

# Global Conference on Transparency Research

#GCTR2024

*Brussels*

*15-17 May 2024*



## Event guide

*Co-organised by*



*With the kind support of*



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## 1 | Welcome from the CEBRIG Chairman

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Dear conference participants,

I am pleased to welcome you to Brussels for the 8<sup>th</sup> Global Conference on Transparency Research. As part of the Solvay Brussels School of Economics & Management, the Centre Emile Bernheim de recherche interdisciplinaire en gestion (CEBRIG) performs fundamental and applied research in all fields of management science and encourages multidisciplinary research. In addition to teaching and research, CEBRIG supports numerous conferences, seminars and workshops throughout the year, including one “main event”. This event is funded by the Bernheim Foundation, which we would like to thank again for its continuous support. This year, we are happy to have selected the GCTR as our main event, attracting an international crowd of scholars and practitioners interested in one of the main challenges faced by all organisations today: designing and implementing good governance practices.

Transparency and openness are key principles in good governance. They may affect state-citizen relationships, organisational reputation, and are highly debated politically. Moreover, transparency-related issues, such as disinformation and artificial intelligence, all relate to the contemporary crises we are facing, making your event especially relevant. I am sure that you will duly address these issues and benefit from great exchanges during this conference, right up to the plenary session, during which Titus Plattner will give a talk on investigative journalism and its impact on the latest developments of transparency.

During the conference, you will also have the opportunity to visit Brussels. On Thursday night, the gala dinner will take place in the Royal Galeries Saint-Hubert, a historical arcade located in the city centre, and further discoveries await you during Friday’s social event.

We look forward to seeing you in Brussels and wish you an excellent and inspiring conference!



Prof. Hugues Pirotte  
CEBRIG Chairman

## 2 | Welcome from the Conference chairs

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The Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) and the Université de Lausanne (UNIL) have joined forces to organise the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the Global Conference on Transparency Research (GCTR). During this 3-day event, we are providing researchers with the opportunity to pursue their exchanges on transparency-related issues that are vital to the functioning of our democratic systems, the maintenance of trust-based relations, and the encouragement of citizen participation.

The diversity of the papers submitted illustrates the dynamism of this field, as well as the importance of addressing new areas of research. The thematic panels deal with diverse and innovative subjects, including the use of algorithms and statistical data for transparency, using of transparency to fight corruption, or the relationship between transparency and populism. In addition, open panels and poster presentations will enrich the contributions presented and discussed in the parallel sessions.

Thanks to a fellowship program, researchers from countries usually less present in these conferences will have the opportunity to present the research contexts in which they work and their results. We are convinced that such an enlarged perspective on transparency will also contribute to the success of this edition of the GCTR.

We wish all the participants fruitful exchanges during the conference as well as in the social events proposed by the organising committee. We would like to thank the Emile Bernheim Foundation and ULB for their financial support; the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management for hosting the conference; and both CEBRIG and the Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration (IDHEAP) for their support in organising the 2024 GCTR.

Vincent Mabillard

Solvay Brussels School of  
Economics & Management  
Université libre de Bruxelles

Martial Pasquier

Swiss Graduate School  
of Public Administration  
Université de Lausanne

### 3 | Organising committee

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**Vincent Mabillard**

Université libre de Bruxelles



**Martial Pasquier**

Université de Lausanne



**Pierre-Guillaume Méon**

Université libre de Bruxelles



**Dominique Hänni**

Université de Lausanne



**Giovanni Esposito**

Université libre de Bruxelles



**Marie Göransson**

Université libre de Bruxelles



**Jan Mattijs**

Université libre de Bruxelles

## 4 | Programme

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The conference will be fully packed with stimulating content, social events, and an inspiring plenary session! All the conference activities (including registration) will take place in one **single conference venue**, the Solvay Economics & Management School's main building. You can find more info in the practical information section of this conference guide.

In a nutshell:

**Registration** opening hours:

- Wednesday 15 May, 13:00 – 17:30
- Thursday 16 May, 08:30 – 16:30
- Friday 17 May, 08:30 – 11:00

### Parallel sessions

We will dive right into the **Parallel sessions** starting Wednesday at 14:00. There are twelve thematic panels in sixteen parallel sessions, plus:

- The **“teaching transparency” workshop** (Thursday morning at 11:00);
- The **posters presentation session** (Thursday morning at 12:00). Posters will also be displayed in the atrium during the whole conference;
- The **plenary session** with our guest speaker about investigative journalism (Thursday afternoon at 14:00).

