

**Workshop**  
(by invitation only)

**Digitalization, AI, Sustainability and Soil Protection**  
**Focus: International Trade Law**

**Wallenberg Conference Centre, Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies (STIAS)**  
**10 Marais Road, Stellenbosch, South Africa**

**7 – 8 April 2025**

**Programme**

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**7 April 2025**

**Panel 1: Introduction**  
(Chair: Prof Oliver Ruppel)

**9:00-9:20 - Deborah Lishman**

Economic Implications of Data Regulation: Balancing Openness and Trust

**9:30-9:50 – Sello Malete**

Measuring Digital Trade I

**10:00-10:20 - Clara Khaki**

Measuring Digital Trade II

**10:30-11:00 - Health Break**

**Panel 2: Digitalization, AI and the Geopolitical Landscape**  
(Chair: Dr Harald Ginzky)

**11:00-11:20 – Marie Gallash**

Digitalization for Transformation: New Frontiers for Africa–Europe Cooperation; the EU-AU Digital Partnership: Between Digital Geopolitics and Digital Sovereignty; the 'AI divide' between the Global North and the Global South; AI Risk Assessment: A Scenario-Based, Proportional Methodology for the AI Act

**11:30-11:50 – Ané Theron**

A Global Digital Compact - Open, Free and Secure Digital Future for All; Continental Artificial Intelligence Strategy: Harnessing AI for Africa's Development and Prosperity

**Panel 3: Patent Law, AI and Competition Law**  
(Chair: Ruda Murray)

**12:00-12:20 – JP Meintjes**

Introduction to the International IP Legal Framework; Intellectual Property in the digital age; Patent Law and Artificial Intelligence: Implications for Inventorship and Ownership I

**12:30-12:50 - Grace Wasiri**

Introduction to the International IP Legal Framework; Intellectual Property in the digital age; Patent Law and Artificial Intelligence: Implications for Inventorship and Ownership II

**13:00-14:00 - Lunch Break**

**14:00-14:20 - Cynthia Mulindi**  
Artificial Intelligence and Competition Law

**Panel 4: Digitalization, AI, International Trade Law and Development**  
(Chair: Prof Oliver Ruppel)

**14:30-14:50 - Justin Göppl**  
Turning Digital Trade into a Catalyst for African Development

**15:00-15:20 - Ilse Barnard**  
How AI shapes and is shaped by international trade I

**15:30-16:00- Health Break**

**16:00-16:20 – Alida De Vos**  
How AI shapes and is shaped by international trade II

**16:30-16:50 - Georgene Muruko**  
An Analysis of Generative Artificial Intelligence and International Trade; harmonizing innovation and regulation: The EU Artificial Intelligence Act in the international trade context

**17:00-17:20 - Johannes Hartman**  
Digital Trade for development

**17:30-17:50 - Joel Elifala**  
A Vision for the WTO's Global Digital Trade Rules; Boosting the intra-African digital trade in the AfCFTA context: does regulatory framework matter?

**8 April 2025**

**Panel 5: Digitalization, AI and Regulation**  
(Chair: Prof Oliver Ruppel)

**9:00-9:20 - Tim Meuhlberg**  
Assessing Potential Future Artificial Intelligence Risks, Benefits and Policy Imperatives I

**9:30-9:50 – Hannes Swart**  
Assessing Potential Future Artificial Intelligence Risks, Benefits and Policy Imperatives II

**10:00-10:20 - Eileen Sabola**  
Artificial intelligence and the legal profession

**10:30-10:50 - Nicholas Schoombee**  
Artificial Intelligence regulation in South Africa – prioritizing human security; towards drafting artificial intelligence (AI) legislation in South Africa

**11:00-11:30 - Health Break**

**Panel 6: Digitalization, AI, Sustainability and Soil Protection Aspects**  
(Chair: Dr Harald Ginzky)

**11:30-11:50 - Amo Maruping**  
Sustainable Digitalization; Climate Change, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Law

**12:00-12:20 - Ines Dehaene**  
The Digitalization role in the soil monitoring organization; scaling technology adoption for soil health: a focus on Africa; digital Technology in Zambian Agriculture: A scoping report

**12:30 End**

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**Development and Rule of Law Programme [DROP]**  
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