837 3544 (9.30am-6pm Mon-Sat) and quoting this promo code.

Deadline

The deadline for booking confirmations is three weeks before the conference, 26th March 2024.

DCU Rooms

Located on the DCU Glasnevin campus. Please book [here](#)

The rooms that we can offer are our visitor suites that are private ensuite rooms located in 2-bedrooms apartments with access to a shared lounge & kitchenette (each 2-bedroom apartment shares a lounge and kitchenette) .

The rate that we can offer you is €115.00 per room per night on a room only basis and the delegates would be able to book this special conference rate on our website using the link/promo code that we set up.

Deadline

DCU Rooms would be able to hold the rooms for the delegates to book until 6 weeks prior to the event, 6th March 2024.

DCU is committed to making radical changes to curricula, research and operations to reduce our environmental impact and reach our ambitious zero carbon targets.

DCU Rooms fall under DCU sustainability plans/awards. Meeting our science-based targets (a 4.2% annual reduction in carbon emissions up to 2030) will be extremely challenging. In fact, these targets may well be superseded and increased under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 and the National Climate Action Plan 2021.

While we wait for our national targets to be established, we continue to work towards our science-based targets. The scale of the work to be done demands that each of us overhauls our previous practices and considers carefully how we use resources.

Devised by our Sustainability Council, our Climate Action Plan 2021-2026 sets out a detailed strategy and action plan for DCU.

The plan establishes baselines against which we can measure progress, and outlines detailed targets and actions across every area of our work. This is an iterative plan and additional actions will be required to transform our university to meet our targets. More information is available at:

<https://www.dcu.ie/sustainability/dcu-climate-action-plan-2021-2026#:~:text=DCU%20is%20committed%20to%20making,2030%29%20will%20be%20extremely%20challenging>

Prizes

All conference delegates (online and in person attendees) have the opportunity to enter into competition for the following prizes. The same paper cannot be considered for two prizes. Submissions are made by email to bileta@dcu.ie. Please specify in the subject line the prize you are applying for. The deadline for all prizes is: **31 March 2024**.

The Paul Maharg Legal Education prize

A prize of £250 will be awarded for the best piece of legal education writing. The Prize bears the name of [Prof Paul Maharg](#), Honorary Vice-President of BILETA. To be considered for this prize, please submit a full paper (maximum 10-12,000 words, including footnotes) to bileta@dcu.ie by 31 March 2024. The winning paper will be submitted to the conference special issue of the [European Journal of Law and Technology](#).

BILETA-EJLT prize

All conference participants are welcome to enter for the BILETA-EJLT prize of £250. The winning paper will be submitted to the conference special issue of the [European Journal of Law and Technology](#). Please submit a full paper (maximum 10-12,000 words, including footnotes) to bileta@dcu.ie by 31 March 2024. There will be a presentation Q&A session for the top 3 papers submitted to this prize on Friday 19th April from 12-13. Each paper will be briefly introduced by the author (5 minutes), discussed by a member of the BILETA Executive (5 minutes), and finally the audience will be invited to ask questions (10 minutes).

Taylor & Francis prize

All conference participants are welcome to enter for the Taylor & Francis prize of £250 on behalf of the [International Review of Law, Computers and Technology](#). Please submit a full paper (maximum 10-12,000 words, including footnotes) to bileta@dcu.ie by 31 March 2024. The winning paper will be submitted to the conference special issue of the [International Review of Law, Computers and Technology](#).

The Diane Rowland BILETA postgraduate prize

A prize of £250 will be available for the best postgraduate work. In 2024 this Prize will be awarded in honour of [Prof Diane Rowland](#). Please submit your work to bileta@dcu.ie by 31

March 2024. The winning paper will be considered for publication on the [EMILDAI blog](#) or in one of the two conference special issues.

Publication Opportunities

Selected papers will be published after the conference in two special issues, respectively with the [International Review of Law, Computers and Technology](#), and the [European Journal of Law and Technology](#).

