Workshop: Privacy Past and Present
Maison des Arts, Tuesday 24 May

9.00-10.00   **Session 1: Introduction**
Dr Mette Birkedal Bruun, Professor of Church History and Director of the Danish National Research Foundation Centre for Privacy Studies, University of Copenhagen, *mbb@teol.ku.dk*

Dr Maarten Delbeke, Professor of History and Theory of Architecture, ETH Zurich, *maarten.delbeke@gta.arch.ethz.ch*

This session presents the institutional and methodological framework of the workshop, introducing the Centre for Privacy Studies, the *Privacy Studies Journal* and projects at the ETH, asking, How may a past-present approach to privacy inform current discussions?

10.30-13.00   **Session 2: Privacy and Border Surveillance Past and Present**
Dr Aitana Radu, Lecturer, Department of Information Policy & Governance, Faculty of Media & Knowledge Sciences, University of Malta and the project Migration-Related Risks Caused by Misconceptions of Opportunities and Requirement (H2020), *aradu@sec.research.um.edu.mt*

Dr Natacha Klein Käfer, Postdoctoral researcher in History of Popular Healing at the Centre for Privacy Studies, University of Copenhagen, *nkk@teol.ku.dk*

Dr Sari Nauman, Postdoctoral researcher in History at the Centre for Privacy Studies, University of Copenhagen, and Associate Professor in History at the University of Gothenburg, *sna@teol.ku.dk*

This session examines theories and practices regarding information gathering at borders in past and present. What are the concerns – for authorities and for travellers? Which technologies are applied? How are implicit or explicit notions of privacy established, hinted at, honoured and infringed upon in this gathering?

Radu: *The "should" and "could" dilemmas of using open source information for border security*
When it comes to the security field, there seems to be an ongoing tension between what is possible, e.g. available technology in terms of intelligence collection and analysis and what is necessary, proportionate and legal in a certain field. This paper explores this struggle as reflected in the debate surrounding the use of open source information to better understand migrants' attitudes and identify perception-related threats as part of border security risk assessment procedures.

The research focuses on three fundamental questions:
a.   Is open source information a reliable dataset for the study of migrants' attitudes? The focus here will be on both the opportunities that open sources present for studying and responding to migration but also the limitations in terms of reliability, access and human rights safeguards.
b.   To what extent can a better understanding of attitudes be employed in order to influence behaviour? The paper will briefly touch on the relationship between attitudes and behaviours and will introduce the MIRROR Perception Model, built on Ajzen's theory of planned behaviour.
c.   What (if any) are the areas of border security where such an approach should be employed? This last section will focus on the various applications of using open source intelligence in the field of border security and the ethical dilemmas related to their use.

Käfer: *Borders and Epidemics: Controlling Information and Disease in Early Modern Saxony*
During the current pandemic, we have seen the rise of a different kind of border control: a need to prove your status as free of contagion. Proof of vaccination, health declarations, and test certificates became a norm when travelling abroad, only recently dwindling in certain regions. But how did people deal with epidemics and pandemics before the technological and bureaucratic machines could support this systematic screening of people crossing borders? This presentation explores how early modern governing bodies managed health information in their territories by examining the example of Saxony during an outburst of the plague, looking at their strategies of surveillance over people's bodies, movements, travel companions, and places of origin.

Nauman: *Border Making and Surveilling Refugees in Early Modernity: The Case of the Swedish Empire during the Great Northern War*
During the Great Northern War (1700-1721), some 20,000-30,000 people fled from the Swedish Empire's Baltic and Finnish territories to main Sweden. Most of them left everything behind which forced them to rely on the hospitality of strangers and kindness of their king. Many turned to the royal power in petitions, asking for help. The research analyses these petitions and the archive of a newly instated Refugee Commission, investigating how the internally displaced navigated their precarious circumstances, asking:
a.   What information did these refugees present to the authorities, locally and centrally, in order to incite protection?
b.   What information was asked of them by the commission and the local recipient communities?

Focusing on how these refugees situated themselves as simultaneous strangers/outsiders and subjects/insiders to society, I shall argue that the security and surveillance measures enacted by the authorities forced the migrants to formulate their needs and present their cases accordingly. However, many also expressed other arguments that we today would rather recognize as based in a humanitarian discourse. Navigating between pleading, asking, and insisting, the refugees negotiated their belonging and right to protection with local authorities.

14.15-15.30   Session 3: Privacy in Architecture and Urban Space Past and Present
Niloofar Rasooli, PhD-fellow in Architecture, The Institute for the History and Theory of Architecture, ETH, Zurich, *rasooli@arch.ethz.ch*

Damla Göre, PhD-fellow in Architecture, The Institute for the History and Theory of Architecture, ETH, Zurich, *goere@arch.ethz.ch*

This session examines how privacy is negotiated and manifested in domestic and urban spaces. What cultural and religious norms and values influence such negotiations and manifestations? What are its spatial markers and thresholds? In short: How is space used to create privacy, for whom, and why?

