

Congress 2026 Programme
The history of the future of biometrics

Introduction

Congress – "A History of the Future of Biometrics" celebrating 25 years of the responsible use of biometrics

This year, we are celebrating the **25-year anniversary** of the Biometrics Institute community which was founded on the 11 October 2001 with a mission to promote the responsible use of biometrics. Over these past 25 years we have lived through major milestones such as the sad events of 9/11, the arrival of TouchID on iPhone 5 bringing biometrics to the consumer market, the digital transformation accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic involving biometrics as a key enabler but also vulnerabilities such as morphs and deepfakes and challenges to privacy and data protection.
We have also seen major advances in privacy protections and cyber security such as the General Data Protection Rule GDPR (2016) and law reforms in other countries defining biometrics as sensitive information.

This year's Congress is being held on **20-21 October at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London Westminster**. Our theme this year is "The History of the Future of Biometrics" and is asking the big questions regarding the future as well as putting the last 25 years into perspective. It will be a celebration of what we have achieved today and how we have reaped the benefits of biometrics for public safety, national security and convenience while mitigating new challenges which are constantly evolving. We want to take a journey through all the different use cases, technical developments (standards and testing) and how policy and data protection evolved. We are also keen to hear how you believe we are going to move into the future.

For the exhibition floor we are encouraging our technology community to bring examples of old bits of biometric equipment.

Registration

See details on the Congress webpage.

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To discuss sponsorship opportunities please contact shelley@biometricsinstitute.org.

Session overview

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Tuesday 20 October 2026

08:00 Registration, refreshments, and exhibition viewing in Cambridge Room level five

Plenary – Mountbatten Room

1. Session one: The State of Biometrics

Session moderator: Jakob Dam Glynstrup, Chairman and Director, Biometrics Institute

09:00 Welcome from the Chairman
Jakob Dam Glynstrup, Chairman and Director, Biometrics Institute

09:05 Opening remarks
Isabelle Moeller, Chief Executive, Biometrics Institute

09:15 Keynote opening address: The future of the history of biometrics
Jim Wayman, Biometric Expert

09:30 In conversation: National identity to digital identity, serving citizens in a trusted and interoperable way – a happy place
Praveen Chaudhary, Director, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) in conversation with Dion Chamberlain, General Manager Te Awa Whiria Engagement Data and Innovation, New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs

09:50 Diamond sponsor presentation (exclusive): Sorry Authentication. Your time is over.
Jay Meier, Chief Technology Strategist, FaceTec

10:10 Questions and discussion

10:20 From an idea to reality – why I founded the Biometrics Institute
Ted Dunstone, Founder, Biometrics Institute

10:25 Discussion session: The State of Biometrics – current status and future impacts
Moderator: Mick O'Connell, Member of Future Direction Group, Biometrics Institute
Panellists:

- *Brenda Leong, Member, Future Direction Group, Biometrics Institute*
- *David Lehr, Privacy Policy Manager, Meta*
- *Jim Wayman, Biometric Expert*
- ***Diamond sponsor (exclusive):** Owen McShane, Vice-President Government Relations, FaceTec*

11:00 Close of session

11:00 Morning refreshments, networking, and exhibition viewing

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Plenary – Mountbatten Room

2. Session two: Where it all started: Policing, law enforcement and forensics

Session moderator: Roger Baldwin, Member of Advisory Council, Biometrics Institute

11:40 The history of the future of biometrics at the FBI
Ben Smith, Biometrics Programme Manager, FBI CJIS Division, FBI – subject to final travel approval

11:55 An overview of the application of automatic speaker recognition software in the fight against serious and organised crime
James Kavanagh, Biometrics Intelligence Manager – Voice, National Crime Agency (NCA), UK and Ellen Grand, Biometrics Intelligence Manager – Voice, National Crime Agency (NCA), UK

12:10 Metropolitan Police: 125 years of forensic services
Shazia Khan, Head of Biometrics, Metropolitan Police

