

SEMINAR

18-19 June 2026, 1,5 days

Detached Centre of Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic
820, 914 43 Omšenie (Slovakia)

Organised by the Academy of European Law (ERA)



Electronic Evidence and Open Source Investigation Tools (OSINT)

Chair and coordinator: Laviero Buono

DAY I (Thursday, 18 June 2026)

09:30 – 11:00

This intro aims to introduce participants to the concepts around the internet and its supporting tools for investigation/research. It will make participants aware of the sources of evidence available to them in online investigations. The objective is to improve their ability to work with current internet technologies.

Getting on top of IT

- Information system: from laptops to IoT
- Computer program: from malware to smart contracts and bots
- Content data vs metadata (MAC & EXIF)
- IP address (IPv4 IPv6) & Tor/VPN
- Live and „dead” e-evidence
- Device fingerprint & user agent data
- Encryption & steganography
- Artifacts in digital forensics
- Blockchain & tokens

George Zlati

11:00 – 11:30 Break

11:30 – 13:00

Open-source tools (OSINT) and computer forensics

- Geo-location tools for social media and photos
- Tracing domain name owners, origin of an email and blacklist checks
- Investigating Web 2.0 – social networking, blogs and online gaming
- Protecting your privacy when investigating online

Bilal Sen

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:00

This part will focus on practical demonstrations, on possible investigative techniques with the use of OSINT

OSINT: Demos and practical cases

- Online investigations
- Tracking
- Geolocation
- Internet archives

Bilal Sen

15:00 – 15:30 Break

15:30 – 16:30

This part will address concrete cases where e-evidence was collected/used

E-EVIDENCE: Practical cases

- Collection and preservation of e-evidence
- Best practices and chain of custody
- Authentication and admissibility of e-evidence in court
- Cross-border challenges and jurisdictional issues
- Cloud computing and e-evidence
- AI and automated systems in e-evidence gathering

George Zlati

16:30 Discussion and end of first day seminar

DAY II (Friday, 19 June 2026)

Slovak Trainer 09h00-12h00

Jozef Čentěš, Professor, University of Bratislava

Topic: Electronic Evidence in Criminal Proceedings

Speakers bios:

LAVIERO BUONO

Studied law in Salerno at the Università degli Studi di Fisciano and obtained the Laurea in Giurisprudenza in 1998 with a final thesis on: "Human rights, history, justifications and perspectives". M.A. in European Integration from University of Bradford, England (1999-2000). Trainee (stagiaire) at the European Commission, Brussels (2000-2001). Course Director at ERA from 2002 and since 2007 Head of Section for European Criminal Law.

Fields of expertise: cybercrime, AI, electronic evidence, online investigations

Languages: Italian, English, French

PROF. JUDR. JOZEF ČENTĚŠ

He graduated from the Faculty of Law of Comenius University in Bratislava. He completed his postgraduate doctoral studies at this faculty in the years 1991–1995 and was awarded the academic degree PhD in the field of criminal law. After successfully completing his habilitation procedure at the Faculty of Law of Comenius University in Bratislava, he was appointed Associate Professor in the field of criminal law in 2008. Following a successful professorial appointment procedure at the Faculty of Law of Masaryk University in Brno, he was appointed Professor in the field of criminal law in 2014.

Since 1999, he has been a university lecturer at the Department of Criminal Law, Criminology and Criminalistics of the Faculty of Law of Comenius University; since 2015, he has served as the head of this department. He is a member of the Scientific Councils of Comenius University in Bratislava and its Faculty of Law. He also works as an external lecturer at the Judicial Academy of the Slovak Republic and is a member of three editorial scientific boards of academic journals in the Czech Republic, two in the Republic of Poland, and one in the Slovak Republic.

From 1991 to 2022 (with a short interruption), he worked as a prosecutor (from 1999 to 2022 as a prosecutor at the General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic). He serves as the chairman of the rigorous examination committee for criminal procedural law and substantive criminal law, as well as the chairman of the programme committee for the study programme in criminal law.

He is the author or co-author of several university textbooks, professional publications, and dozens of scientific articles; he is the author of the scientific monographs *Substantive Legal Aspects of Criminal Activity Related to Non-Alcohol Drug Addiction in the Slovak Republic* (2007), *Wiretapping – Procedural and Substantive Legal Aspects* (2013), and co-author of the monographs *History of the Prosecution Service in Slovakia* (2014) and *Drug Crimes* (2023).

He has been the principal investigator or a team member of research projects funded by APVV and VEGA. He regularly participates in and presents at scientific conferences both domestically and abroad and has completed several study stays abroad. He was a member of the recodification commission that drafted the new Code of Criminal Procedure.

Between 1999 and 2023, he contributed as a co-author to amendments of Slovak criminal legislation. He was a member of the Legislative Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic. He is the recipient of the Karol Plank Award for 2009 awarded by the journal *Justičná revue* and the Special Karol Plank Award for 2023.

In 2024, after a successful procedure, he was awarded the scientific degree DrSc. (Doctor of Legal Sciences) by the Scientific Council of Comenius University in Bratislava. He is currently a member of the working commission for criminal law of the Slovak Bar Association. At present, he also serves as a prosecutor at the General Prosecutor's Office of the Slovak Republic.

The topic of presentation will be: Electronic Evidence in Criminal Proceedings.

BILAL ŞEN

Bilal Şen is a seasoned Corporate Investigations and Cybercrime Advisor based in Germany. He was a founding member of Turkey's first cybercrime center within the Turkish National Police, where he played a key role in shaping national cyber strategy, leading high-profile investigations, supporting legislative development, and driving both national and international capacity-building initiatives. Following his public service, Bilal led the UNODC's cybercrime program, focusing on enhancing the investigative and institutional capabilities of member states across Southeast Asia, East Africa, and Central America. He has also worked with consultancy firms, advising on complex corporate investigations and compliance matters. Currently, Bilal leads Coninsec, an investigative consultancy based in Cologne, where he collaborates with industry partners, law firms, and public institutions on technology associated crime, white collar crime, and due diligence projects.

GEORGE M.R. ZLATI

George is a criminal defence lawyer based in Romania, with over 13 years of experience in cybercrime cases. Additionally, he holds an academic background as an associate professor at the Faculty of Law

and Social Sciences at the '1 Decembrie 1918' University in Alba Iulia, Romania, where he teaches Cybercrime at the master's level.

He earned his PhD in Law from Babeş-Bolyai University (Romania) with a thesis titled 'Illegal Access to a Computer System, Computer Fraud, and Computer-related Forgery.' George has published numerous articles on various aspects of cybercrime, including the relationship between criminal law and blockchain technology, computer search and seizure, data retention, and more. His works, including the first Treatise on Cybercrime (Volume 1) published in Romania in 2020, have been cited in several rulings of the High Court of Cassation and Justice, particularly on contentious issues like the relationship between computer fraud and traditional fraud, the concept of access to an information system, identity theft via the creation of fake social media accounts, and others.

In 2022, George served as a Eurojust expert in the Euromed Justice Programme project, contributing to the update of the 'Legal and Gaps Analysis Cybercrime.' Furthermore, in 2023, he became an associated trainer on Cybercrime for the Romanian National Institute of Magistracy, actively involved in the continuous training program for appointed judges and prosecutors.