### Social events

- The **welcome drink** will be held on Wednesday at the conference venue (17:30-19:00).
- The **gala dinner** will take place at *La Taverne du Passage* on Thursday (19:30-22.00).
- The conference will close with a **social event** in town on Friday afternoon (14:00-16:00; precise location to be confirmed).

The detailed programme is provided below.

**Wednesday, 15 May 2024 (part I)**

**R42 building – Solvay Brussels School of Economics (Av. F.D. Roosevelt 42, 1050 Brussels)**

**13:00 – 17:30 | Registration** (Registration desk is located on the ground floor of the R42 building, just next to the entrance)

<p><b>14:00 – 15:30</b></p>	<p><b>Panel 1</b>  <b>Algorithmic transparency (Session 1)</b>  <u>Room:</u> R42.2.103 (ground floor)  <u>Panel chair:</u> S. Grimmelikhuijsen</p> <p><b>A. Ingrams, E. Salas-Gironés &amp; P. Murukannaiah</b>  The effect of large language modelling on government transparency: The case of regulations.gov</p> <p><b>A. Meijer</b>  Algorithmic transparency as a symbol</p> <p><b>A. K. Sanders &amp; A. Junnarkar</b>  The promise and pitfalls of AI-enhanced access to court records in the United States</p>	<p><b>Panel 2</b>  <b>Empirical assessment of FOI (Session 1)</b>  <u>Room:</u> R42.2.110 (ground floor)  <u>Panel chair:</u> L. Cicatiello</p> <p><b>C. Jara Villalobos</b>  The puzzle of the number of access to information requests. An exploratory study on what factors determine the number of information requests governments receive</p> <p><b>L. Cicatiello, E. de Simone, G. L. Gaeta &amp; S. Ruberto</b>  An empirical analysis of freedom of information requests in Italian local administrations</p> <p><b>D. Cuillier</b>  A request too far: An inventory of legal remedies for protecting the right to know without unduly disrupting government</p>	<p><b>Panel 3</b>  <b>Legal &amp; institutional views on transparency</b>  <u>Room:</u> R42.2.113 (ground floor)  <u>Panel chair:</u> J. Mattijs</p> <p><b>T. Samahon</b>  Special-purpose government disclosure</p> <p><b>A. Drahmann &amp; L. F. D. Honée</b>  Organising transparency in Stockholm, London and Amsterdam</p> <p><b>C. W. Duru</b>  Access to information laws and transparency in governance processes: The African experience</p> <p><b>C. Fredriksen</b>  The role of Supreme Audit Institutions in combatting corruption – A study in mandate and practices</p>
<p><b>15:30 – 16:00</b></p>	<p><b>Coffee break</b> (in the Atrium, located on the ground floor of the R42 building)</p>		

**Wednesday, 15 May 2024 (part II)**

<p><b>16:00 – 17:30</b></p>	<p><b>Panel 1</b>  <b>Algorithmic transparency (Session 2)</b>  <u>Room: R42.2.103 (ground floor)</u></p> <p><u>Panel chair:</u> K. Schwoerer</p> <p><b>J. Foti</b>  Predictions on how machine-learning and artificial intelligence will change right to information administration</p> <p><b>K. Verdenius, S. Grimmelikhuijsen &amp; F. Bex</b>  AI explainability in human-AI decision-making for law-enforcement: An (in progress) experimental approach to testing for appropriate reliance</p> <p><b>J. Krook &amp; J. Blockx</b>  Humans on Autopilot: Does transparency of artificial intelligence increase (unjustified) trust?</p> <p><b>K. Schwoerer &amp; S. Grimmelikhuijsen</b>  Contesting untrustworthy algorithms in the public sector: The role of algorithmic explainability</p>	<p><b>Panel 2</b>  <b>Empirical assessment of FOI (Session 2)</b>  <u>Room: R42.2.110 (ground floor)</u></p> <p><u>Panel chair:</u> G. L. Gaeta</p> <p><b>B. Posner-Ferdman &amp; D. Cuillier</b>  Dark deserts: Newspaper decline and its relation to subnational compliance with public records laws</p> <p><b>B. Worthy, S. Kimball, S. Piotrowski &amp; D. Cuillier</b>  Vexatious requests: Sound and fury or things fall apart? Vexatious FOI in the UK: A case study</p> <p><b>C. H. Fontenelle Santos, A. L. Romão, P. J. Vieira Borga Martins Borrego &amp; M. V. Pereira Marques</b>  Examining the motivations for access to information requests in Brazil as public accountability mechanisms</p>	<p><b>Panel 4</b>  <b>Effects of transparency</b>  <u>Room: R42.2.113 (ground floor)</u></p> <p><u>Panel chair:</u> S. Piotrowski</p> <p><b>U. Aydin</b>  The pursuit of absolute transparency: Causes and (unintended) consequences of Chilean transparency reforms</p> <p><b>J. P. Ripamonti</b>  Does learning about government transparency boost trust? Exploring an overlooked mechanism through a factorial survey experiment</p> <p><b>J. Hallock &amp; J. Fox</b>  Open government and U.S. development cooperation in Colombia: Lessons for locally led development</p> <p><b>R. Cruz Romero</b>  Public participation and transparency: Does open governance promote inclusion and accountability?</p>
<p><b>17:30 – 19:00</b></p>	<p><b>Welcome drink</b> (in the Atrium, located on the ground floor of the R42 building)</p>		



