# CONFERENCE
# Code vs. Code

## June 21-22, 2023
## Venue : MACI - UGA

> **June 21st 1pm-7pm**
**/ Panels**

> **June 22nd 1.30pm-6.30pm**
**/ Workshop**

**With keynote speakers from:**

**Nanyang technological University (NTU)**

**University of Sussex**

**Queen Mary University of London**

**University of Sherbrooke**

**University of Edinburgh**

Centre de Recherches Juridiques
https://crj.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr

**The "Code vs. Code" conference organised by the CRJ Laboratory (Center in law Research) will be held on June the 21st and 22nd at the Maison de la création et de l'innovation (MACI) in Grenoble.**

First, there was the "law of code", the application of traditional legal norms enacted by parliament to regulate new and emerging technologies. The shortcomings and dissatisfaction with this approach soon gave rise to the idea of "Code is law", a catchphrase in the age of the digitalisation that expressed the idea through the internet's computational infrastructure, code regulates, constrains and facilitates on-line behaviour. Programmatically, it also highlighted a danger – that a form of regulation that drew its legitimacy from the democratic process was in danger of being replaced by a mode of governance where unappointed and often unaccountable software developers became de-facto legislators. Even more recently, and depending on one's position either acerbating or mitigating this danger, we have seen the emergence of a discussion on Law (enacted in the form of) computer Code, or Law as Code, changing the way we think about the legislative process and the regulation of technology. If we combine these three ideas, we get closer and closer to a formal equivalence between capital letter Codes of law, and small letter software code. Provocatively styled in the form of a divorce proceeding, this conference therefore asks questions about the relation and delineation between traditional legal codes and software code as modes of regulation.

This debate has gained new urgency in the light of emerging digital technologies such as artificial intelligence, blockchain and, in the future, quantum technologies. Studied together and separately, these emerging or disruptive technologies operated by computer code have an impact on codifying, applying and enforcing the law. The term "versus" underlines a confrontation between the codes (or rules) of the computer scientist and the lawyer and also a domination or a transformation. These three meanings will be mobilised during the conference. Indeed, if the law can be an instrument of regulation of emerging technologies, it can also be the object of these digital stakes.

### «Code vs. code», a domination?

The question raised is the adaptation of our legal rules to supervise the uses of emerging digital technologies. Artificial intelligence questions the modes of production of knowledge or creativity, quantum technologies are likely to accelerate such processes, and the registry and traceability functions of the blockchain are increasingly used as a tool for the administration of evidence. Can the law cope with this and reassert its priority? Should we revisit our legal categories and update them? Or is the law already prepared to respond to digitalisation ?

## « Code vs. code», a transformation?

Law does not just control technology, our understanding of what law is can also influenced, challenged and changed by technology. Computer code has the potential for optimising traditional law-centric forms of governance, for instance by mobilising predictive tools based on artificial intelligence and trained on past precedents, or smart contracts deployed on the blockchain. What can AI, Blockchain and quantum computing do to change the law? Can this code-ification or «code as law» replace the traditional ways of enacting, applying and enforcing the law?

## «Code versus code», a confrontation?

The question of access to and understanding the algorithms is the underlying issue of this stream, and with that also in particular the role of IP law to govern technologies. . AI, Blockchain and Quantum Technologies have different degrees of maturity. There is an inherent tension between different legal regimes, those that limits access and reduces openness and transparency of these techno-logies (IP law) and those that like the proposed EU AI Act, or more traditionally competition law, that try to force algorithms into the open. This stream of the colloquium will question the opening or closing of these technologies, especial-ly through property rights.  Is it according to the degree of maturity? the social uses? thse acceptance of the society of these technologies?
These three possible relations between legal code and software code may not exhaust the space of possibilities, and other relations may be possible. Should we imagine other models of governance for «Code and code» in «peaceful coexistence»?

Such a reflection can only take place in a broad interdisciplinary context. The colloquium is therefore not only for researchers in law and computer scientists, but also for researchers in philosophy, sociology and information and commu-nication in order to better understand and anticipate the major human and societal issues.

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On three continents (Europe, Asia and Canada), researchers in SHS and ST will be gathered in a videoconference and in presence over two days. The first day will be devoted to keynote speeches dedicated to each emerging digital techno-logy (AI, blockchain and quantum). The second day is to be an interdisciplinary « think out of the box » scientific workshop. The discussion will be facilitated by a moderator and a rapporteur. Otherwise, the discussion will be quite free for each group, in order to bring out possible creative solutions.

