
ABOUT THIS BOOK

This book derives from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Initiative on the New Economy. Recognizing that the increased speed of technological development and the rapid growth of knowledge are contributing to major social, cultural, and personal change worldwide, SSHRC held a research competition to promote collaborative, multisectoral work on these issues. One of the research teams successful in the 2003 competition received a four-year, \$4 million grant in support of a project entitled *On The Identity Trail: Understanding the Importance and Impact of Anonymity and Authentication in a Networked Society*.

With a focus on multidisciplinary dialogue and interaction, *ID Trail* brought together North American and European research talent from the academic, public, private, and not-for-profit sectors. With more than fifty co-investigators, collaborators, researchers, and partners, *ID Trail* included a distinguished array of philosophers, ethicists, feminists, cognitive scientists, sociologists, lawyers, cryptographers, engineers, policy analysts, government policymakers, privacy experts, business leaders, blue chip companies, and successful start-ups.

This book, one of four full-length volumes produced by *ID Trail*, is the outcome of two international workshops on privacy, identity, and anonymity. The first workshop was held in Paris, France, in 2006 and was hosted by the Atelier Internet, Équipe Réseaux, Savoirs, and Territoires at the École Normale Supérieure. The second workshop was held in Bologna, Italy, in 2007 and was hosted by Dipartimento di Scienze Giuridiche at Università di Bologna.

Participants from both workshops exchanged ideas and manuscripts with the aim of creating a volume that would ultimately become an organic whole greater than the sum of its individual chapter contributions. In fulfillment of an undertaking to SSHRC to dedicate significant resources to student training initiatives, two competitions were held, and funding was provided to include ten students as full workshop participants. These and numerous other highly talented *ID Trail* student collaborators have made substantial contributions to this book, including a dozen as authors or co-authors.

In addition to the collaborative feedback that authors received at the workshops, each chapter included in this volume was subject to an anonymous peer review process prior to its submission to Oxford University Press.