Thursday, 16 May 2024 (part I)

R42 building – Solvay Brussels School of Economics (Av. F.D. Roosevelt 42, 1050 Brussels)

Registration desk open 08:30 – 16h30

<p>09:00 – 10:30</p>	<p><b>Panel 5</b> <b>Transparency and democracy</b> <u>Room:</u> R42.4.110 (second floor)  <u>Panel chair:</u> M. Heide  <b>G. Seidman &amp; O. Morag</b> What is a secret?  <b>M. J. Rozell &amp; M. A. Sollenberger</b> Executive privilege: Lessons in balancing government secrecy and democratic accountability  <b>G. de Brelàz</b> Open government? Democracy and transparency backslidings in Brazil</p>	<p><b>Panel 6</b> <b>Transparency and indicators</b> <u>Room:</u> R42.5.103 (third floor)  <u>Panel chair:</u> M. Francoli  <b>R. Berkachy, J.-P. Villeneuve &amp; G. Mugellini</b> What type of public transparency for what transparency index?  <b>K. Bašná, R. Bureš &amp; J. Pospíšilová</b> Corruption at the sectoral level in the Czech Republic: Methodology and quality of indicators  <b>G. Mugellini, K. Bašná &amp; J.-P. Villeneuve</b> Understanding the impact of surveys' methodological quality on their results: The case of business corruption  <b>M. Francoli, J.-P. Villeneuve, M. Campbell &amp; G. Mugellini</b> Understanding the relationship between the relational performance of public institutions and corruption: The case of Canada and Switzerland</p>
<p>10:30 – 11:00</p>	<p><b>Coffee break</b> (in the Atrium, located on the ground floor of the R42 building)</p>	

## Thursday, 16 May 2024 (part II)

<b>11:00 – 11:45</b>	<p><b>Workshop on teaching transparency</b></p> <p><u>Room:</u> R42.4.110 (second floor)</p> <p><u>Chairs:</u> S. Piotrowski &amp; G. Esposito   <u>Discussant:</u> E. De Simone</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u> M. Barer   R. Bureš   D. Cuillier   W. Duru   G. Esposito   S. Kimball   M. B. Kwoka   A. Ingrams   G. Michener   G. Mugellini   O. Nesterenko   R. Peled   E. Ruijter   T. Samahon   G. Seidman   S. Piotrowski   C. Santos   B. Worthy</p>
<b>11:45 – 12:30</b>	<p><b>Poster presentations</b></p> <p>R42 Atrium</p> <p><b>R. Kirley, J. P. Ripamonti &amp; M. Cucciniello</b> – What other people say: Transparency of citizen voice in public services</p> <p><b>P. de Renzio, W. Krafchik &amp; A. Garg</b> – The quest for open and accountable budgets: Moving beyond transparency</p> <p><b>N. Lagos</b> – Conceptualizing the powers of accountability watchdogs: Audit, governance, and policy analysis</p> <p><b>V. Ginesta Rodríguez &amp; L. Medir</b> – We're equal but different. On municipalities' responses to information requests: Evidence from 22.907 information requests in 98 Catalan municipalities</p> <p><b>J. Trautendorfer, L. Hohensinn &amp; D. Hilgers</b> – The supply side of public information: Can digital platforms change officials' views on FOI?</p> <p><b>L. Cicatiello, G. Esposito, G. L. Gaeta &amp; V. Mabillard</b> – Field experiments using citizen science: Empirical assessment of FOI in Belgium</p>
<b>12:30 – 14:00</b>	<p><b>Lunch break</b> (in the Atrium, located on the ground floor of the R42 building)</p>
<b>14:00 – 15:30</b>	<p><b>Plenary session</b></p> <p><u>Room:</u> R42.5.503 (third floor)</p> <p><b>Titus Plattner</b> – Data leaks and collaborative journalism: Navigating accountability beyond FOIA</p>