Rasooli: *Privacy Without Its OF: The Politics of Gender Boundaries in Iran*
In the early months after the Iranian 1979 revolution, the "naked" bodily appearance of women on public beaches was a key source of anxiety for the new regime, whose chief concern was to represent itself as the "Islamic State". The segregation of public beaches in the touristic harbors during the summer of 1979 was the starting point for the regime to practice its hegemony by introducing ever-increasing gendered boundaries and disciplining of the public sphere. In recent years, the regime has established its manifesto over gendered spatial boundaries by gradually shifting the argument from prohibiting "sinful acts" to encouraging "the value of privacy." Ironically, this shift is influenced and theorized by how architecture historians have misread the notion of *Mahramait*—which connotes the permitted interactions between males and females in Islam—as the "spatial value of privacy".

I shall focus on this shift to show how the translation of *Mahramiat* into privacy is not only academically problematic but a problem reinforced by academia. Readings of architectural history have provided a theoretical tool for the Master's House to strongly articulate its hegemony over gender and space, by failing to ask "whose privacy?" This presentation explores the hidden politics of domination, subjugation, and marginalization in adopting the word "privacy" without its "of".

Göre: *Boundaries of public and private in the Ottoman etiquette literature (1894-1908): Ottoman politesse in the salons*
In a century called the age of civility in Europe, the Ottoman capital experienced a surge in etiquette literature inspired by a growing crisis around individual, societal and political self-identity. In this literature (*adab-i muaseret*), the west was analyzed, interpreted, and adapted to redefine the boundaries between public and private spheres by setting the codes and principles of behavior happening at their thresholds. The salon as an interior and as a type of sociability constituted the symbolic landscape of this conflict. In Ottoman etiquette, the "alla franca salon" is a flexible concept encompassing situations from the intimate private household to a public urban context. This presentation unpacks how the social norms of self-presentation, tactics to get accepted in elite circles, or gendered rules of involvement and disengagement mingled with spatial norms of decorum, setting different layers of boundaries around privacy. I shall show how texts published at the turn of the 19th cent. developed behavior mechanisms to help the Muslim-Ottomans correctly engage with the European fashion. I argue that these mechanisms of etiquette prompted the consolidation of boundaries between
a.   the dandyish allafranca and the traditional allaturca,
b.   the morally loaded conception of a housewife and salon women,
c.   the decorum of the public salon and the private zones in a house.

On this basis, I shall discuss the signifiers projected onto space and discuss how their ethical, moral remnants have endured in Turkish middle classes up until today.

16.00-18.30   Session 4: Protecting Privacy in Conversations Past and Present – leading into an overall discussion

Katja Pape de Neergaard, PhD fellow in Science and Technology Studies, the IT University, Copenhagen and the project *STAY HOME: The Home during the corona crisis – and after* (The Carlsberg Foundation), *knee@itu.dk*

Dr Johannes Ljungberg, Postdoctoral researcher in History at the Centre for Privacy Studies, University of Copenhagen, *jbl@teol.ku.dk*

The Covid-19 lockdowns compelled many people to rely on digital technologies for everyday tasks and interactions, perhaps most dramatically while carrying out their work at home. With such a transformative moment of digital communication, multiple privacy concerns ensue, also beyond the legal framework of data protection. Suddenly people faced the unannounced challenge of managing a mix of routinized public-private divides in front of their computer screens in their (lack of) home offices.

Comparing lockdown experiences and early modern sources, this session explores how people respond, manage, fail, and learn to protect their privacy in conversations in past and present. We explore how, in the past and the present, the home becomes a space for negotiating public-private divides, and how people defend their privacy in various challenging contexts of communication. We will show how experiences of protecting privacy in everyday practices and social interactions can inform approaches to privacy policies and settings in digital contexts.

The presentation draws on historical sources as well as ethnographic material collected during the first Danish lockdown in 2020. The presentation focuses on

a.   physical environments where public-private divides are negotiated,
b.   moments of uncertainty when everyday experiences and expectations for privacy are reconfigured
c.   subsequent learning processes when people struggled to find their ways of protecting their privacy.

We argue that considering the private sphere as continuously enacted brings attention to subtle and informal norms and needs of privacy in (digital) conversations. Our cases indicate that protection of privacy is formed not only by laws, policies, and data settings, but also by various norms and needs, partly depending on personal affection.

In this light, we suggest that an understanding of the lockdown as a pivotal historical moment when everyday interactions subtly reconfigured the private sphere calls for an examination of the role of digital technologies as a site for the development of social practices, including practices that enact privacy.

Finally, we suggest thinking critically about what counts as information practice in digital settings as a way to guide ongoing debates on how future systems enable multiple dimensions of privacy.

DISCUSSION