



THE RIGHT TO DEFENCE IN DIGITAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Technology, Evidence and Fair Trial Safeguards

Wednesday, 4 November 2026 | 10:00–15:45 | EPLO, Piazza di Porta Portese 6, Rome

Organised jointly by the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) and the Unione delle Camere Penali Italiane (UCPI)

10:00–10:15	Welcome and Opening Remarks Prof. Bernardo Giorgio Mattarella — Director, EPLO Rome Office; Professor of Administrative Law, LUISS Guido Carli University. Avv. Francesco Petrelli — President, Unione delle Camere Penali Italiane (UCPI); Criminal Defence Lawyer.
PANEL I 10:15–11:40	Digital Criminal Justice and Fundamental Rights: Rethinking Defence Safeguards Chair: Lea Stavrou, Director Ad Interim of Technical Cooperation for Italian-Funded Projects, EPLO, Lawyer
10:15–10:40	Encrypted Communications as Criminal Evidence: Sky ECC, EncroChat, ANOM and the Protection of Defence Rights Avv. Federico Cappelletti — Criminal Defence Lawyer, Venice; Co-Head, Observatory on European Law, Unione delle Camere Penali Italiane (UCPI); European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA) Working Group on Cybercrime, Technology and Artificial Intelligence
10:40–11:05	Remote Criminal Proceedings and the Right to Effective Defence: Opportunities and Limits Gwen Jansen-de Wolf — Criminal Defence Lawyer, Netherlands; Vice-Chair, European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA); Co-Chair, ECBA Working Group on Cybercrime, Technology and Artificial Intelligence
11:05–11:30	Cross-Border Digital Evidence and Defence Rights: The EU e-Evidence Regulation and Its Challenges Avv. Amedeo Barletta — Criminal Defence Lawyer, S.M. Capua Vetere Bar; Co-Head, Observatory on European Law, Unione delle Camere Penali Italiane (UCPI); Vice-Chair, European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA).
11:30–11:40	Panel Discussion & Q&A
PANEL II 11:40–13:05	Digital Investigations: Encryption, Surveillance and the Limits of State Powers Chair: Avv. Amedeo Barletta — Criminal Defence Lawyer, S.M. Capua Vetere Bar; Co-Head, Observatory on European Law, Unione delle Camere Penali Italiane (UCPI); Vice-Chair, European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA)
11:40–12:05	Unlocking the Suspect? Encryption, Self-Incrimination and the Limits of State Power Dr. Marco Pittiruti — Lecturer in Digital Criminal Procedure and Scientific Evidence, Department of Law, Roma Tre University; Criminal Defence Lawyer, Rome Bar.
12:05–12:30	Wiretapping, Spyware and Digital Surveillance: Legal Limits and Risks in Criminal Investigations Avv. Ettore Iorio — AI and Data Protection Lawyer, Expert Group Member of the EU Apply AI Strategy Task Force;
12:30–12:55	Investigating in the Digital Era: A Prosecutor's Perspective on Efficiency and Safeguards Dr. Ahmed Hassaan — Chief Prosecutor, Judicial Inspection Department, Office of the Attorney General of Egypt (Egyptian Public Prosecution).
12:55–13:05	Panel Discussion & Q&A

13:05–13:50	Light Lunch
PANEL III 13:50–15:35	Digital Evidence and Artificial Intelligence: Cross-Border Cooperation, Reliability and Defence Rights Chair: Avv. Federico Cappelletti — Criminal Defence Lawyer, Venice Bar; Co-Head, Observatory on European Law, Unione delle Camere Penali Italiane (UCPI); European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA) Working Group on Cybercrime, Technology and Artificial Intelligence
13:50–14:15	Challenging Digital Evidence: Admissibility, Reliability and Equality of Arms Avv. Francesco Spina — Criminal Defence Lawyer, Lucca Bar; Co-Head Observatory on Science, Trial and Artificial Intelligence, Unione delle Camere Penali Italiane (UCPI).
14:15–14:40	Artificial Intelligence in Criminal Evidence: Reliability, Transparency and Judicial Assessment Avv. Flavia Betti Tonini — Criminal Defence Lawyer, Trento Bar; Co-Head Observatory on Science, Trial and Artificial Intelligence, Unione delle Camere Penali Italiane (UCPI).
15:00–15:25	Fair Trial in the Digital Era: European Standards and Emerging Challenges Avv. Prof. Andrea Saccucci — Managing Partner, Saccucci & Partners, Rome; Associate Professor of International Law, University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli; Rome Bar.
15:25–15:35	Panel Discussion & Q&A
15:35–15:45	Closing Remarks Lea Stavrou, Director Ad Interim of Technical Cooperation for Italian-Funded Projects, EPLO, Lawyer

This event is currently awaiting accreditation for lawyers’ continuing professional development (CPD), by the Italian National Bar Council.