**Thursday, 16 May 2024 (part III)**

<p><b>15:30 – 16:00</b></p>	<p><b>Coffee break</b> (Atrium)</p>		
<p><b>16:00 – 17:30</b></p>	<p><b>Panel 7</b>  <b>Populism and transparency</b>  <u>Room</u>: R42.2.110 (ground floor)</p> <p><u>Panel chairs</u>: G. Michener &amp; M. Fenster</p> <p><b>C. Arguelles</b>  The populist publics vs. transparency</p> <p><b>F. Di Mascio, G. L. Gaeta, P. Spyropoulou &amp; M. Ippolito</b>  How freedom of information laws develop over time: Empirical evidence from 12 EU countries</p> <p><b>M. Kwoka</b>  Left-wing populism and information commissions</p> <p><b>G. Michener</b>  Populists presidents in Latin America and administrative transparency</p>	<p><b>Panel 8</b>  <b>Policy views on transparency (Session 1)</b>  <u>Room</u>: R42.4.104 (second floor)</p> <p><u>Panel chair</u>: G. Esposito</p> <p><b>V. Ginesta Rodríguez &amp; L. Medir</b>  What’s in the path? Unveiling the heterogeneous implementation of the Spanish Transparency Law</p> <p><b>E. Ruijter, A. van Twist &amp; M. Melenhorst</b>  Data visualization for inclusive citizen participation: A systematic literature review</p> <p><b>C. M. Rodrigues de Caires</b>  Institutionalizing budget transparency in a hostile environment: Policy design evidence from Peru</p>	<p><b>Panel 9</b>  <b>Open panel: Attitudes towards transparency</b>  <u>Room</u>: R42.4.108 (second floor)</p> <p><u>Panel chair</u>: M. Pasquier</p> <p><b>R. Peled</b>  “On a need to feel basis”: Thoughts about the disclosure of gruesome visuals and its implications for public discourse</p> <p><b>M. Barer, Y. Lurie &amp; F. Yuval</b>  Transparency in local government: Exploring the citizens’ beliefs and attitudes toward transparency through a systematic review of the literature</p> <p><b>M. Nazlıoğlu &amp; B. Kovancılar</b>  Approaching budget transparency with a culture lens</p>
<p><b>19:30 – 22:00</b></p>	<p><b>Gala dinner</b> (Taverne du Passage, Galerie de la Reine 30, 1000 Brussels)</p>		

Friday, 17 May 2024 (part I)

<p>09:00 – 10:30</p>	<p><b>Panel 10</b> <b>Transparency and whistleblowing</b> <u>Room: R42.2.110 (ground floor)</u></p> <p><u>Panel chair:</u> Y. Zhang</p> <p><b>O. Nesterenko</b> Whistleblower protection in Ukraine: Successes, challenges, and trends during wartime</p> <p><b>M. Delia &amp; G. V. Zammit</b> Silenced whistles: The dysfunctional application of whistleblower protection law in Malta</p> <p><b>I. Bron &amp; D. Hutton</b> Revealed preferences: A content analysis of Canadian public sector whistleblowing statutes</p> <p><b>Y. Zhang, W.-J. Hung, H.-K. Dong &amp; D.-Y. Chen</b> Public employees' whistleblowing intention: Explanation by an adapted theory of planned behavior</p>	<p><b>Panel 11</b> <b>Corruption in government</b> <u>Room: R42.2.113 (ground floor)</u></p> <p><u>Panel chair:</u> P.-G. Méon</p> <p><b>B. Monnery &amp; A. Chirat</b> Trust in the fight against political corruption: A survey experiment with citizens and experts</p> <p><b>A. François, N. Lagios &amp; P.-G. Méon</b> The voting system affects perceived corruption: Causal evidence from French municipalities</p> <p><b>N. Lagos</b> Reporting corruption when it becomes systemic</p>
<p>10:30 – 11:00</p>	<p><b>Coffee break</b> (in the Atrium, located on the ground floor of the R42 building)</p>	

Friday, 17 May 2024 (part II)

