CONFERENCE (English version)

Accountability in AI global value chains: data, labour, and environment

FRENCH SENATE • FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER 2026 • Salle Médicis

Organisation. This international conference is organised by Baptiste Delmas (Associate Professor of Private Law, Université Paris 1, IRJS-Droit social), Judith Rochfeld (Professor of Private Law, Université Paris 1, IRJS-DReDIS), Luca d'Ambrosio (lawyer, associate researcher at Université Paris 1, IREDIES, and president of the association Intérêt à agir) and Antonio Casilli (Professor of Sociology, Institut Polytechnique de Paris, DipLab).

Abstract. The conference will address the question of accountability in AI value chains. For several years now, scientific studies and reports by international and civil society organisations have documented the already exorbitant social and environmental cost of the AI sector's development. Data workers, employed by subcontractors and/or digital labour platforms, are routinely exposed to extremely harsh working conditions. The energy and water needed to train and run large language models pose a major challenge for societies. The siting and operation of data centres and mines are, moreover, sparking disputes with local communities. Finally, the vast quantities of data required to train these models raise issues regarding the protection of workers' and users' personal data, while that same training also fuels copyright concerns.

In light of these findings, the question arises of responsibility within AI value chains and of how these social, environmental and personal costs should be attributed: how can 'responsible', 'ethical' or 'frugal' AI be conceived and guaranteed? Is it even possible? Still too rarely framed in these legal terms, the question deserves to be addressed by bringing together researchers as well as members of civil society organisations and witnesses from within this 'industry'.

The day will be organised in four parts. It will open with a historical and theoretical overview to establish what is meant by a 'global value chain' and whether the term can be applied to the current development of AI. This will be followed by three round tables addressing, respectively, potential responsibility for violations of data workers' fundamental rights, for environmental harm, and for infringements of workers' and users' right to the protection of their personal data.

Simultaneous interpretation into English and French will be provided, and the conference is open to all, specialists and non-specialists alike. Being hosted by the Senate gives this debate both a scholarly and a civic dimension: it is a debate that deserves to be held, and one that as many people as possible should take up, so immense and existential are the stakes.

Registration. Attendance is free of charge and access to the Senate is open, provided that you register via the following link and present an identity document on arrival: https://www.billetweb.fr/colloque-sur-les-travailleurs-de-lia.

MORNING

9.00–9.15	**Welcome Address** • **Senator Basquin** • **Pascal Lokiec and Grégoire Loiseau**, Professors of Private Law, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, IRJS-Droit social
9.15–9.30	**Opening Remarks** • **Judith Rochfeld**, Professor of Private Law, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, IRJS-DReDIS • **Baptiste Delmas**, Associate Professor of Private Law, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, IRJS-Droit social
9.30–10.30	**AI Value Chains: General Considerations** • **Benjamin Selwyn**, Professor of International Relations, University of Sussex • **Antonio Casilli**, Professor of Sociology, Institut Polytechnique de Paris, DIPLab **10.30–11.15 • Discussion with the audience**

11.15–11.30 • COFFEE BREAK

11.30–12.30	**Responsibility for Violations of Data Workers' Fundamental Rights** • **Jason Nemerovski**, Equidem (NGO) • **Mercy Mutemi**, Lawyer, Nairobi; Founder, Oversight Lab Africa • **Luca d'Ambrosio**, Lawyer; Associate Researcher, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, IREDIES; President of the association Intérêt à agir **12.30–12.45 • Discussion with the audience**

12.45–14.00 • LUNCH BREAK (LUNCH NOT PROVIDED)

AFTERNOON

14.00–15.00

Responsibility for Infringements of the Right to Personal Data Protection

- **Judith Rochfeld**, Professor of Private Law, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, IRJS-DReDIS
- **Joanna Bronowicka**, Reversing.works / European University Viadrina
- **Thomas Le Bonniec**, PhD candidate, DIPLab, Institut Polytechnique de Paris

15.00–15.15 • Discussion with the audience

15.15–15.30 • COFFEE BREAK

15.30–16.30

Responsibility for Environmental Harm

- **Anne-Laure Ligozat**, Professor of Computer Science, Université Paris-Saclay
- **Aurora Gomez Delgado**, TuNubesSecaMiRio, Spain
- **Marcellin Jehl**, Friends of the Earth France, Litigation and Advocacy Officer – Multinationals

16.30–16.45 • Discussion with the audience

16.45–17.15

Concluding Remarks

- **Nicolas Pinaud**, OECD, Deputy Director, Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs

17.30 • CLOSE