12:25 Masterclass from concept to implementation: How to structure an organisation to embed biometrics
Darren Bark, Executive Director, Investigations and Counter Terrorism, New South Wales Police, Australia

12:40 Discussion panel: What might biometric processes look like in law enforcement applications in 2036?
Moderator: Roger Baldwin, Advisory Council Member, Biometrics Institute
Panellists:

- *Damianos Chronakis, Specialist, Biometrics – Business Product Management /Europol-Information Management Unit, Europol*
- *Sarah P Chu, Director of Policy and Reform, Perlmutter Center for Legal Justice, Cardozo School of Law, USA*
- *Jeremy Johnson, Executive Director, Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission*
- *Shazia Khan, Head of Biometrics, Metropolitan Police*
- *Anne-Maria Seesmaa, Legal Officer, United Nations Security Council – Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (UNCTED)*
- ***Silver sponsor:** German Antonio Dorta Martinez, Vice President of Global Sales, Image Match Design*

13:15 Close of session

13:15 Lunch, networking, and exhibition viewing

Plus: Exclusive Vendor Briefing "An audience with ...."
This is an exclusive meeting of up to 24 attendees that is reserved for users and academic researchers of biometrics. Collect your invitation from the sponsorship exhibition booth or registration desk. Attendees can fast-track the lunch queue and take their food into the meeting.

Lunch agenda
13:15 Fast-track your lunch to take to the exclusive vendor briefing
13:30 An audience with **FaceTec**
13:45 Networking in the exhibition area
14:30 Congress session three resumes

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Mountbatten Room	Windsor Room
3. Parallel session three (3A): National security, border management and movement of people *Session moderator: Dion Chamberlain, Director, Biometrics Institute* **14:30 Reimagining the border: Where security meets seamless travel** *Cedric Law, Director Policy and Development Division, Immigration & Checkpoints Authority, Singapore* **14:45 OSINT in migration authorities - Identity verification in the age of artificial intelligence** *Heiko Werner, Head of Subdirectorate Security, Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, BAMF* **15:00 Gold sponsor presentation: Biometrics in Motion: A journey transforming security and people movement** *Will King, Vice President Growth & Technical Business Development, IDEMIA Public Security* **15:15 Panel discussion: Delivering secure global travel and movement of people through digital identity and biometrics** *Moderator: Justin Ikura, Head of Borders User Group, Biometrics Institute and Director, Identity Management Division, Strategic Policy Branch, Canada Border Services Agency* *Panellists:* • *Mark Branchflower, Coordinator Fingerprint Unit and Face Project, INTERPOL* • *Alexandre Costa Gonçalves, Team Leader ETIAS Central Unit, Frontex* • *Hans de Moel, Staff Advisor, Royal Netherlands Marechaussee – Ministry of Defence* • *Quentin Revell, Chief Technology Officer, Home Office Biometrics Programme* **16:00 Close of session**	**4. Parallel session three (3B): Technology research and innovation: GenAI, Iris and more to be revealed** *Moderator: Dan Bachenheimer, Director, Biometrics Institute* **14:30 GenAI: A bane and a boon for biometrics** *Arun Ross, Site Director, NSF Center for Identification Technology Research (CITeR), USA* **14:50 From face recognition to deception: Biometrics and synthetic media** *Sebastien Marcel, Head of Biometrics Group, Idiap Research Institute* **15:10 Manipulation of faces – effects from disguises, face masks, online filter tools, Snapchat and child exploitation** *Eilidh Noyes, Senior Lecturer in Cognitive Psychology, Leeds University* **15:30 The eyes have it: Decoding complex iris patterns – a practical presentation** *Adam Czajka, Associate Professor, Computer Science and Engineering Director, AI Trust and Reliability Lab, University of Notre Dame, USA* **15:50 Questions and discussion** **16:00 Close of session**