<p>11:00 – 12:30</p>	<p><b>Panel 8</b>  <b>Policy views on transparency (Session 2)</b>  <u>Room: R42.2.110 (ground floor)</u></p> <p><u>Panel chair:</u> A. Terlizzi</p> <p><b>G. Borriello</b>  The control of digital identity data between policy and police: The Italian case</p> <p><b>J. Trautendorfer</b>  Does transparency reach the citizens? Country-level accountability mechanisms and citizens' perception of government transparency</p> <p><b>F. Nieto Morales &amp; G. Cejudo</b>  Resisting the tide: The role of organizational routines in sustaining open government under policy dismantling</p> <p><b>R. Onufreciuc</b>  Unlocking governance: Unveiling the European journey of transparency through OGP initiatives</p>	<p><b>Panel 9</b>  <b>Open panel: Specific cases</b>  <u>Room: R42.2.113 (ground floor)</u></p> <p><u>Panel chair:</u> M. Pasquier</p> <p><b>L. de Jesus Martins, M. A. Carvalho de Teixeira &amp; C. Olivieri</b>  Transparency of results in incomplete infrastructure contracts: Insights from Brazilian Federal Government Highway Concession Contracts</p> <p><b>I. Pérez-Durán &amp; K. Verhoest</b>  Trust in nursing home services within weak regulatory regimes: The role of transparency, government control and beneficiaries' involvement</p> <p><b>M. Aceti, E. Ahmedodzic &amp; A. Trentini</b>  Public money, public data? Scraping away governmental barriers to transparentize Italian railway data for quality of service verification</p>	<p><b>Panel 12</b>  <b>Accountability and integrity</b>  <u>Room: R42.4.110 (second floor)</u></p> <p><u>Panel chair:</u> V. Mabillard</p> <p><b>F. Y. Ndjemba</b>  Paper Eight: Insights from the SAI Independence Rapid Advocacy Mechanism (SIRAM)</p> <p><b>B. Worthy</b>  Who's watching local government?</p> <p><b>K. Lasthuizen &amp; I. van Eeden Jones</b>  Towards a political integrity index for New Zealand</p> <p><b>P. De Renzio</b>  The political economy of tax expenditure accountability: Evidence from Latin America</p>
<p>14:00 – 16:00</p>	<p><b>Social event</b> (Belgian Beer World, Bourse; near Grand Place in the city centre)</p>		

## 5 | List of participants

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Ahmedhodzic Enea	University of Milan
Arguelles Cleve	De La Salle University Manila
Aydin Umut	Universidad Catolica de Chile
Barer Margarita	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Bašná Kristýna	Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences
Berkachy Redina	Università della Svizzera italiana
Borriello Giuseppe	University of Naples Federico II
Bron Ian	Toronto Metropolitan University Centre for Free Expression Whistleblowing Initiative
Bureš Radim	Masaryk Institute of Advanced Studies, Czech Technical University
Campbell Michael	Carleton University
Cicatiello Lorenzo	University of Naples l'Orientale
Cruz Romero Roberto	Leipzig University, German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (DZHW)
Cuillier David	University of Florida
De Brelàz Gabriela	Federal University of São Paulo
De Jesus Martins Larissa	FGV - EAESP
De Renzio Paolo	Fundação Getúlio Vargas
De Simone Elina	Roma Tre University
Delia Emanuel	Repubblica
Di Mascio Fabrizio	University of Turin
Drahmann Annemarie	Leiden Law School
Duru Chike Walter	American University of Nigeria
Esposito Giovanni	Université libre de Bruxelles
Fenster Mark	University of Florida Levin College of Law
Foti Joseph	Open Government Partnership
François Abel	EM Strasbourg Business School
Francoli Mary	Carleton University
Fredriksen Camilla	INTOSAI Development Initiative
Gaeta Giuseppe Lucio	University of Naples L'Orientale
Ginesta Rodríguez Victor	University of Barcelona

