





PRESS RELEASE July 12, 2023

Télécom Paris, Bouygues Telecom and Thales team up for new research chair in Responsibility for Digital Identity

In 2019, Télécom Paris and Thales created a research chair in responsible digital identity management, with an initial focus on the social acceptability and trust factors of digital identity solutions. This year, Télécom Paris has renewed the chair, in partnership with Thales and Bouygues Telecom, to continue its work with a more international perspective and contribute to the public debate.

Supported by the Fondation Mines-Télécom as part of its public interest mission, the chair in Responsibility for Digital Identity (RD-ID) is directed by Valérie Fernandez, Professor of Digital Economy, and Laura Draetta, Associate Professor in the sociology of the environment and sustainable development, at Télécom Paris.

The chair is part of a responsible approach to research and innovation guided by the principles set out by the European Commission, particularly in terms of anticipation, participation and reflexivity. Its specific purpose is to pursue research and innovation projects that meet the requirements of social desirability and acceptability in order to align the development of digital identity with the values, needs and expectations of society.



Philippe Vallée, Executive Vice President, Digital Identity and Security, Thales: "As the first pilots for a European digital identity portfolio take shape, this chair aims to analyse and better understand the issues around the acceptability and adoption of digital identity. Our ambition is to contribute to the public scientific and socio-political debate on this subject by providing a holistic, forward-thinking perspective that extends beyond purely technological aspects. The digital transformation of our societies is underway,

but its success with citizens cannot be achieved without ethical values and a sense of responsibility."



Jean-Paul Arzel, Deputy Managing Director of the Technical and Network Department at Bouygues Telecom: "Digital identity is at the heart of various challenges facing our digital society today. For Bouygues Telecom, innovation is only useful if it serves the interests of humanity and upholds the values of ethical conduct and responsibility. By supporting this chair, we are contributing to the debate and playing an active role in the conversation. Its work will provide new insights into the acceptability of digital identity and the social and societal implications for citizens."







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Nicolas Glady, Director of Telecom Paris: "Digital identity is a topic of growing concern in our information spaces. As the leading engineering school for digital technologies, Télécom Paris is delighted to have this opportunity to address the issue, working as always in close partnership with the business world. In particular, I would like to thank our sponsors, Thales and Bouygues Telecom."

The RD-ID chair will conduct research into the development of digital identity solutions that are reliable, ethical and desirable, based on studies of citizens' social representations and practices and drawing on human and social sciences in a participatory approach to research.

The chair's work will include field surveys in France and internationally and will involve users at every stage of its research. It will also be supported by a multi-partner, interdisciplinary think tank open to scientists as well as representatives of regulators, the business community and civil society. The think tank will play a key role in putting the chair's research findings to the test as part of a reflexive process.



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More information : <u>https://www.telecom-paris.fr/en/research/partnership-based-research/research/research/teaching-chairs/responsibility-for-digital-identity</u>

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About Bouygues Telecom - www.corporate.bouyguestelecom.fr

Bouygues Telecom is 90.5%-owned by the Bouygues group. As a full-service electronic communications operator, Bouygues Telecom stands out by providing its 27.4 million customers access to the best technology has to offer on a daily basis. The very high quality of its 5G and 4G network, which currently covers 99% of the French population, combined with its fixed and Cloud services, provide its customers with simple solutions, enabling them to fully enjoy their digital lives, both in the home and at work, regardless of their location. Bouygues Telecom's 5G network now covers nearly 12,000 municipalities and over 7 out of 10 people in France. Since 2000, Bouygues Telecom has pursued an environmental policy that aims to reconcile improved access to quality digital services for all with a reduction in its environmental impact. In October 2022, the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) endorsed Bouygues Telecom's short-term greenhouse gas reduction targets for the period 2021-2027.

About Thales - www.thalesgroup.fr

Thales (Euronext Paris: HO) is a global leader in advanced technologies within three domains: Defence & Security, Aeronautics & Space, and Digital Identity & Security. It develops products and solutions that help make the world safer, greener and more inclusive. The Group invests close to €4 billion a year in Research & Development, particularly in key areas such as quantum technologies, Edge computing, 6G and cybersecurity. Thales has 77,000 employees in 68 countries. In 2022, the Group generated sales of €17.6 billion.

About the Fondation Mines-Telecom - www.fondation-mines-telecom.org

The Fondation Mines-Telecom, a foundation recognized as being of public interest, supports the development of IMT and its eight graduate schools in their training, research and innovation missions. It brings together over 280 corporate partners and 4,000 individual donors who are committed to supporting substantial projects with a strong technological, industrial and societal impact, based on digital technology, energy and the industry of the future, as well as solidarity actions regarding students. Thanks to the support of companies including its founding partners (BNP Paribas and Orange) and graduates and parents, the Fondation Mines-Telecom finances around ten programs in the fields of training (scholarships, a program to increase the number of women in engineering professions, open-innovation program for students, MOOC), research (theses, excellence awards, German-French Academy and teaching-research chairs), innovation (loans of honor for start-ups and support for incubation) and forward studies (Cahiers de veille), as well as actions in favor of the development of IMT graduate schools (grants, social openness, state-of-the-art equipment, support for international mobility).

About Télécom Paris - www.telecom-paris.fr

Télécom Paris is dedicated to equipping students with the skills to innovate and thrive in the digital world. Serving as an international and multidisciplinary research hub for the digital realm, Télécom Paris attracts and educates approximately 200 doctoral students annually, with nearly 50% of them hailing from countries outside of France.







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The school's laboratories bring together exceptional disciplinary expertise and a unique ability for interdisciplinary collaboration, fostering direct engagement with socio-economic concerns across all sectors of activity in Europe. Recognized as a leading research institution in its field by HCERES and bestowed with the Carnot Télécom & Digital Society label, Télécom Paris conducts research in nine key areas of expertise at the European level: Data science and artificial intelligence, Visual and sound computing, interaction, Digital trust, Regulation of innovation, Transformation of innovative companies, Cyber-physical systems, Communication systems and networks, Mathematics and applications, and Uses, participation, and democratization of innovation. This research endeavors to address the societal challenges of the 21st century, with half of its funding coming from corporate sources. As a founding member of the Institut Polytechnique de Paris and an institution within the IMT (Institut Mines-Télécom), Télécom Paris stands as an open laboratory tackling major technological and digital challenges."