16:00 Afternoon refreshments, networking, and exhibition viewing

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Mountbatten Room	Windsor Room
5. Parallel session four (4A): From physical to digital identity – a growing reliance on verifiable credentials *Session moderator: Brett Feldon, Head of Digital Identity Group, Biometrics Institute* **16:30 Evolution of fraud and risk or fraud prevention for digital wallets** *Mark Courtney, Deputy CEO & Chief Product Officer, CIFAS, UK* **16:40 Gold sponsor presentation: From Anchor to Accelerator: The New Security Synergy of Physical and Digital ID** *Stéphanie Peyrat, Digital Identity Business Owner, Thales* **16:55 A European approach to digital transformation; harnessing emerging technologies to meet a gamut of challenges** *Anna-Liisa Tampuu, Head of IT Policy and Strategy, Ministry of the Interior, Estonia* **17:10 Questions and discussion** **17:15 Discussion session: What does the future of digital identity look like in 5 to 10 years' time?** *Moderator: Brett Feldon, Head of Digital Identity Group, Biometrics Institute* *Panellists:* • *Jo Brooks, Assistant Director Security and Inclusion Team, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport UK* • *Fernando Garcia-Quismondo, Former Head of Identity Centre of Excellence, Grupo Santander* • *Marianne Henriksen, Subject Director Digital ID, Norwegian Tax Administration* • *Hannes Lember, Chief Expert, Police and Border Guard, Estonian Ministry of the Interior* • *Carola Rienth, Public Policy Lead, Google* **18:00 Close of session**	**6. Parallel session four (4B): Mystery session** *Session moderator: Jakob Dam Glynstrup, Chairman and Director, Biometrics Institute* **16:30 Update from UIDAI** *Kirti Vardhan Rathore, Deputy Director, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)* **16:45 Questions and discussion** **16:50 The next biometric: Quantum sensing** *Pam Dixon, Executive Director, World Privacy Forum* **17:05 Questions and discussion** **17:10 Facial age estimation in the UK Home Office asylum system** *Quentin Revell, Chief Technology Officer, Home Office Biometrics Programme* **17:25 Questions and discussion** **17:30 Automated face recognition in investigations: What constitutes probable cause?** *Michael King, Executive Director, Florida Tech Research Institute* **17:45 Questions and discussion** **18:00 Close of session**

19:00 Annual drinks reception
Please join us for our wonderful networking drinks, this year hosted at Australia House.

20:30 Close of day one

Day two: Wednesday 21 October 2026

08:30 Registration, refreshments, and exhibition viewing

Plenary – Mountbatten Room

7. Session five: Governance and policy now and in the future

Session moderator: Darren Bark, Deputy Chairman and Director, Biometrics Institute

09:00 Welcome from the moderator
Darren Bark, Deputy Chairman and Director, Biometrics Institute

09:05 Keynote address: Live Facial Recognition for policing in the UK
William Webster, Biometrics and Surveillance Camera Commissioner for England and Wales

09:20 A regulator panel: Where are we now?
This session will discuss policy developments under the theme history of the future
Moderator: Arun Ross, Member of Technology and Innovation Expert Group, Biometrics Institute

- *Ian Deasha, Group Manager – Technology (Identity and Trust), Information Commission's Office*
- *Cheryl Glen, Director & Corporate Services Manager, Scottish Biometrics Commissioner*
- *Irina Orssich, Head of Sector: AI Act Governance, DG CNECT, European Commission*
- *William Webster, Biometrics and Surveillance Camera Commissioner for England and Wales*

09:40 Gold sponsor presentation: AI regulation for biometrics: the era of EU enforcement has started
Tim McGarr, Global Head of AI Market Development & Partnerships, British Standards Institution (BSI)

09:55 Old rules, new tech: Rethinking regulation for AI-powered experiences
David Lehr, Privacy Policy Manager, Privacy & Data Policy, Meta