Organisers

BILETA

The [British and Irish Law Education Technology Association](#) (BILETA) was formed in April 1986 to promote, develop and communicate high-quality research and knowledge on technology law and policy to organisations, governments, professionals, students and the public. BILETA also promotes the use of and research into technology at all stages of education. We are one of the largest and oldest Technology Law Associations in the world and amongst our activities we –

- hold an annual BILETA conference, organised by a member law school
- fund seminars and research projects
- allow members to apply for research funding
- provide information on technology in legal developments
- support relevant academic journals such as The European Journal of Law and Technology and International Review of Law Computers and Technology
- make representations on technology and law to policy consultations through the production of written reports and responses
- liaise with other academic and professional organisations

The work of BILETA is dependent on the funding provided by its membership. We have no funding source other than the generosity of our members. BILETA actively seeks requests for funding from academics from member institutions to allow projects to be undertaken or completed which reflect the goals of BILETA.

DCU Law and Tech Research Cluster

The Law and Tech Research Cluster is the branch of the DCU Law Research Centre specialising in law and new technologies. It represents the first research group in Ireland expressly designed to investigate, from an interdisciplinary perspective, the challenges that technology and innovation generate for law, both at the national and international levels.

The advent of the Internet and the development of digital technology has triggered a new age of economic, social and political transformation. The digital revolution is rapidly changing contemporary society and profoundly affecting our legal system, both at the national and transnational levels. In this context, Ireland plays a crucial role as the European Union's digital hub, where many multinational technology companies are headquartered.

The DCU Law and Tech Research Cluster is coordinated by Dr [Edoardo Celeste](#). The Cluster hosts a programme of [visiting scholars](#) and a summer internship programme for master students. The [Blog](#) of the Cluster discusses the latest developments in the field of law and technology.

Law Society of Ireland

The [Law Society of Ireland](#) has representative, regulatory and educational functions in respect of the solicitors' profession in Ireland. We deliver high-quality legal education and training, encourage and support the highest professional standards. We also place significant emphasis on civic engagement, supporting local community initiatives and driving diversity and inclusion within the profession.

EMILDAI

The [European Master in Law, Data and Artificial Intelligence](#) (EMILDAI) is an international interdisciplinary programme offered by Dublin City University, Avignon Université, Universidad de León and Università di Pisa. The programme is further supported by three named Research Associate Partners, and involves more than seventy public and private organisations in the delivery of work placements, seminars, thematic weeks and summer schools. EMILDAI is funded by the Erasmus Mundus Programme of the European Union.

EMILDAI has been developed as a response to the legal, technical and ethical challenges of digitisation. Businesses and public institutions require experts to legally, ethically and safely process data, in particular in the context of the use of AI systems. EMILDAI aims to educate the leaders who will achieve the goals of the EU Digital Compass. Through a two-year fully integrated study curriculum, including up to three mobility periods, work placements, language courses, summer schools and networking opportunities, EMILDAI educates legal and technical professionals with a solid expertise in data protection, data governance, cybersecurity, AI law and ethics.

This fully interdisciplinary programme is divided into two study streams, Law and Computing, and offers two areas of specialisation, Data Governance and Cybersecurity. EMILDAI aims to attract excellent students worldwide, thanks to the offer of an internationally recognised joint degree, EU scholarships, world-class support services, and by paying due attention to fostering equality, diversity and inclusion with regard to all students, in particular those with fewer opportunities.

ADAPT

[ADAPT](#), the world-leading SFI Research Centre for AI-Driven Digital Content Technology, brings leading academics, researchers and industry partners together to deliver excellent science, engage the public, develop novel solutions for business across all sectors and enhance Ireland's international reputation. Coordinated by Trinity College Dublin and co-hosted by Dublin City University, ADAPT's partner institutions include University College Dublin, Technological University Dublin, Maynooth University, Munster Technological University, Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest, and the National University of Ireland Galway.

ADAPT's research vision is to pioneer new forms of proactive, scalable, and integrated AI-driven Digital Media Technology that empower individuals and society to engage in digital experiences with control, inclusion, and accountability with the long-term goal of a balanced digital society by 2030. ADAPT is pioneering new Human Centric AI techniques and technologies including personalisation, natural language processing, data analytics, intelligent machine translation, human-computer interaction, as well as setting the standards for data governance, privacy, and ethics for digital content.

The ADAPT Centre utilises an interdisciplinary ethos to advance and propel learning and research, incorporating leading experts from the complementary fields of, Social Sciences, Communications, Commerce/Fintech, Ethics, Law, Health, Environment, and Sustainability.

Contacts

Conference Chair: Dr Edoardo Celeste, edoardo.celeste@dcu.ie

Event Manager: Ms Irene Ryan, irene.ryan@dcu.ie

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