

REGULATING AUTOMATION

41st Nordic Conference on Law and IT

Odense, Denmark · 21–23 October 2026

Hosted by CLAIR – Centre of Law, AI and Robotics, University of Southern Denmark

About the conference

Automation is no longer on the horizon; it already acts, watches and transforms the world around us. Autonomous systems make decisions, agentic AI carries out tasks with limited human oversight, and public authorities and businesses alike increasingly rely on algorithmic tools. These developments raise pressing questions for the law: who is responsible when automation acts, how do we safeguard fundamental rights when automation watches, and what happens to our services, professions and institutions when automation transforms the way they work?

Under the theme *Regulating Automation*, the 41st Nordic Conference on Law and IT brings the Nordic law-and-technology community together in Odense. Over two days, researchers and practitioners from across the Nordic region and beyond present current research and debate the legal, ethical and societal implications of automation. The programme is organised around three thematic strands – *When Automation Acts*, *When Automation Watches* and *When Automation Transforms* – each rounded off with a panel discussion.

Registration

Registration and payment take place via Conference Manager. The conference fee covers participation on 22–23 October, including catering during the conference days.

The evening reception on 21 October and the conference dinner on 22 October require separate registration.

Venues

Wednesday 21 October (reception) – H.C. Andersen's House / Café Deilig

H.C. Andersen Haven 1–3, 5000 Odense – approx. 600 m from Odense Station (~8 min walk).

Reception (bubbles and bites) and a private tour of H.C. Andersen's House. Separate registration.

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Thursday 22 October – Brandts, Odense

Brandts (art museum and cultural centre), Amfipladsen 7, 5000 Odense – approx. 950 m from Odense Station (~12 min walk).

 [Open in Google Maps](#)

Friday 23 October – Alfred & Kamilla, Odense

Sverigesgade 16, 5000 Odense – approx. 1.6 km from Odense Station (~20 min walk).

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Wednesday 21 October

Evening reception – H.C. Andersen's House

Venue: Café Deilig at H.C. Andersen's House. [Separate registration](#).

Time	Programme	Speaker
18:30 – 19:30	<i>Bubbles and bites</i>	
19:30 – 20:00	Private tour of H.C. Andersen's House	

Thursday 22 October – Day 1: When Automation Acts and Watches

Venue: Brandts, Odense

Time	Programme	Speaker
09:00 – 09:30	<i>Registration, coffee and light breakfast</i>	
09:30 – 09:40	Welcome and introduction	
When Automation Acts: Robots, Risk and Responsibility		
09:40 – 10:10	"Sociology of Law for Human-Robot Interaction"	Stefan Larsson
10:10 – 10:40	"Safety by simulation: Theorizing the future of robot regulation"	Mika Viljanen
10:40 – 11:00	☕ <i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00 – 11:30	"Rethinking Civil Liability for Emotional Agentic AI in the EU: The Case of AI Companions"	Béatrice Schütte
11:30 – 12:00	TBA	Natalie Videbæk Munkholm
12:00 – 12:30	🗣️ <i>Panel discussion</i> <i>Who answers when automation acts?</i>	Commentator: Jøren Ullits Panellists: Stefan Larsson, Mika Viljanen, Béatrice Schütte, Natalie Videbæk Munkholm
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
When Automation Watches: Security, Surveillance and Rights		
13:30 – 14:00	"Automation in relation to personal security and the threats to personal autonomy"	Stanley Greenstein
14:00 – 14:30	"Agentic AI, jailbreaking and scheming under the AI Act"	Thomas Hoffmann
14:30 – 14:50	☕ <i>Coffee break</i>	
14:50 – 15:20	"Algorithmically generated suspicion"	Anja Møller Pedersen
15:20 – 15:50	"Encoded bodies – how law, psychology and genetics have shaped the prediction of antisocial behaviour"	Mareile Kaufmann
15:50 – 16:20	🗣️ <i>Panel discussion</i> <i>Who watches the watchers?</i>	Commentator: Andrej Savin Panellists: Stanley Greenstein, Thomas Hoffmann, Anja Møller Pedersen, Mareile Kaufmann
16:20	Close of first day	

