

Workshop program

The digitalizing continent: Examining challenges and opportunities of digital transformation for Africa

The Competence Center for African Research, University of St.Gallen & Afronomicslaw.org

Date: July 13, 2022 (All time is in Central European Time)

13:20-13:30 – Room opens / technical check/ quick intro & housekeeping rules (Kebene)

13:30-14:00 – Welcoming and Opening:

Prof. Florian Wettstein, *Professor of Business Ethics, Director of the Institute for Business Ethics and CCAR, University of St.Gallen*

Dr. Thierry Nggoso, *Managing Director of the CCAR, Institute for Business Ethics, University of St.Gallen*

Prof. James T. Gathii, *Professor of Law, Wing-Tat Lee Chair in International Law, Loyola University Chicago School of Law*

Prof. Olabisi D. Akinkugbe, *Assistant Professor, Viscount Bennett Professor of Law, Schulich School of Law Dalhousie University*

Panel I: Digitalization & human rights

Chair: **Somtochukwu Mbelu**, *Erasmus University Rotterdam*

Discussants: **Jake Okechukwu Effoduh**, *Osgoode Hall Law School, York University*

Dr. Isabel Ebert, *University of St.Gallen & UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, B-Tech Project*

Ikechukwu Uzoma, *Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights*

Panelists:

14:00-14:10 – The emerging role of African sub-regional courts in fostering human rights on the Internet

Christopher Yaw Nyinevi, *Monash University & Yohannes Eneyew Ayalew*, *Monash University*

Comment by: **Jake Okechukwu Effoduh**, *Osgoode Hall Law School, York University*(5-6mins)

14:25-14:35 – Data protection Impact assessment as a human rights duty of state?

Nelson Otieno Okeyo, *University of Bayreuth*

Comment by: **Ikechukwu Uzoma**, *Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights* (5-6mins)

14:45-14:55 – Les coupures d'internet en Afrique et la responsabilité des entreprises de télécommunications en matière de droits de l'homme

Dr. Aliou DIOUF, *Business and Human Rights Resource Centre*

Comment by: **Dr. Isabel Ebert**, *University of St.Gallen & UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, B-Tech Project* (5-6mins)

15:05-15:15 – Q&A

15:20-15:30 – Virtual coffee break or networking in breakout rooms

Panel II: Promises & challenges of digital trade (15:30 – 16:50 CET)

Chair: **Wangui Kimotho**, *University of St. Gallen*

Discussants: **Dr. Abdul Z. Abdulrahim**, *COO, Stears*

Evans Awuni, *University of Erfurt*

Panelists:

15:30-15:40 – Digital Trade in the African Continental Free Trade Agreement: Exploring its promises and challenges

Bereket Alemayehu Hagos, *Addis Ababa University and the UK Department for International Trade in Addis Ababa*

Comment by: **Dr. Abdul Z. Abdulrahim**, *COO, Stears* (5-6 mins)

15:50-16:00 – Digitalizing trade finance under the African Continental Free Trade Agreement: Lessons from the Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records

Uchenna Anyamele, *Durham University and Hakakire Legal Consulting*

Comment by: **Evans Awuni**, *University of Erfurt* (5-6 mins)

16:10-16:20 – The Role of Courts in Safeguarding Africa's E-commerce Environment

Michael Asiedu, *University of St.Gallen* & **Louis Gitinywa**, *Kigali Atneys Chamber LLP*

Comment by: **Evans Awuni**, *University of Erfurt* (5-6 mins)

16:30-16:35 – Q&A

Panel III: Normative accounts of digitalized governance (16:40 -18:30)

Chair: **Michael Asiedu**, *University of St. Gallen*

Discussants: **Yohannes Eneyew Ayalew**, *Monash University*

Dr. Edwin Ameso, *University of Leipzig*

Louis Gitinywa, *Kigali Attorneys Chamber LLP*

Panelists:

16:40-16:50 – Of fissures and reforms: Tracing Africa's Digital Transformation and its Distributional Consequences

Megan Kathure, *Lawyers Hub Kenya*

Comment by: **Yohannes Eneyew Ayalew**, *Monash University* (5-6 mins)

17:00-17:10 – The African Union and the digitalized governance of the energy transition: From AU bodies to non-state actors through energy efficiency (French & English)

Dr. Aubin Nzaou-Kongo, *University of Houston*

Comment by: **Louis Gitinywa**, *Kigali Attorneys Chamber LLP / Kebene*

17:20-17:30 – Safeguarding sovereignty and digital transformation in Africa

Kimberley Nyajeka, *World Trade Institute, University of Bern*

Comment by: **Dr. Edwin Ameso**, *University of Leipzig* (5-6mins)

17:40-17:50 – Q&A

17:50-18:00 – Wrap up

Register in advance with the below link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvfuuoqjluGdAmDCivorcoZ-8LnU_s2FNI

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.