

# *Governance by Numbers and its Discontents*

29 June-1 July 2023. UCD, Quinn School of Business, Belfield, Dublin, Room Q013

## Workshop Programme

### Thursday, 29 June

#### 13:30 *Introduction to the workshop:*

Registration of the participants by **Bianca Föhrer (UCD)**

**Lorenzo Cini & Roland Erne (UCD):** Presentation of the research objectives of the workshop  
“Governance by numbers and its discontents. From the micro- to the macro-level, and back”

#### 14:00-15:45 *Introductory session: Putting governance by numbers into perspective(s)*

Chair: **Lorenzo Cini**

**Sarrah Kassem** (Universität Tübingen): “Governance by Numbers across Amazon Platforms: Amazon.com & MTurk” (12 min)

**Valeria Pulignano** (KU Leuven): “Platforms’ labour governance strategies and spaces for workers’ control within distinctive political institutional realms” (12 min)

**Alex Wood** (University of Bristol): “Platform labour and algorithmic contestation: a new research agenda for labour studies?” (12 min)

**Kurt Vandaele** (ETUI): “Are platform workers willing to unionize? Survey evidence from 14 European countries” (12 min)

**Maurizio Atzeni** (Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago & CEIL/CONICET): “Understanding worker mobilizations beyond traditional trade unions in the global precarious economy” (12 min)

**General discussion** (Discussant: **Roland Erne, UCD**) (12 min)

Coffee break

#### **Panel sessions:**

#### 16:00-18:00 *Panel 1: Analysing governance by numbers: The micro (company) level*

Chair: **Roland Erne**

**Tim Christiaens** (Tilburg University): “Digital Rating Systems and the Social Phenomenology of Alienation in Platform Labor” (15 min)

**Robert Donoghue** (University of Bath), **Phoebe Moore** (University of Essex) & **Aude Cefaliello** (ETUI):  
“Algorithmic management: a threat to the freedom of choosing subjects” (15 min)

**Arjumand Younus** (UCD), **Muhammad Atif Qureshi** (TUD) & **Faiza Yousuf** (WomenInTechPK):  
“Gender analysis of platform workers in global south: a case-study of Upwork in Pakistan” (15 min)

**Heiner Heiland** (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen): “The social construction of algorithms. A reassessment of algorithmic management in food delivery gig work” (15 min)

**General discussion** (Discussant: **Sarrah Kassem, Universität Tübingen**) (15 min)

18:30-21:00 **Reception** at UCD Village (balcony in front of auditorium)

# *Governance by Numbers and its Discontents*

29 June-1 July 2023. UCD, Quinn School of Business, Belfield, Dublin, Room Q013

## Workshop Programme

### Friday, 30 June

**9:00-11:00** Panel 2: *Analysing governance by numbers: The macro level*

Chair: **Roland Erne**

**Donncha Kavanagh** (UCD): “Governance as game: From the labour process to the play process” (15 min)

**Laura Giovinazzi** (Università degli Studi di Milano): “Exploring the politics of governance by numbers in Italian and English universities” (15 min)

**Marco Marrone** (Università del Salento): “The dark side of algorithmic management. Platform affordances, skills, and the governance by number: evidences from Deliveroo, Helping and Airbnb in the city of Bologna” (15 min)

**Ilia Xypolia** (University of Aberdeen): “Depoliticizing through numbers: quantifying human rights in EU discourse” (15 min)

**General discussion** (Discussant: **Valeria Pulignano**, KU Leuven) (15 min)

Coffee break

**11:15-13:15** Panel 3: *Reactions to the governance by numbers: The micro (company) level*

Chair: **Lorenzo Cini**

**Tereza Østbø Kuldova** (Oslo Metropolitan University): “National security, insider threat programs, and the compliance-industrial complex. Fighting security threats or managing workers?” (15 min)

**Emma McDaid** (UCD): “Algorithmic management as a mobile field: temporal blindness and asymmetry at Uber” (15 min)

**Phuong Hoan Le** (Erasmus University Rotterdam): “Beware of ‘bossware’: the role of communities for gig workers dealing with algorithmic management” (15 min)

**Prakriti Dasgupta, Ronan Carbery, Anthony McDonnell, Stefan Jooss** (UCC): “Worker resistance in the platform economy. A systematic review and future research agenda” (15 min)

**General discussion** (Discussant: **Alex Wood**, University of Bristol) (15 min)

Lunch break

**14:15-16:15** Panel 4: *Reactions to the governance by number: The meso (sectoral) level*

Chair: **Roland Erne**

**Darragh Golden & Lorenzo Cini** (UCD): “Virtual reality: Comparing trade union strategies and algorithmic managements” (15 min)

**Mary Naughton** (UCD): “Outrage by numbers: quantifying the deterioration of public services through Trolley Watch” (15 min)

**Nicola Quondamatteo** (SNS): “Takeaway couriers from self-employment to employment. A gaze into the transition process” (15 min)

## *Governance by Numbers and its Discontents*

29 June-1 July 2023. UCD, Quinn School of Business, Belfield, Dublin, Room Q013

### Workshop Programme

**Vicente Silva** (LSE) & **Huw Thomas** (UCD): “Global labour governance by numbers and the future of work: The ILO and OECD compared” (15 min)

**General discussion** (Discussant: **Kurt Vandaele**, ETUI) (15 min)

Coffee break

**16:30-18:00** Panel 5: *Reactions to the governance by numbers: The macro (societal) level*

Chair: **Lorenzo Cini**

**Josephine West** (King’s College London): “Digital workerism against governance by numbers. Organizing sex workers in the UK” (15 min)

**Philipp Gies, Franziska Laudenbach & Marcus Franke** (Universität Bremen): “Governance by numbers along the supply chain: contesting labour control in the fashion industry by means of transnational collective action” (15 min)

**Jason McKillen** (QUB): “The interplay of private sector power, security governance, and social movements in the age of algocracy: the case of Amazon” (15 min)

**General discussion** (Discussant: **Maurizio Atzeni**, Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago) (15 min)

**18:00-18:30** Concluding discussion: *Book proposal for Oxford University Press*

**19:00** Bus departure from UCD Quinn School to Kilmainham Gaol, Dublin 8

**19:30** Dinner at [La Dolce Vita](#), 760 S Circular Rd, D08 HVOA, Dublin 8

Post-dinner drinks, (TBC)

### Saturday, 1 July

Flights home – free time in Dublin (post-hangover)



This project has received funding from the EU’s Horizon 2020 research & innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 101028811 and the ERC grant agreement No 725240.