Grimmelikhuijsen Stephan	Utrecht University
Göransson Marie	Université libre de Bruxelles
Hallock Jeffrey	Accountability Research Center, American University
Hänni Dominique	Université de Lausanne
Heide Marlen	Università della Svizzera italiana
Honée Louis	Leiden Law School
Ingrams Alexander	Leiden University
Ippolito Marzia	University of Campania Vanvitelli
Jara Villalobos Camilo	University of Edinburgh
Junnarkar Archit	The University of Texas at Austin
Kimball Shelley	Johns Hopkins University
Kirley Rebecca	Bocconi University
Krook Joshua	University of Antwerp
Kwoka Margaret	Ohio State University Moritz College of Law
Lagios Nicolas	Université libre de Bruxelles
Lagos Nicolas	Rutgers University-Newark
Lasthuizen Karin	Te Herenga Waka - Victoria University of Wellington
Mabillard Vincent	Université libre de Bruxelles
Mattijs Jan	Université libre de Bruxelles
Medir Lluís	Universitat de Barcelona
Meijer Albert	Utrecht University
Méon Pierre-Guillaume	Université libre de Bruxelles
Michener Gregory	FGV-EBAPE
Monnery Benjamin	University Paris Nanterre
Mugellini Giulia	Università della Svizzera italiana
Nazlioğlu Metin	Manisa Celal Bayar University
Ndjemba Freddy Yves	INTOSAI Development Initiative
Nesterenko Oksana	Anti-corruption Research and Education Center
Nieto Morales Fernando	El Colegio de Mexico
Onufreiciuc Raluca	Ștefan cel Mare University of Suceava
Pasquier Martial	Université de Lausanne
Peled Roy	Striks School of Law
Pérez-Durán Ixchel	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Piotrowski Suzanne	Rutgers University-Newark
Posner-Ferdman Brett	University of Florida
Ripamonti Juan Pablo	Bocconi University
Rodrigues de Caires Carlos	Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO)
Rozell Mark	George Mason University
Ruijter Erna	Utrecht University
Samahon Tuan	Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law
Sanders Amy Kristin	University of Texas at Austin
Santos Fontenelle Claudio	Lisbon University – Controladoria-Geral da União (Brazil)
Schwoerer Kayla	University at Albany, SUNY
Seidman Guy	Reichman University
Soumaré Korotoumou	Centre de Recherche en Éthique Publique et Gouvernance (CREPG)
Spyropoulou Paraskevi	University of Turin
Terlizzi Andrea	University of Florence
Toledo Luiz Fernando	Data Fixers
Trautendorfer Julia	Johannes Kepler University Linz
Van Eeden Jones Iris	Te Herenga Waka - Victoria University of Wellington
Verdenius Koen	Utrecht University
Worthy Ben	Birkbeck College
Yuval Fany	Ben-Gurion University
Zammit George Vital	University of Malta
Zhang Kathy	Climate Tech Cities
Zhang Yahong	Rutgers University-Newark



## 6 | Guest speaker

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This year, we have the pleasure and honour to welcome Mr. Titus Plattner as guest speaker during the conference's plenary session. This session will be held on **Thursday 16 May from 14:00 until 15:30** and will take place in auditorium R42.5.503. Mr. Plattner's talk will last 45 minutes and be followed by a Q&A session with the audience.

### Guest lecture:

*Data leaks and collaborative journalism: Navigating accountability beyond FOIA*

Data leaks and collaborative journalism are vital in holding the powerful accountable, yet Freedom of Information Acts (FOIA) alone are not sufficient. This talk will explore why these journalistic approaches are crucial and how they complement traditional methods. We will delve into the delicate balance between the public interest, the interest of the public, and the right to privacy, illustrated through the case of the Luxembourg Leaks. This session highlights the ethical considerations and the pressing need for robust mechanisms in investigative journalism to ensure transparency and accountability.



Titus Plattner is a journalist with more than 20 years of experience and is the co-founder and current chair of the Swiss FOIA association [Loitransparence.ch](https://www.oeffentlichkeitsgesetz.ch/francais/) (<https://www.oeffentlichkeitsgesetz.ch/francais/>). As a member of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists based in Washington, he has collaborated on numerous big journalistic projects, from Offshore Leaks to the Panama Papers. Titus was awarded a JSK Fellowship at Stanford University in 2017-2018. Since his return, he has been leading innovation projects within the Swiss media group Tamedia.

## 7 | Practical information

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### Venue

Solvay Brussels School of Economic & Management  
Avenue F.D. Roosevelt 42  
1050 Brussels, Belgium



### Wi-Fi

On the ULB campus, you will have access to the “eduroam” network. A personal access has been created and sent to your email account. To connect, choose eduroam WIFI and use the credentials sent to you via email. If selecting a domain name is requested, choose “guestroam.be”.

