



EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP

 **EUROPEAN UNION CYBER DIPLOMACY**

EU:CD FELLOWS 2024



Denisa Kurtagic



Maja Lakusic



Oleksiy Tkachenko



Jamila Akaaga Ade



**Anahiby Anyel
Becerril Gil**



**Trezawnah
Gordon**



**Ellen Martínez
de Cooreman**



Germán López Ardila



Troy Smith



Matías A. Eustathiou



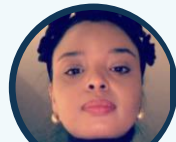
Yazid Akanho



Moses Owiny



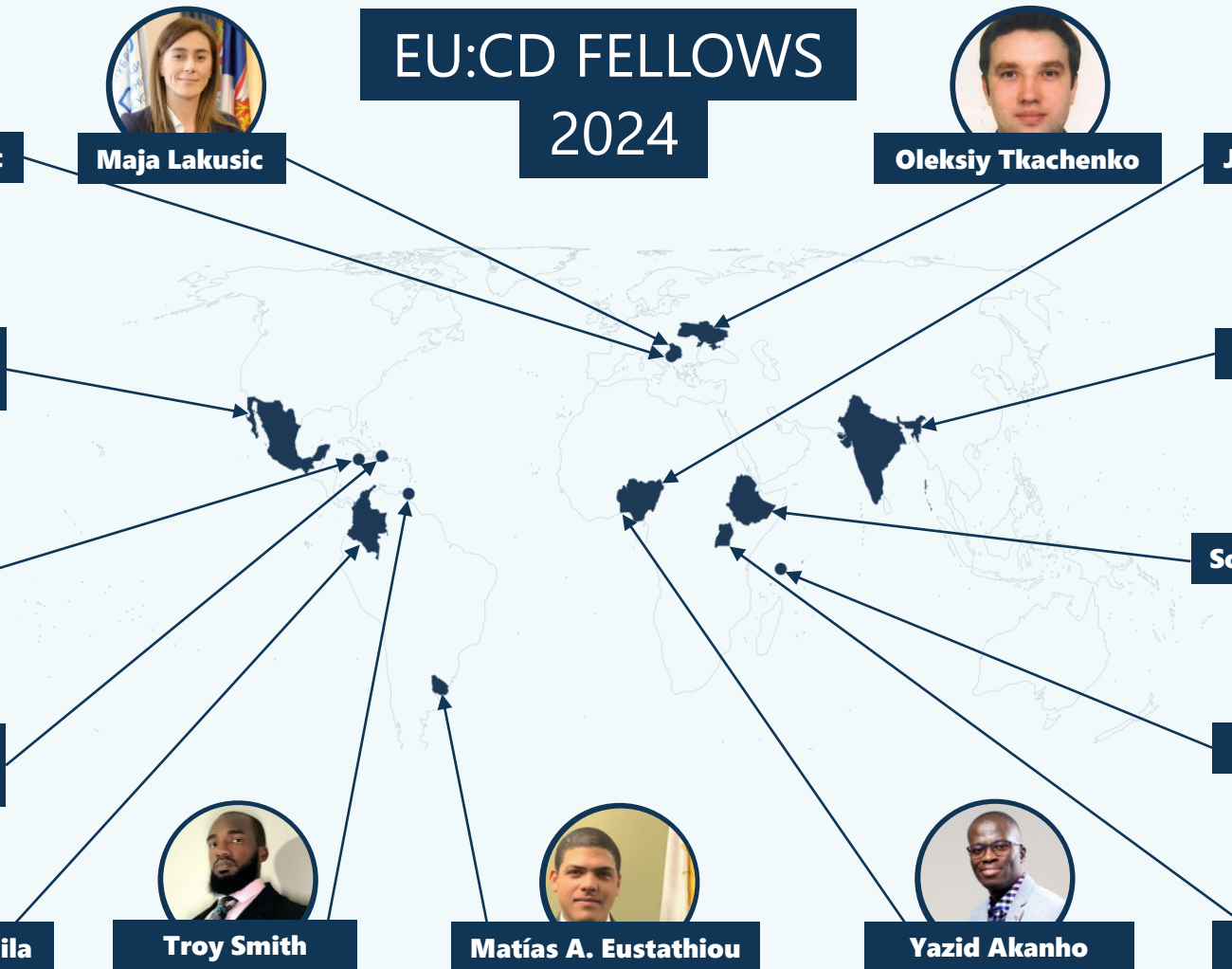
Akriti Bopanna



Sorene Assefa Shifa



Beryl Payet





I look forward to new learnings from the different themes addressed by the Fellowship, especially on global governance of emerging disruptive technologies and to contribute to shaping policies in Nigeria in these areas. I also plan to pass on the knowledge to others within the ecosystem in Nigeria.

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Jamila Akaaga Ade, Nigeria

Jamila heads the Cybercrimes Unit at the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Justice. She is Nigeria's representative to the Budapest Convention Committee (T-CY)/Bureau Member/GLACY-e National Coordinator; Co-chair, Diplomacy & Capacity Building Track of the Counter Ransomware Initiative (CRI); Member, Cybercrimes Advisory Council and Prevent Advisory Board (PAB).