Time	Programme	Speaker
18:30	<i>Conference dinner</i> Den Gamle Kro (anno 1632) – Overgade 23, 5000 Odense C – approx. 800 m from Odense Station (~10 min walk) Separate registration required. 📍 Open in Google Maps	

Friday 23 October – Day 2: When Automation Transforms

Venue: Alfred & Kamilla, Odense

Time	Programme	Speaker
09:00 – 09:30	<i>Coffee and light breakfast</i>	
When Automation Transforms: Services, Professions and the Law		
09:30 – 10:00	"Deskilled by Design? AI and the Future of Judgement in Healthcare"	Anne Gerdes
10:00 – 10:30	"Governing automation: the consumer spin"	Sebastian Schwemer
10:30 – 10:45	☕ <i>Coffee break</i>	
10:45 – 11:15	"Responsible and Sustainable Use of AI – Human Dignity by Design"	Jan Trzaskowski
11:15 – 11:45	🗣️ <i>Panel discussion</i> <i>Who benefits when automation transforms?</i>	Commentator: Jesper Løffler Panellists: Anne Gerdes, Sebastian Schwemer, Jan Trzaskowski
11:45 – 12:00	☕ <i>Coffee break</i>	
12:00 – 12:30	"Beyond Academic Integrity: Article 50 AI Act and the Governance of AI in Higher Education"	Rebecca Schmidt
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:30 – 14:00	TBA	Lee Bygrave
14:00 – 14:15	Presentation of JOU 2026:1 – AI in Legal Education	Law students Kaja Øien Hultgren and Maria M. Moen
14:15 – 15:00	🗣️ <i>Panel discussion</i> <i>AI in Legal Education and outlooks for the profession</i>	Commentator: Natalie Videbæk Munkholm and Jøren Ullits Panellists: Casper Laursen (CEO, Pandektes – legal tech), Michael Herbing (AI Lead, Region North, Karnov Group), law students Lene Kåring and Nasjida Noorenstany (co-authors of JOU 2026:1), Rebecca Schmidt, Niels Christian Ellegaard
15:00 – 15:10	<i>Farewell</i>	

Speakers

In alphabetical order (by first name).

-  **Andrej Savin** — Copenhagen Business School
-  **Anja Møller Pedersen** — University of Copenhagen
-  **Anne Gerdes** — University of Southern Denmark
-  **Béatrice Schütte** — University of Lapland
-  **Casper Laursen** — Pandektes
-  **Jan Trzaskowski** — Aalborg University
-  **Jesper Løffler** — University of Southern Denmark
-  **Jøren Ullits** — University of Southern Denmark
-  **Kaja Øien Hultgren** — University of Oslo
-  **Lee Bygrave** — University of Oslo
-  **Lene Kåring** — University of Oslo
-  **Mareile Kaufmann** — University of Oslo
-  **Maria M. Moen** — University of Oslo
-  **Michael Herbing** — Karnov Group
-  **Mika Viljanen** — University of Turku
-  **Nasjida Noorenstany** — University of Oslo
-  **Natalie Videbæk Munkholm** — University of Southern Denmark
-  **Niels Christian Ellegaard** — Plesner; University of Copenhagen
-  **Rebecca Schmidt** — Oslo Metropolitan University
-  **Sebastian Schwemer** — BI Norwegian Business School
-  **Stanley Greenstein** — Stockholm University
-  **Stefan Larsson** — Lund University
-  **Thomas Hoffmann** — Tallinn University of Technology

The programme is preliminary. Changes to the programme, speakers and times may occur. Updated versions will be made available via the CLAIR website: sdu.dk/en/forskning/forskningsenheder/samf/clair/about-clair