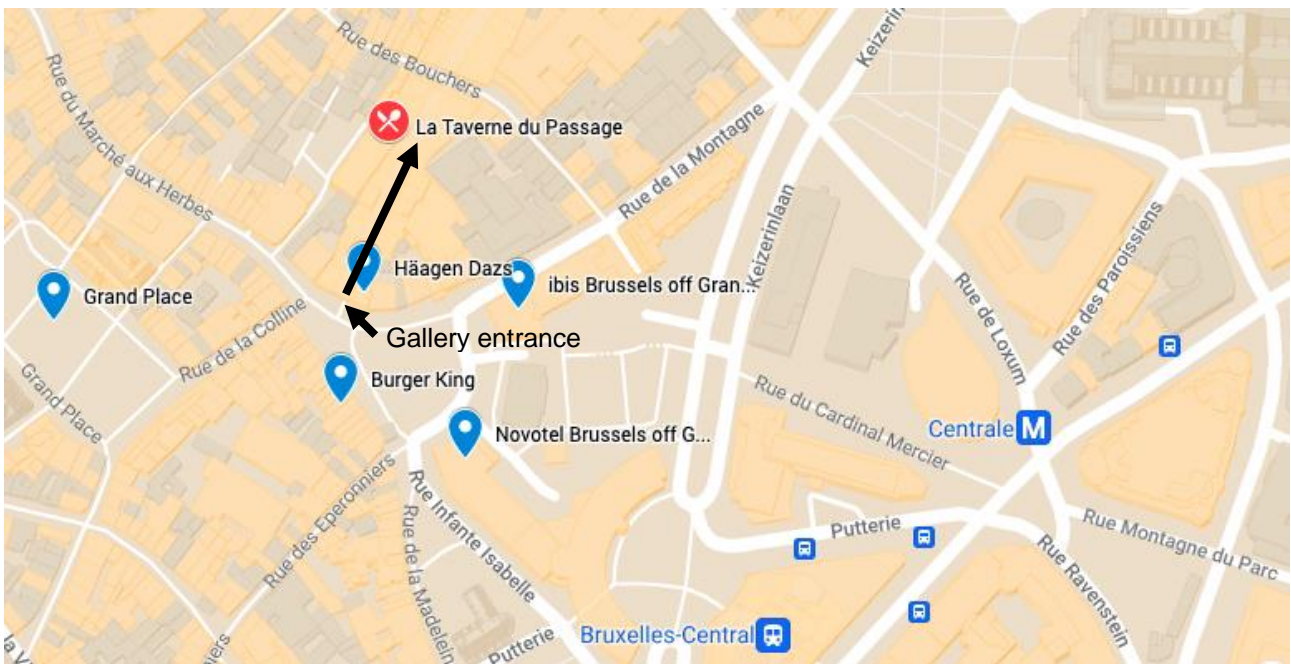
### AV Equipment

There are no computers in the conference rooms. HDMI cables will allow you to connect your laptop to the AV system. If you have adapters to connect your laptop to HDMI, bring them with you when you present your paper.

### **Gala dinner (Thursday 16 May, 19:30 – 22:00)**

The gala dinner will take place at *La Taverne du Passage*, a Belgian “Art Déco” brasserie located near the Grand Place, in the Galeries royales St-Hubert. You need to walk into the Galerie de la Reine (Queen Gallery) to reach the restaurant. From the conference venue, you can take Bus line 71 direction De Brouckère and stop at “Arenberg” (250 meters away from the restaurant). The closest stops to the *Taverne du Passage* are:

- Brussels Central Station (train station);
- Brussels Central Station Metro stop (lines 1 and 5);
- Palais Tram stop (lines 92 and 93);
- Bourse Tram stop (lines 3 and 4);
- Bus stop Grand Place (multiple lines).



### **Social event (Friday 17 May, 14:00 – 16:00)**

The social event will be organised in the city centre on Friday 17 May from 14:00 until 16:00. We will take you to Belgian Beer World, a museum located in the Bourse building. The visit of the museum will be followed by a drink on the building’s rooftop terrace.

### *Getting to Brussels from the airport (Zaventem)*

The train station is located in the airport (Level -1, see map below). The escalator or lift will take you to the platform. There are up to 8 trains per hour to Brussels (20-25 mins ride; €10.80). You can purchase your ticket online (<https://www.belgiantrain.be/en>) or in the train station. From the Central station (Bruxelles-Central, Brussel Centraal) or the South station (Bruxelles-Midi, Brussel Zuid), there are multiple metro, tram, and bus lines that will bring you to your hotel.



### *Traveling in Brussels*

The airport, the main train stations and the conference venue are all well-connected to the public transportation network, operated by the STIB company. You can purchase tickets at the ticket machines or sales outlets, or pay contactless by validating your trip using your debit card, credit card, smartphone or smartwatch. Single tickets are valid for one hour and can be used on any bus, tram or metro. There are also one-day tickets if you plan to make more than three trips on the same day. For further information and to plan your itinerary, visit: [https://www.stib-mivb.be/plan\\_your\\_trip.html?!=en](https://www.stib-mivb.be/plan_your_trip.html?!=en).