Through this fellowship, I desire to acquire skills to engage more offensively in cyber diplomacy by learning and contributing to the development, implementation and evaluation of effective frameworks and strategies to combat cybercrime; strengthen international cooperation around digital technology and the governance of emerging technologies.



Yazid Akanho, Benin

Yazid is currently Technical Engagement Senior Specialist at Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). He coordinates the organization's technical engagement efforts in the Middle East and Africa and provides various stakeholders with capacity building, technical support and advice around Internet stability, security and resilience. Yazid holds a Master degree in Telecommunications.



This fellowship is a platform for me to foster stronger North-South and South-South relations, and I intend to share these valuable insights within my community, enhancing our collective cyber resilience and digital governance capabilities.

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Anahiby Anyel Becerril Gil, Mexico

Anahiby is a Professor and researcher in Law and ICT, specializing in personal data protection, cybersecurity and human rights. She teaches at various institutions and collaborates with regional organizations on cybersecurity. Honored as a Top Woman in Cybersecurity in Latin America in 2021 and 2023 nominee, she received the Woman and International Security in Cyberspace Fellowship from the Canadian Government.



I believe this fellowship will enable me to learn more specifically about inter-governmental negotiations in the field of ICT. I am looking forward to the mentorship from experts and government officials in developing our diplomatic engagement and policy skills.

Akriti Bopanna, India

Akriti is a public policy professional whose expertise lies in internet governance. Most recently, she was a Policy Specialist in India's G20 Secretariat at their Ministry of External Affairs. Prior to which, she led the Digital Sovereignty project as the Global Policy and Advocacy Manager at the Internet Society. Additionally, she chaired the Cross-Community Working Party on Human Rights at ICANN.

During my time in the fellowship, I hope to increase my knowledge as diplomat in an area that is key for the development of my country. Capacity building is crucial to be well prepared in case of a cybersecurity emergency, and international law give us a safe framework in which States can relate peaceful in cyberspace.



Matías A. Eustathiou, Uruguay

Matias A. Eustathiou is a career diplomat currently serving at the Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the UN in New York as a disarmament and international security expert. In 2023, he was elected Vice Chair of the First Committee of the General Assembly in its 78th session (2023 – 2024). Previously, he was appointed as Consul General of Uruguay in Chicago and Personal Secretary to the President of Uruguay between 2015-2020.

During EU:CD Fellowship, I anticipate gaining a nuanced understanding of the intersection between cybersecurity and international relations. Also, I aim to refine my diplomatic skills, foster a global network of professionals and contribute meaningfully to the development of national efforts in peacefully and legal addressing cyber threats.



Denisa Kurtagic, Montenegro

Denisa is a cyber security expert with over a decade of expertise in Euro-Atlantic Security and Cyber Threat Intelligence, having worked in Montenegro's security and defence sector and with national integrations to NATO. She is currently working as Cyber Threat Analyst at the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro.



My goal is to refine my skill set and acquire in depth knowledge in cyber policy and diplomacy, vital for meaningful involvement in the global cyber landscape. The fellowship will deepen my expertise in tackling cyber threats and addressing policy and legislative matters.

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Trezawnah Gordon, Jamaica

Trezawnah is the Senior Director for the Cyber Intelligence Policy and Incident Response Branch in the Ministry of National Security of Jamaica. She has over a decade of policy development experience, proficient in leading cross-functional teams, collaborating with stakeholders and enhancing the cyber security and cybercrime investigative capacity of government and nation at large.



This is a unique opportunity to engage with diverse perspectives and innovative ideas. It will serve as a catalyst for my professional development, equipping me with the skills, knowledge, and network needed to make meaningful contributions to the policy community.

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Maja Lakusic , Republic of Serbia

Maja Lakusic is a Senior Advisor for Cyber Security promotion responsible for development of cyber security policies, preparing and conducting public opinion polls and information in the field of cyber security collecting information on the state of cyber security in the country and in the international environment. She is a lawyer and certified SSAP.

I want to learn how to better advocate for policies that make digital technologies accessible in Colombia, Latin American and the Caribbean, as means to improve the lives of its citizens, generate economic growth, and strengthen democracy. I want to contribute to the construction of policies that materialize these goals, thanks to new skills learned during the EU:CD program.



Germán López Ardila, Colombia

Germán López Ardila is a lawyer, lecturer, and advocate on tech policy, AI, and Internet governance. He works as Regulatory Affairs Director of the Colombian Chamber of IT and Telecoms (CCIT). He lectures on tech regulation and LegalTech at Javeriana University and Sergio Arboleda University in Colombia. He is part of the board of ISOC Youth Standing Group and Co-coordinator of the Youth LACIGF.



I know important it is for countries to fully understand the impact of new international legal frameworks in these areas and to be able to meaningfully engage in the debates leading to them. I look forward to expanding my knowledge and interacting with experts from different regions and backgrounds.