10:10 Conversation: AI-powered experiences using body-based data – how can they provide value while adhering to privacy rules?
Twenty-five years into the modern biometrics era, the products people choose to wear, speak to, and rely on for personalised health, entertainment, and safety insights bear little resemblance to the technologies that early sensitive-data frameworks were designed to govern. Today, hundreds of millions of people voluntarily share body-based data—heart rate, sleep patterns, movement, vocal signals, facial data—with AI-powered products precisely *because* those products learn from the data and improve over time. This panel will examine exactly how AI-powered experiences actually use body-based data to deliver value, and how we should think about risks given how people use these experiences.
Moderator: Roger Baldwin, Advisory Council, Biometrics Institute
Panellists:

- *Magdalena Delgado-Friedman, Senior Privacy and Data Policy Manager, Meta*
- *Pam Dixon, Executive Director, World Privacy Forum*
- *Meline von Brentano, EVP Digital Transformation Strategy, Palantir Technologies*
- *Irina Orssich, Head of Sector: AI Act Governance, DG CNECT, European Commission*

10:40 Close of session

10:40 Morning refreshments, networking, and exhibition viewing

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Mountbatten Room	Windsor Room
8. Parallel session six (6A): Standards, testing and vulnerability assessments (deepfakes) – an arm's race *Session moderator: Dan Bachenheimer, Director, Biometrics Institute* **11:10 NVLAP Biometric Test Laboratory Accreditation Program** *Jim Wayman, Biometric Expert* **11:25 Morphing – latest strategies on morph attack detection** *Mei Ngan, Computer Scientist, National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)* **11:40 Improving the human ability to detect digital manipulation of face images** *Froy Lovasdal, Senior Advisor, National Police Directorate* **11:55 Independent evaluation of biometric technology** *Aleksandrs Cepilovs, Capability Building Officer – Research and Development, eu-LISA* **12:10 Human listeners cannot tell the difference between real voices and voice clones anymore** *Nadine Lavan, Director of Graduate Studies, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, Queen Mary University of London* **12:25 Silver sponsorship presentation: Testing deepfake detection against new challenges** Neily Sanon, Test Analyst, Biometrics Researcher, Fime **12:35 Questions and discussion** **12:50 Close of session**	**9. Parallel session six (6B): Identity, borders and beyond** *Session moderator: Theodore Tan, Director, Biometrics Institute* **11:10 CBP's biometrics strategy: Innovation, partnerships, and advancing the entry/exit mandate** *Ray Provencio, Director of Field Operations, El Paso, US Department of Homeland Security – Customs and Border Protection* **11:25 Questions and discussion** **11:30 No Api. No PNR. No problem?** *Richard Rinkens, Coordinator for Biometrics, Interoperability and Information Technology, DG HOME, European Commission* **11:45 Questions and discussion** **11:50 Presentation topic to be revealed** *Thomas King, Higher Officer, General Aviation Multi-Agency Hub, Home Office* **12:05 Questions and discussion** **12:10 Explainable face morphing attack detection in identity issuance** *Jonathan Boyle, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Reading, UK* **12:25 Questions and discussion** **12:30 Update from International Organisation for Migration** *Nelson Goncalves, Head of Legal Identity Unit, Immigration and Border Management Division, International Organisation for Migration* **12:45 Questions and discussion** **12:50 Close of session**

12:50 Lunch, networking, and exhibition viewing

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Mountbatten Room	Windsor Room
10. Parallel session seven (7A): Creating trusted identities for a safer and better world *Session moderator: Hans de Moel, Member of Advisory Council, Biometrics Institute* **14:15 Update from UNHCR** *Sam Jefferies, Head, Biometrics and Interoperability Unit, Digital Identity and Registration Section, Global Data Service, UNHCR – The UN Refugee Agency, Denmark* **14:30 Questions and discussion** **14:35 Biometrics in action and a tool for delivery – the role of AI** *Magan Naidoo, Chief Data Officer, World Food Programme* **14:50 Questions and discussion** **14:55 Law enforcement facial recognition update** *David White, Head of Strategic Facial Matching & Specialist Business Solutions, Home Office Biometrics Programme, UK* **15:10 Questions and discussion** **15:15 Ensuring trust in identity systems in the Post Quantum age** *Graham Camm, Delivery Director – UK Home Office Biometrics Services* **15:30 Questions and discussion** **15:45 Close of session**	**11. Parallel session seven (7B): Innovation and research as a key enabler to move into the future** *Session moderator: Mick O'Connell, Director, Biometrics Institute* **14:15 What I learned for evaluating AI from participating in biometric conferences and congresses** *Jonathan Phillips, Electronic Engineer, NIST – subject to travel approval* **14:35 Questions and discussion** **14:45 Ways to detect when your facial ID result is an out-of-gallery false positive** *Kevin W Bowyer, Schubmehl-Prein Family Professor Emeritus, University of Notre Dame, USA* **15:05 Questions and discussion** **15:15 A history of biometrics: Science, systems and media** *Mark Nixon, Editor in Chief IEEE Transactions on Biometrics, Behaviour and Identity Science, University of Southampton, UK* **15:35 Questions and discussion** **15:45 Close of session**