## Getting to the venue

**A) From the Central Station:** take Bus line 71 towards Delta and get off at the “ULB” stop.

**B) From the South Station** (Bruxelles-Midi, Brussel Zuid): there are two options.

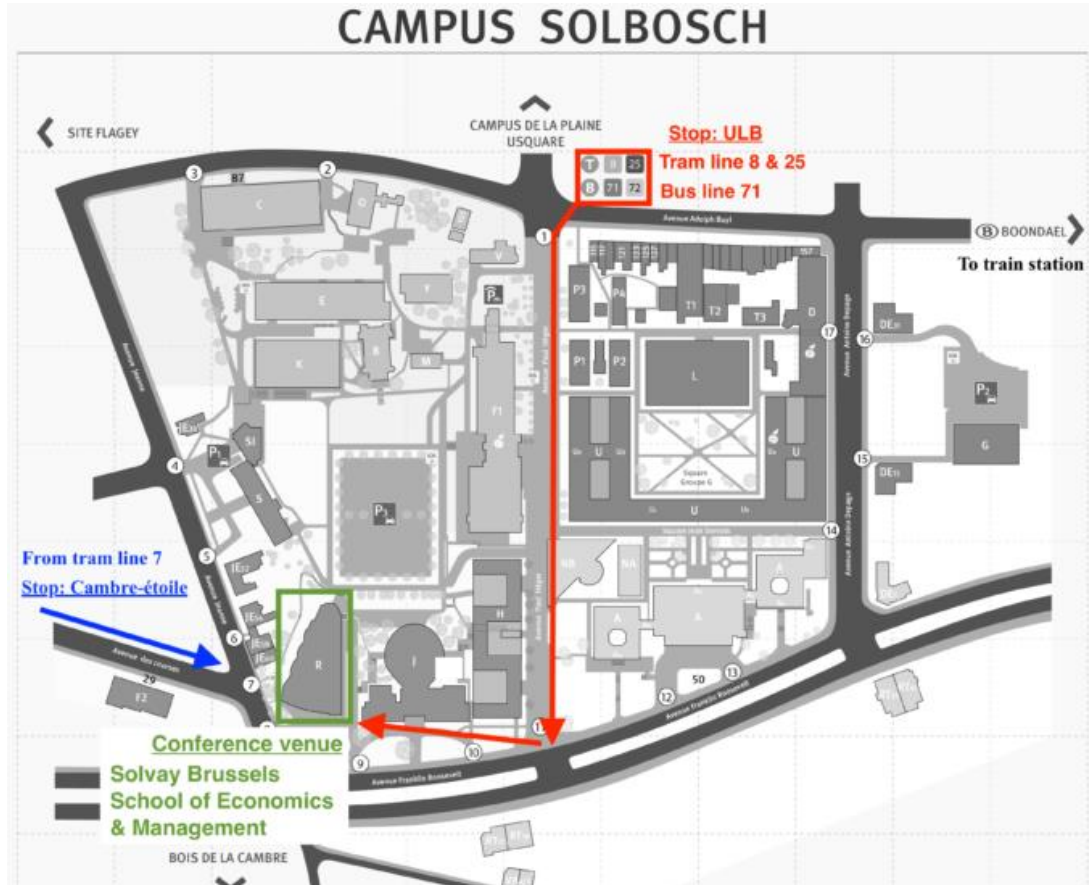
1) Take Metro line 2 or 6 (towards Simonis Elisabeth). Get off at the “Louise” stop and take Tram line 8 towards Roodebeek. Get off at the “ULB” stop.

2) Take Metro line 2 or 6 (towards Simonis Elisabeth). Get off at the “Porte de Namur” stop and Bus line 71 to Delta and get off at the “ULB” stop.

**C) From the North Station** (Gare du Nord, Brussel Noord): take Tram line 25 towards Boondael station and get off at the “ULB” stop.

**D) From the city centre:** The venue is situated near the “ULB” stop (Tram lines 8 and 25, and Bus line 71) and the “Cambre-étoile” stop (Tram line 7).

At the “ULB” stop, enter the campus and go straight down to the end of the street. When you reach the F. Roosevelt avenue, turn right and walk 100 meters until you reach the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management (green building). See map below.



## 8 | About the GCTR

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The Global Conference on Transparency Research (GCTR) is the preeminent conference bringing together leading scholars and practitioners from throughout the world to collectively advance our understanding of the impact and implications of transparency policies that involve governments, either directly or indirectly. The event involves researchers from a wide range of fields including sociology, anthropology, communication sciences, political science, public administration, law, economics, political economy, journalism, business, history, and philosophy who study issues of governmental transparency.

### *Standing Executive Committee of the GCTR*



**Albert Meijer**  
Utrecht University



**Suzanne Piotrowski**  
Rutgers University



**Alasdair Roberts**  
University of Massachusetts Amherst



**Jean-Patrick Villeneuve**  
Università della Svizzera italiana