

ISP 2023 Case Study Instructions*

This handout provides a brief instruction on how to work on the case studies during the summerschool.

1 General

Within the Interdisciplinary Summerschool on Privacy you work together in a small multidisciplinary team to study a particular case (tailored to the theme of the summerschool). There are different cases, although often some groups will work on the same case.

At a functional level, the goal of the case study is to explore the problem space, analyse stakes, identify potential privacy and related issues, and investigate possible solutions or interventions that might mitigate some of the issues identified. Time is short, so it will be hard to achieve this goal fully, at a reasonable level of quality. This is not a problem.

At a meta level, the goal of the case study is to allow you to experience what it is like to work in a multidisciplinary team, and to learn from that experience. And to discover how the breath of available disciplines in your group could be most effectively used in tackling the case at hand.

Some basic advice may be of help.

- Take the time to listen.
- Make sure everyone contributes and is given the space to contribute, equally.
- Try to understand where people from another discipline come from.
- We all use jargon; if something is unclear to you, ask for an explanation.
- If you feel something is not right, speak up
- Feel free to approach one of the organisers if you would like to discuss any issue you have.

Finally, the teachers of the summerschool are around for most of the week, so feel free to ask them questions or to discuss the case assigned to you with them.

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2 Planning

2.1 Monday: Introductions and Team building

- Get to know each other.
- Read these instructions and your specific case study description.
- Think about roles each of you would like to take upon themselves.

2.2 Tuesday Session 1: Problem definition

- Explore and map the problem space.
- Read up on related news articles, scholarly publications and/or policy documents. Discuss.

3 Tuesday Session 2: Opportunities/Stakeholders: The business perspective

This session should focus on the business interests of the entrepreneur. Think broadly here about potential ways in which the business or organisation described in the case could achieve its goals. Make these goals explicit.

In the second half of this session, start identifying other parties with a stake in the case and analyze their interests.

3.1 Wednesday Session 1: (Privacy) Implication

- Propose legal, technical, social, political, and/or economic mechanisms that can be used to address the issues you found.
- Consider what legal and ethical frameworks may apply.
- What kind of processing does the information undergo?
- Explore concerns related to autonomy, non-discrimination and freedom of expression due to such processing (e.g., disparate treatment or impact). What kind of decisions could be made about users that could have an adverse impact?
- Explore further privacy concerns with respect to government surveillance, industrial or social surveillance. If cloud services or integration of third-party services are playing a pertinent role, consider also issues that arise from data flowing across jurisdictions.
- Approach your analysis from different perspectives: i.e., developers, researchers, business analysts, marketers, civil society, policy maker, legal counsel, media etc.

3.2 Wednesday Session 2: Exploring solutions

- Explore related work (academic, industry) on similar solutions.
- Could there be a technological solution that protects users?
- Explore legal technical or social proposals for problems you identified so far.
- Think about constraints: e.g., do your solutions scale? Will they get push back from different players? Are there trade-offs?
- Consider looking at similar projects.

3.3 Thursday Session 1: Prepare presentation

Prepare presentation: maximum 8 slides.

- Rather than providing an overview of all of your analysis, provide a quick introduction to your use case, highlight one or two privacy problems and stakeholder positions.
- Discuss how you decided to address these.

3.4 Thursday Session 2: Presentations

Presentations 10 minutes, discussion 10 minutes.

- Discussion: Find weak spots in the analysis of the problem and the solution for different actors who have a stake in the case.

We have only two hours for all presentations, so we ask you to stick to the time limits.