

Call for Papers

International Conference

Governance and Innovation Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence

8th Edition

June 17, 18 and 19, 2026

Université du Québec en Outaouais

Gatineau, Quebec, Canada

Organised by



Université de
Sherbrooke



With the collaboration of



CIRICS

Centre interdisciplinaire
de recherche et innovation
en cybersécurité et société

International Conference on Governance and Innovation, Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence

Global digital transformation is accelerating the convergence between governance and innovation, particularly in the areas of cybersecurity and artificial intelligence (AI). Governance plays a key role in a rapidly changing world where the need to innovate has become essential. Innovation is both a driver of progress and a source of vulnerability.

Recent developments in emerging technologies, generative AI, cryptocurrencies, blockchain, big data, automated decision-making, digital finance, and data governance, are profoundly transforming the way public and private organizations create value, manage risks, and adapt to a fast-evolving environment. These organizations are now confronted with new and numerous challenges related to security, resilience, and trust.

The issue is no longer solely technological: it is also ethical, societal, political, and economic.

This raises major and complex governance questions: How can performance, transparency, accountability, and resilience be ensured in a world where threats and innovations, especially digital ones, are redefining institutional and economic balances? Which governance models (public, private, hybrid, national, or international) are best suited to meet these challenges?

Cybersecurity can no longer be reduced to the technical protection of information systems: it now encompasses digital sovereignty, the protection of personal and financial data, the fight against disinformation, and the level of trust granted to public and private institutions. In the face of rising cyberattacks, organized cyber-crime, and geopolitical tensions, cybersecurity must be approached holistically: economically, socially, educationally, legally, technically, and diplomatically.

Artificial intelligence is profoundly transforming corporate governance, cybersecurity, and innovation by acting both as a catalyst and as a source of challenges. In governance, it enables, among other things, more informed decision-making through predictive analysis and the identification of strategic opportunities, while raising ethical and accountability issues. In cybersecurity, AI enhances proactive threat detection and automated responses but also introduces new attack vectors that exploit its vulnerabilities. In the field of innovation, it stimulates the creation of new business models, products, and services, while requiring regulatory and organizational frameworks capable of channeling its potential in a responsible and sustainable way.

Objectives of the Conference

This international conference aims to:

- Highlight recent developments and challenges in governance, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and innovation.
- Examine the impact of governance on risk management, performance, and value creation in a digital context.
- Explore the relationship between governance and innovation in order to support organizational continuity, resilience, and competitiveness.
- Discuss the broader effects of innovation (globalization, competitive intelligence, regulation of digital platforms) on public and private governance mechanisms.
- Foster an interdisciplinary and international dialogue on societal, legal, economic, and technical issues related to cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.

Proposed Themes

Submissions may address, among others, the following areas:

- Cybersecurity and digital sovereignty: national strategies, geopolitical issues, resilience to cyberthreats.
- AI and governance: ethics, regulation, transparency, governance of algorithms and data.
- Innovation and digital risks: blockchain, cryptocurrencies, big data, new vulnerabilities and opportunities.
- Governance models: private corporations, public institutions, multilevel and international governance.
- Performance and accountability: organizational structures, agility, strategic alignment between IT and innovation.
- Socio-economic issues: disinformation, digital inclusion, impacts on citizens and institutional trust.

Target Audience

The conference is intended for researchers and professionals in information technology and cybersecurity, as well as economics, business administration, political science, law, management, accounting, finance, strategy, and the social sciences. Interdisciplinary and international contributions are particularly encouraged.

Format of the Conference

The conference will take place over three days.

Day 1 – Symposium on Research Methodologies

Intended for doctoral students and experienced researchers, this day will include a theoretical seminar on research methodologies (quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods) and a practical workshop applying the latest methodological developments. A certificate of participation with Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be issued at the end of the day for participants in the symposium.

Day 2 – Theme: Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies

Day 3 – Theme: Governance

Focused on the various perspectives mentioned above, featuring multidisciplinary presentations.

Submission of Proposals

Scientific, conceptual, empirical, and practitioner-oriented papers addressing one of the conference themes are welcome.

In the first stage, you are invited to submit your communication proposal in a one-page Word document no later than November 30, 2025.

Your proposal must include the following information:

- A title (maximum 180 characters, including spaces).

- An abstract (maximum 1,500 characters, including spaces).
- Name of the author, professional status and contact details, main institution or affiliated organization.
- List of authors and co-authors of communication.

All submitted abstracts will be evaluated by a scientific committee composed of professors, researchers, and professionals from universities and institutions around the world. Authors whose proposals are accepted by the scientific committee will be invited, after the conference, to submit a full paper of 5,000 to 7,000 words for possible publication in a journal or a collective volume. These full papers will be reviewed by the same committee.

Please submit your proposals via the platform: <https://gouv.sciencesconf.org>

Conference rules

- Abstracts may be submitted in French or in English.
- Everyone may submit **only one** abstract as lead author.
- If a proposal is rejected, the decision is final.
- Out of respect for other participants, **authors agree to attend if their communication is accepted and to notify the conference organizers** of any withdrawal as soon as possible.
- Once the acceptance decision has been communicated, registration and payment must be completed no later than **February 15, 2026**.
- The invitation letter will be issued upon receipt of payment for visa applications or other administrative purposes.

Important Dates

December 20, 2025	Deadline for submitting your abstract on the platform: https://gouv.sciencesconf.org
December 22, 2025	Notification of acceptance or rejection sent to the lead author.
February 15, 2026	Deadline for conference registration (Payment required at the time of registration).
March 15, 2026	Presentation of the preliminary conference program.
June 1, 2026	Presentation of the final conference program.
June 17, 18 and 19, 2026	Conference at the University of Québec in Outaouais, Quebec, Canada

Conference Registration Fees

Faculty / Researchers	250 €
Students	100 €
Practitioners	250 €

Conference coordinators

Chafik Bentaleb

Professor

National School of Business and Management – Marrakech

Cadi Ayyad University

chbentaleb@uca.ma

Muriel Dufour

Associate Professor

University of Québec in Outaouais

muriel.dufour@uqo.ca

Raef Gouiaa

Associate Professor

University of Québec in Outaouais

raef.gouiaa@uqo.ca

Mario Malouin

Associate Professor

University of Québec in Outaouais

mario.malouin@uqo.ca

Jouhaina Chaouachi Siala

Dean

IHEC Carthage

jouhaina.siala@ihec.ucar.tn

Félix Zogning

Professor

School of Management

University of Sherbrooke

Felix.Zogning@usherbrooke.ca