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Ellen Martínez de Cooreman, Dominican Republic

Ellen is a lawyer and diplomat with over 18 years of experience, specialized in multilateral diplomacy and international negotiations. As part of the Dominican Republic's foreign service, Ellen is currently working at the Mission in Brussels where he is responsible for the EU political affairs portfolio as well as for the EU-CELAC/EU-LAC bi-regional cooperation portfolio.

I hope to advance and support stronger African voices and ideas in multistakeholder cyber discussions, enhancing capacity development at national level, fostering engagement between state and non-state actors in ways that build trust, confidence and ensure inclusive processes.



Moses Owiny, Uganda

Moses Owiny is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Centre for Multilateral Affairs (CfMA) based in Kampala, Uganda. The CfMA seeks to inform and shape Africa and global south perspectives and priorities in International cyber governance processes. His recent research work interrogates 'the influence of cyber norms in fostering Uganda's bi-lateral and multilateral relations for responsible state behaviour in the cyberspace'.



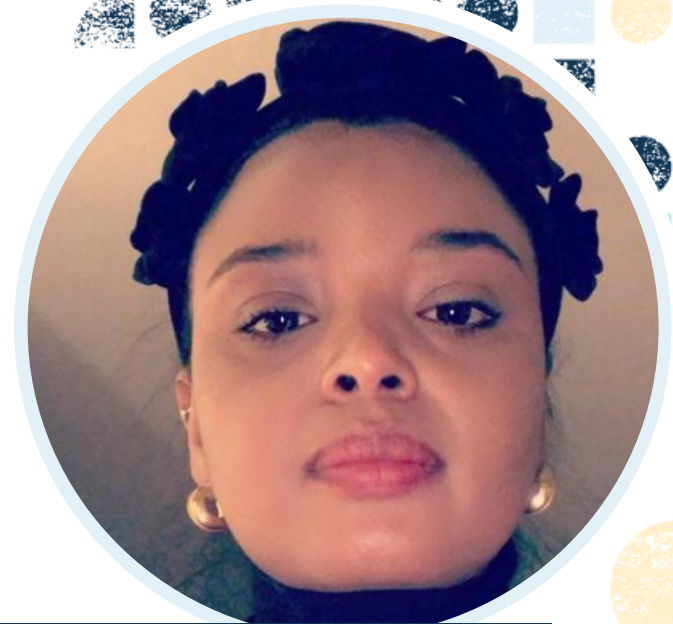
The fellowship will enable me to share my knowledge with other local professionals so that together we can advise our Government in developing the right frameworks and to proactively participate in the global cyber diplomacy debates.

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Beryl Payet, Republic of Seychelles

Beryl Payet is the Director for Policy Strategy and Research with the Department of Information Communications Technology (Government of Seychelles). She holds a Master's Degree in Engineering Business Management. Miss Payet is involved in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and review of national policies, strategies and legislations related to ICT.

I aim to leverage this dynamic platform to gain practical experiences in current UN processes on Cyber-diplomacy and to establish a lasting network. The fellowship extends beyond my personal development, making a substantial contribution to the global and regional digital policy community, ultimately fostering an open, safe, and secure digital space for all.



Sorene Assefa Shifa, Ethiopia

Sorene, a certified Cybersecurity professional, spearheads transformative programmes in Digital Public Infrastructure, Internet Governance, AI, and Cyber resilience in Africa. She currently works at the UNECA. Additionally, as the founder and MD of Cyber Czar, she pioneers initiatives such as the PAYAIG initiative to empower African Youth in digital governance and the NAWC initiative to inspire African Women in cybersecurity roles.



My objective is to leverage this knowledge augment my contributions to national and global cyber initiatives to refine training in the area of cyber, shape robust policies, and foster international collaborations through my ongoing contribution to national and international projects.

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Troy Smith, Trinidad and Tobago

Dr. Smith is an established researcher in cybercrime and online behaviors, also boasting over ten years of expertise in specialized national security sectors. He currently contributes to EU initiatives, concentrating on policy solutions to cybercrime and crafting strategic frameworks that enhance bi-regional collaboration in digital and space domains.

Participation in the EU: CD fellowship program will help me in enlarging the network of my professional contacts in cyber world. The EU: CD Fellowship is a unique opportunity for me to learn the best international experience in how to form cyber alliances, attract friends and fight common challenges in cyberspace.



Oleksiy Tkachenko, Ukraine

Mr. Tkachenko is an experienced cybersecurity professional currently working as an International Relations Expert at the Cybersecurity and Information Security Department of the National Cybersecurity Coordination Center of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine. He is experienced in representing Ukraine in global cyber-related organizations and fostering alliances to enhance national cybersecurity.

About EU Cyber Direct

EU Cyber Direct – EU Cyber Diplomacy Initiative supports the European Union's cyber diplomacy and international digital engagements in order to strengthen rules-based order in cyberspace and build cyber resilient societies. To that aim, we conduct research, support capacity building in partner countries, and promote multistakeholder cooperation. Through research and events, EU Cyber Direct regularly engages in the discussions about the future of international cooperation to fight cybercrime and strengthen criminal justice systems globally.

About the EU:CD Fellowship





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