

# Dr. Jörn Erbguth

Head of Technology Insights, Geneva Macro Labs  
Consultant on blockchain, AI and data protection

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## Profile

With a double background in law and computer science, Jörn Erbguth bridges the gap between technology and law. After working as CTO, he wrote a thesis about a framework for long-term revocable credentials using blockchain and complying with data protection regulation regarding. Jörn Erbguth is Head of Technology Insights at the Geneva Macro Labs association. He participates in standards organizations and lectures at Swiss universities. Jörn Erbguth wants to help shape the future digital society that is oriented toward human rights and sustainability.

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## Experience

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| 1/2021  | –         | Member of the Expert Panel of the European Blockchain Observatory and Forum  |
| 8/2020  | – 5/2021  | Lecturer at University of St. Gallen   |
| 6/2019  | –         | Head of Technology Insights at Geneva Macro Labs   |
| 11/2018 | –         | Lecturer at Richterakademie, Germany   |
| 9/2018  | –         | Lecturer at University of Lucerne  |
| 5/2018  | –         | Lecturer at University of Geneva   |
| 9/2017  | –         | Lecturer at Geneva School of Diplomacy   |
| 8/2016  | –         | Consultant on Blockchain, AI and Data Protection   |
| 10/2010 | – 7/2016  | CTO, Swisslex AG, Geneva, Switzerland<br>Since 2011, member of the management board<br>Responsibilities: Managing software development and hosting<br>Key achievements: Migration to a new platform, cross-lingual search  |
| 1/2006  | – 9/2010  | Head of ICT department, juris GmbH, Saarbrücken, Germany<br>(Software development and ICT services, 40 staff)<br>Responsibilities: Managing software development and hosting for legal databases, managing ICT environment for 200 employees<br>Key achievements: Introduced framework to easily deploy customized web-based legal databases |
| 6/2002  | – 12/2005 | Head of software development, juris GmbH, Saarbrücken, Germany (25 employees)<br>Responsibilities: Managing software development of legal databases<br>Key achievements: Migrated old host-based platform to a modern Linux cluster-based system   |
| 6/2000  | – 5/2002  | Product manager, Gauss-Interprise AG, Hamburg, Germany (now part of OpenText AG)<br>Responsibilities: Product management of content management system<br>Key achievements: Coordinated product marketing with subsidiary in the US   |
| 3/1995  | – 5/2000  | Software developer, juris GmbH, Saarbrücken, Germany<br>Responsibilities: Development of software for legal databases<br>Key achievements: Developed user-friendly web interface for a host-based database   |

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## Certificates

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| 2017 | <b>Certified in data protection for being a Data Protection Officer (GDPR, udis)</b> |
| 2015 | <b>Certified Professional Scrum Product Owner</b>                                    |

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## Languages

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|---------|-----------|
| German  | native    |
| English | fluent    |
| French  | excellent |

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## Education

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| 2016 - 2022 | <b>Ph.D.</b> , University of Geneva, Switzerland   |
| 1990 - 1994 | <b>Diploma in Computer Science</b> , 1.4<br>Friedrich Alexander Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg and Universität Passau, Germany  |
| 1986 - 1992 | <b>First State Examination in Law / Diploma in Law</b> , 5.62<br>Universität Passau and Universität Regensburg, Germany  |
| 1988 - 1989 | <b>Participation in LL.M. program</b> at Tulane University, New Orleans, with a DAAD Scholarship<br>(All exams passed but no degree awarded due to special status as exchange student) |

## Other activities

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 2022 -      | <b>Member of the Senate of the Bloxberg Association</b> , an academic blockchain     |
| 2020 -      | <b>Subject Matter Expert (SME) for EuroDig</b>                                       |
| 2020 -      | <b>ITU Study Group 16 Question 22</b>  |
| 2018 - 2019 | <b>Member of DIN SPEC 4997 Privacy by Blockchain Design</b>                          |
| 2018 - 2019 | <b>Member of the ITU Focus Group on Application of Distributed Ledger Technology</b> |
| 2017 -      | <b>Member of the board of entscheidungs.ch</b> , Berne, Switzerland                  |
| 2014 -      | <b>Member of the board of EDV-Gerichtstag</b> , Saarbrücken, Germany                 |

## Publications and Presentations (a selection)

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|--|---|---|
| EuroDig  | <i>A Decade of Human Rights</i>   | <a href="#">EuroDig</a>   |
| Zeitschrift für vergleichende Rechtswissenschaft   | <i>Kryptowerte und der Datenschutz</i>  | ZVglRWiss 2023, 338   |
| UN today   | <i>How quantum computing will impact UN organizations</i><br>Erbguth/Schörling/Kovac/Pavuna   | <a href="#">UNtoday #830 June 2023, 34</a>  |
| