

MINDS, FREEDOMS AND RIGHTS CONFERENCE

30-31 OCTOBER 2025
AMSTERDAM

PROGRAMME



@DROOG

STAALSTRAAT 7B

1011 JJ, AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

MINDS, FREEDOMS & RIGHTS CONFERENCE

AMSTERDAM, 2025

PROGRAMME

DAY 1

Thursday, October 30th

09:00 – 09:30	REGISTRATION AND COFFEE/TEA
09:30 – 09:45	CONFERENCE WELCOME
09:45 – 11:00	KEYNOTES 2x30 min, 15 min Q&A Thomas Douglas (University of Oxford) "Neurorights are not just for neurotechnologies" Jennifer Chandler (University of Ottawa) "Brain mapping in Indian criminal cases: Results of a systematic study of cases from 2002-2023"
11:00 – 11:30	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11:30 – 12:30	SESSION 1: EMERGING NEUROTECHNOLOGIES, NORMATIVE CONCERNS 2x15 min, 30 min Q&A Timo Istance (University of Antwerp) "Neurotechnological cognitive enhancement and human rights: A complex dynamic between empowerment and constraint" Guido Cassinadri (Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies) "A multidimensional and multilayered characterization of the right to extended mental integrity"
12:30 – 13:00	POLICY PERSPECTIVES FROM THE UNITED NATIONS 20min, 10 min Q&A Vassilis Tzevelekos (University of Liverpool) "Towards Global Standards: Neurotechnologies Through the Lens of Human Rights"
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK
14:00 – 15:15	SESSION 2: REGULATING NEUROTECHNOLOGIES 3x15 min, 30 min Q&A Nora Hertz (University of Freiburg) "The regulation of neurotechnologies in the new EU AI Act" Julie van Pée (Ghent University) "Neurotechnology and the metaverse in the EU Digital Regulatory Framework" Virginia Mahieu (Centre for Future Generations) "A policy proposal for borderline neurotechnology and wellness devices in europe"
15:15 – 15:45	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
15:45 – 16:30	KEYNOTE 30 min, 15 min Q&A Marcello Ienca (Technical University of Munich) "Mental Privacy in the Age of NeuroAI: Rights, Risks, and Governance Pathways"
16:30 – 17:30	SESSION 3: HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE MIND 2x15 min, 30 min Q&A Felicitas Benziger (University College Cork) "On the implicit recognition and protection of the "inner self" in European human rights law" Sjors Ligthart (Tilburg University & Utrecht University) "The Essence of Human Rights: Absolute Protection of the Mind?"
19:00	CONFERENCE DINNER

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DAY 2

Friday, October 31st

09:00 – 09:15

COFFEE/TEA

09:15 – 10:30

KEYNOTES *2x30 min, 15 min Q&A*

Britta van Beers (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

"From neurorights to neurodignity"

Christoph Bublitz (University of Hamburg)

"On the absolute nature of freedom of thought"

10:30 – 11:00

COFFEE/TEA BREAK

11:00 – 12:15

SESSION 1: THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF THOUGHT *3x15 min, 30 min Q&A*

Emine Ozge Yildirim Vranckaert (KU Leuven Centre for IT and IP Law)

"A contextualized framework for freedom of thought"

Nina Keese (Turkey Human Rights Litigation Support Project)

"Freedom of thought as a precondition of a genuinely democratic society"

Bethany Shiner (Middlesex University and University of Oxford)

"Towards a threshold for the right to freedom of thought"

12:15 – 13:15

LUNCH BREAK

13:15 – 14:30

SESSION 2: NEUROTECHNOLOGY AND CRIME *3x15 min, 30 min Q&A*

Diego Borbón (Universitat Zurich)

"Beyond the problem of the relative v. the absolute nature of neurorights: Coercive uses of neurotechnology in criminal law"

Carl Lewis & Jonathan Kwik (TMC Asser Institute)

"Targeting Brain Data for Cognitive Warfare"

Faustino García de la Torre García (University of Castilla-La Mancha)

"Neurocrimes: From Hypothesis to the Case for Criminalization"

14:30 – 15:00

COFFEE/TEA BREAK

15:00 – 16:15

SESSION 3: REGULATING NEUROTECHNOLOGIES 2 *3x15 min, 30 min Q&A*

Marta da Rocha Diogo (European University Institute)

"The brain and the law: Regulating the lab (again)"

Talya Deibel (Maastricht University)

"Conceptualizing Damage in the Age of Neurotechnology: Reading Private Law with STS"

Allan McCay (University of Sydney)

"The piecemeal approach to neurotechnology, and human rights: Reflections from Australia"

16:15 – 17:30

KEYNOTES *2x30 min, 15 min Q&A*

Philipp Kellmeyer (University of Freiburg, University of Mannheim)

"Making rights actionable for protecting the mind and brain"

Marta Sosa Navarro (Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca)

"International Legal Instruments Protecting Workers' Rights Against Emerging Technological Threats: a focus on workplace surveillance and neurotechnology"

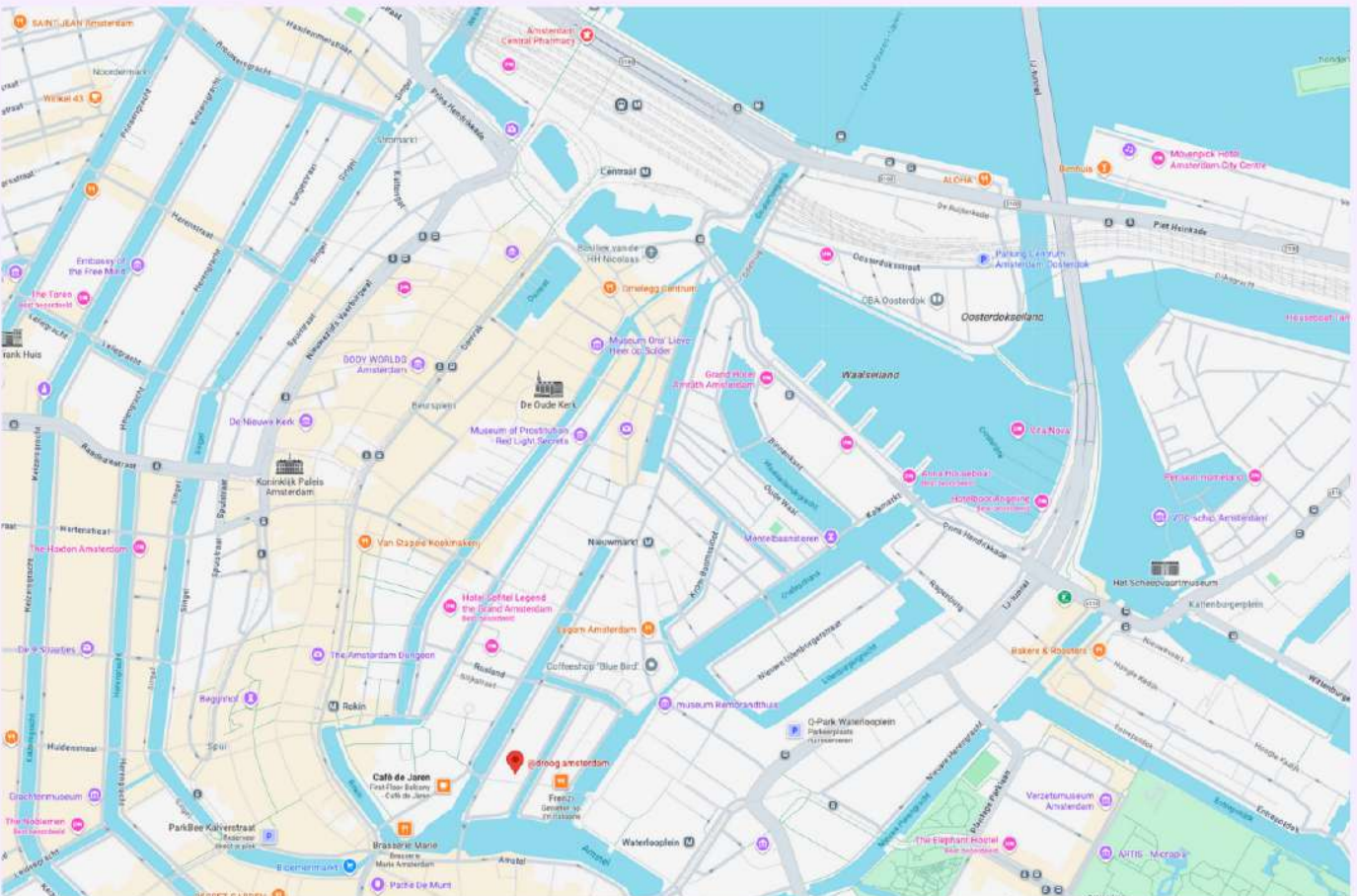
17:30

CLOSING AND GOODBYE

CONFERENCE VENUE



@DROOG
Staalstraat 7B, 1011 JJ Amsterdam