Participation in this workshop is open to all researchers and PhD students.

### Registration

**1pm Welcome.**
- **Amélie Favreau**, Senior Lecturer, University of Grenoble Alpes, Scientific coordinator of the conference.
- **Caroline Bertonèche**, Professor and President of the Academic Concil of University of Grenoble Alpes
- **Chinesta Soria Francisco**, Professor, ENSAM, leading DesCartes a CNRS@ Create Program, Singapore.
*Videoconferencing*.
- **Vincent Aimez** (TBC), Professor and Vice-President Partnerships and Knowledge Transfer at the Université de Sherbrooke

**1.30pm Introduction.**
**Marina Teller**, Professor in Law, University of Nice (France).

**2pm-4pm Panel on artificial intelligence.**

Chair: **Maeliss Vincent-Moreau**, Lawyer at MVM in Paris.

Keynotes :
- **Mélanie Dulong de Rosnay**, Director of Research in Law, CNRS.
*Videoconferencing*.

- **Shirley S. Ho**, President's Chair Professor in Communication Studies and Associate Vice President for Humanities, Social Science & Research Communication at Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore.
*Promise or Reservations? Public Perceptions of AI Applications in Singapore.*

- **Melvin Chen**, Lecturer in Philosophy, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore.
*Natural Language & Trust in Foundation Models.*

- **Andrew Prahl**, Assistant professor, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.
*Generative AI: This Time is Different?*

- **Céline Verchère,** Research Professor in Sociology, University of Sherbrooke, Canada and **François Thibeault**, Research Assistant, University of Sherbrooke.
*Learnings from a Responsible Innovation Framework: the case of ChatGPT and Generative AI.*
*Videoconferencing*.

**3.30pm Questions and break.**

**4pm-6pm Panel on Blockchain and the metaverse.**

Chair: **Elise Guilhaudis**, Lawyer at Numetik in Grenoble, and **Christine Hennebert**, Senior Research Engineer / Expert, CEA.

Keynotes :
- **Andres Guadamuz**, Senior Lecturer in Intellectual Property Law, University of Sussex, UK.
*Will the Real Web 3 Please Stand Up?*

- **Gaetano Dimita**, Senior Lecturer in Law, Queen Mary University of London, UK, and **Michaela Macdonald**, Lecturer at School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science, Queen Mary University of London, UK.
*NFTs: A case study on how technology can(not) solve a legal issue.*
*Videoconferencing (G. Dimita).*

- **Marie-Claude Desjardins**, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Sherbrooke, Canada.
*Sustainability claims and the blockchain: the impact on consumer law.*

- **Hannah Yee-Fen LIM,** Associate Professor, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore.
*Computer Code 0, Legal Code 1: Scorecard from the Blockchain Metaverse.*
*Videoconferencing.*

**5.30pm Questions and break.**

**6pm-7pm Panel on Quantum Technologies.**

Chair: **Robert Whitney**, Physicist Researcher at CNRS, and **Maud Vinet** (TBC), CEO SiQuance.

Keynotes :
- **Burkhard Schafer,** Professor of Computational Legal Theory, University of Edinburgh (UK).
*The Law of the Cat: Quantum computing and the future of law as code.*

- **Jean-Marc Deltorn**, Associate Professor, University of Strasbourg.

- **Charles-Etienne Daniel**, Professor in Law and Technology, University of Sherbrooke, Canada.
*Hard rules versus soft norms? Lessons of previous normative initiatives on AI for quantum technologies.*

**6.45pm Questions.**
**7pm Closing.**

## Thursday, June 22nd
### WORKSHOP

### Registration

**1.30pm Welcome.**
**Ingrid Maria**, Professor in Law, UGA (France).

**2pm-4pm Working groups on Artificial intelligence, blockchain and quantum technologies.**

**4.30pm Report of the working groups.**

**6pm Discussion.**

**6.30pm Closing.**

**REGISTRATION free and compulsory:**
**Registration Form June 21st**
**Registration Form June 22nd**

ZOOM : **Registration form to follow the panels**
**Registration form to follow the workshop**

**Venue: MACI**
**Maison de la Création**
**et de l'Innovation**
**339, avenue Centrale**
**Saint-Martin-d'Hères**
**Tram stop: *Gabriel Fauré (Tram B or C)***