presents a lecture by:
Katina Michael

THE PRÜM TREATY AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS’ RULING AGAINST THE UK’S POLICY OF KEEPING FINGERPRINTS AND DNA SAMPLES OF CRIMINAL SUSPECTS

This seminar investigates the legal implications of the S. and Marper v United Kingdom ruling by the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) which found that the UK Government’s current deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) retention policy breached Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). The aim of the seminar is to look beyond the changes that have been instigated in Britain, Wales and Ireland, since the landmark decision by the ECtHR was made; toward the legal implications of the sharing of DNA data across the borders of European Union member states. Of significance here are the outcomes of the Prüm Treaty of 2005 which initially saw seven countries, not including the UK, agree to share DNA data, fingerprint and vehicle registration data for the purpose of countering acts of terror and bringing criminals to prosecution. By June 2007 the provisions of Prüm had found their way into the legislative framework of the European Union at large. This setting is contrasted against a backdrop of an increasing number of organisations at the supranational level that have been tasked with overseeing the fundamental protection of human rights, especially in the case of minors, and more generally to do with an individual’s right to privacy and personal data protection.

Katina Michael is a senior lecturer in the School of Information Systems and Technology where she specializes in the social impact of emerging technologies. She is currently doing a Masters of Transnational Crime Prevention in the Faculty of Law at the University of Wollongong. She is a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and a board member of the Australian Privacy Foundation.

Date: Tuesday, 25 August 2009
Where: CTCP, Innovation Campus, Building 233, Room 115
Time: 12.30pm (lunch will be provided)
RSVP: cbarton@uow.edu.au by 5pm, Monday, 24 August 2009