15:45 Afternoon refreshments, networking, and exhibition viewing

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Plenary – Mountbatten Room

12. Session eight: Biometrics now and in the future

Session moderator: Isabelle Moeller, Chief Executive, Biometrics Institute

16:15 History of biometrics at the Schiphol Airport
Hans de Moel, Staff Advisor, Royal Netherlands Marechaussee – Ministry of Defence

16:30 Questions

16:40 Key take-aways
Moderators from the Congress sessions will provide their key take-aways
Moderator: Isabelle Moeller, Chief Executive, Biometrics Institute
Panellists: Session moderators

17:10 Closing comments by the Chief Executive

17:15 Close of Congress

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All events during Biometrics Week

All events require registration

Date	Event	Timing	Location	Fee
Monday 19 October	**Government only meeting**	9:00 – 13:00	**Hosted by UK Home Office**	Complimentary to government. Registration required
Monday 19 October	**On-device Biometrics Workshop**	13:45 – 17:00	**18 Smith Square** London SW1P 3HZ	Member: £385 + VAT Non-member: £545 + VAT
Tuesday 20 October	**Congress day one**	9:00 – 18:00	**QEII Centre** London SW1P 3EE	Register here
Tuesday 20 October	**Annual drinks reception**	19:00 – 20:30	**Australia House** The Strand, London WC2B 4LA	Included in Congress fee. Registration required
Wednesday 21 October	**Congress day two**	9:00 – 17:00	**QEII Centre**	Included in Congress fee. Registration required
Thursday 22 October	**Joint Expert Group Briefing**	9:30 – 13:00	**18 Smith Square** London SW1P 3HZ	Included in Congress fee. Registration required

Who should attend

Industries & Sectors:

- **Government & Public Sector:** Digital ID, Civil Registration, Border Management, Law Enforcement & National Security
- **International Development & Humanitarian:** UN Agencies, Intergovernmental Organisations, Development Banks, Civil Society & NGOs
- **Finance:** Banking, Fintech, Payments & Insurance
- **Critical Infrastructure:** Healthcare, Transport (Air, Land, Sea) & Tourism
- **Commerce:** Large Corporates, Telecoms, Retail & Hospitality

Job Functions:

- **Executive Leadership & Board:** CEO, CTO, CIO, Directors & Commissioners
- **Policy, Governance & Legal:** Borders, Compliance, Privacy & Data Protection
- **Identity & Biometric Specialisms:** Architects, Advisors, IAM & Biometrics Engineers
- **Security, Cyber & Risk:** InfoSec, Cyber Services, Fraud & Risk Management
- **Digital Transformation & Strategy:** Innovation, Strategy & Marketing
- **Product, Technology & Standards:** Development, Engineering & Systems Integration
- **Business Development & Govt Solutions:** Growth, Partnerships & Public Relations

The event will be held in English.

As with all Biometrics Institute events, this meeting will be held under Chatham House Rule to allow a very open discussion in this trusted forum. Our event Code of Conduct and Statement of Trusted Conversations apply. Please note these policies.

To suggest content or request a speaking slot for future events please email amy@biometricsinstitute.org.

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