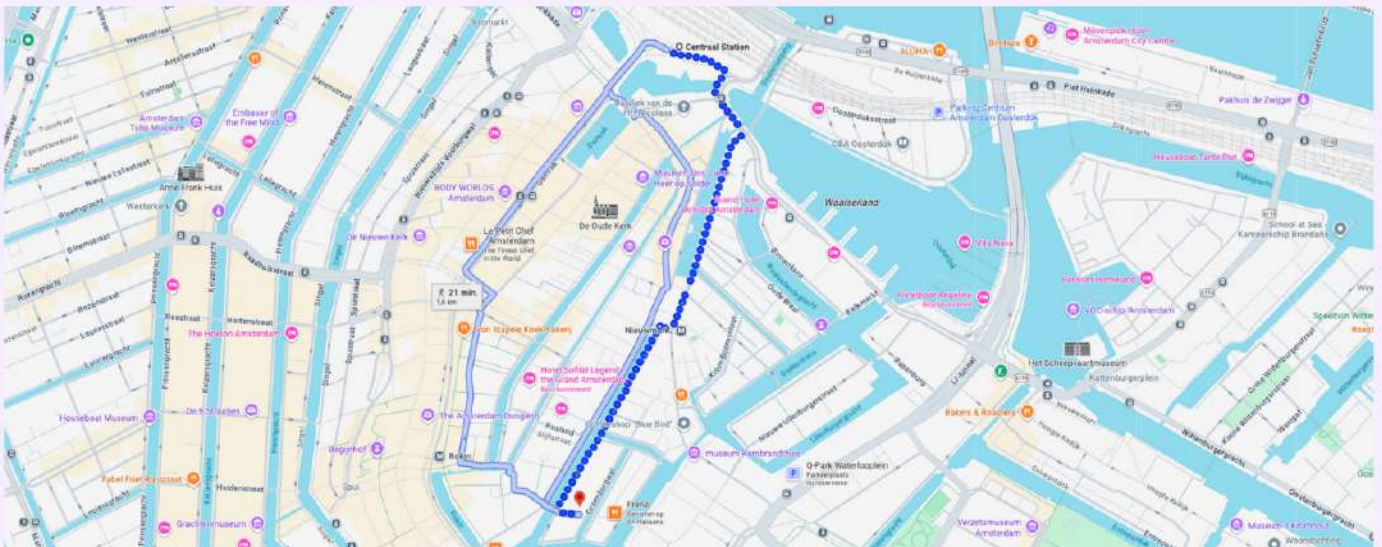


DIRECTIONS TO CONFERENCE VENUE

Getting to the conference location @droog (Staalstraat 7B)

From Amsterdam Central Station – **on foot** (about 15–20 mins)

1. Walk southeast on Stationsplein
2. Turn right onto Kamperbrug
3. Slight left onto Prins Hendrikkade
4. Turn right onto Geldersekkade
5. Continue straight onto Nieuwmarkt
6. Turn right to stay on Nieuwmarkt
7. Turn left onto Kloveniersburgwal
8. Turn left onto Staalstraat—the conference location will be on the left



By metro

1. Take metro lines 51, 53 or 54 from Centraal Station to Waterlooplein (2 stops)
2. Exit at Waterlooplein/Stopera and walk 6–8 minutes to Staalstraat 7B
3. Walk from Waterlooplein: Head toward Zwanenburgwal/Waterlooplein, then west into Staalstraat; @droog will be halfway along the street.

By tram

1. From Amsterdam Centraal, take Tram 14 (direction Flevopark) or Tram 4 (direction Station RAI)
2. Get off at Rokin, Muntplein or Rembrandtplein—all are a 3–7 minute walk to Staalstraat 7B

If you have any questions, feel free to send an email to mindsfreedomrights@gmail.com
For urgent questions during the conference days: +31641722419

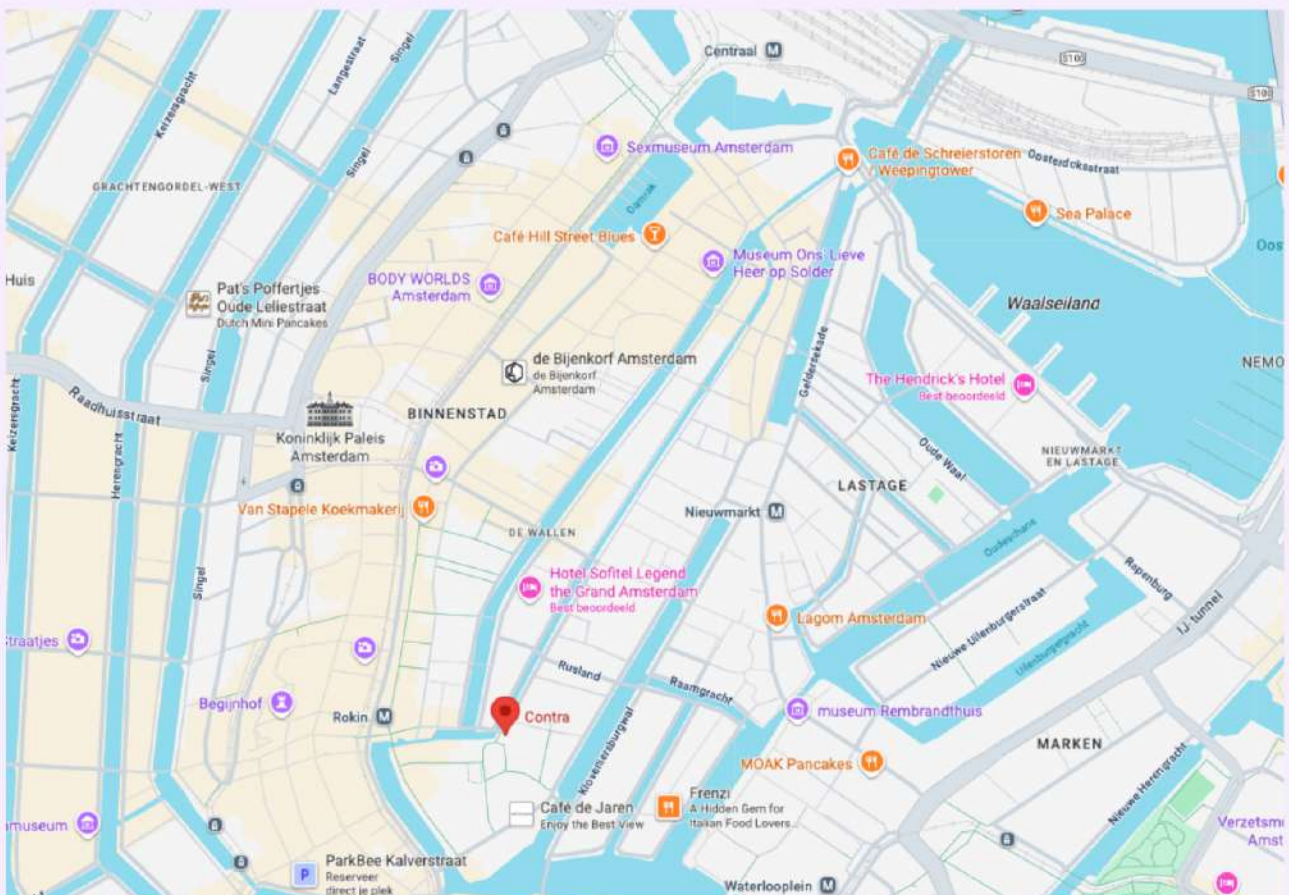
CONFERENCE DINNER



Contra Amsterdam

Oudezijds Achterburgwal 235, 1012 DL

<https://www.contra-amsterdam.nl/>



(very close to conference venue)