

International Conference on Blockchain & AI 2026 - ICOBAI 2026

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Governance, Society, Innovation & Human Futures

Call for Papers

Across Europe and the world, blockchain and artificial intelligence are rapidly transforming governance, finance, law, labour, creativity, identity, and civic participation. From decentralised finance and digital identity systems to generative AI, autonomous agents, algorithmic governance, and tokenised economies, these technologies are reshaping the very foundations of public and private life.

Yet such transformations demand rigorous critical reflection.

The International Conference on Blockchain & AI 2026 invites scholars, policymakers, legal experts, technologists, social scientists, humanists, and industry leaders to critically examine the contemporary and future implications of decentralised and intelligent systems.

This conference seeks to foster international, cross-disciplinary dialogue capable of shaping responsible innovation, democratic governance, and socially conscious technological futures.

We welcome submissions from all relevant disciplines, including law, computer science, AI, economics, finance, business, governance, ethics, humanities, sociology, political science, media studies, cybersecurity, and public policy.

Thematic Areas

AI Governance, Regulation & Public Policy

Exploring the EU AI Act, Digital Services Act, Digital Markets Act, GDPR, AI liability, algorithmic governance, foundation model regulation, AI compliance, public sector AI, democratic accountability, digital

sovereignty, and comparative global regulatory frameworks.

Foundation Models, Generative AI & Autonomous Systems

Investigating large language models, multimodal systems, general-purpose AI, autonomous agents, AI assistants, synthetic media, agentic infrastructures, model

alignment, AI safety, foundation model governance, and future intelligent architectures.

Copyright, Creativity, Media & Intellectual Property

Examining generative AI and copyright, authorship, data training rights, licensing, digital provenance, creative industries, journalism, publishing, cultural heritage, synthetic creativity, and AI-driven transformations of artistic and media production.

Trust, Safety, Security & Algorithmic Integrity

Addressing deepfakes, misinformation, AI-generated disinformation, cybersecurity, blockchain verification, content authenticity, adversarial attacks, AI auditing, algorithmic transparency, online harms, platform governance, and technological trust infrastructures.

Blockchain, Decentralised AI & Intelligent Infrastructure

Focusing on smart contracts, DAOs, decentralised machine learning, federated learning, AI-enhanced consensus, blockchain scalability, decentralised compute, Web3 infrastructures, intelligent decentralised systems, and autonomous governance architectures.

Identity, Privacy, Surveillance & Human Agency

Exploring digital identity, self-sovereign identity, biometrics, surveillance capitalism, privacy-enhancing technologies, algorithmic profiling, data governance, digital

personhood, AI identity systems, and evolving human autonomy.

Finance, Tokenisation & Intelligent Digital Economies

Investigating DeFi, tokenisation of real-world assets, cryptoasset regulation, CBDCs, AI-driven financial systems, algorithmic trading, digital markets, economic governance, fintech innovation, and the future of global financial architectures.

Society, Labour, Education & Economic Transformation

Assessing AI and blockchain's impact on labour markets, automation, future work, education systems, inequality, workforce governance, credentialing, institutional transformation, digital divides, justice and social-economic restructuring.

Ethics, Philosophy, Humanities & Human Futures

Engaging with AI ethics, technological justice, posthumanism, dignity, bias, fairness, responsible innovation, human rights, philosophy of technology, social theory, decolonial approaches, and broader humanistic critiques of emerging technologies.

Web3, Virtual Worlds & Digital Societies

Examining metaverse governance, digital communities, platform power, virtual economies, AI-mediated environments, digital citizenship, online governance, virtual labour, and the restructuring of technologically mediated social life.

Health, Bioethics & Public Services Innovation

Exploring blockchain and AI in healthcare, digital records, diagnostics, predictive medicine, public administration, health governance, bioethics, social welfare systems, and responsible deployment in critical infrastructures.

Sustainability, Environment & Technological Futures

Investigating energy-intensive infrastructures, sustainable blockchain, green AI, environmental governance, climate technologies, ecological implications of computational systems, and long-term sustainability frameworks.

Practical Information

Conference Dates:
23–25 September 2026

Venue:
University of Malta, Msida Campus, Malta

Contact (for any conference related inquiries):
dlt@um.edu.mt

Format:
Primarily in-person, with remote participation permitted only in exceptional circumstances

Submission Details

Submission Deadline:
10 July 2026

Notification of Acceptance:
By mid-July 2026

Submission Format:
Extended abstracts (maximum 300 words)

Submission Method:
Via official the online submission

Review Process:

Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and early submissions are strongly encouraged.

Registration & Participation

Conference Registration Fee:
None (optional dinner registration fee to apply after successful submission of abstract and acceptance are secured)

Participation Costs:
Accepted participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses.

Attendance Expectations:
Speakers are strongly encouraged to attend physically in order to foster meaningful interdisciplinary exchange, networking, and collaboration.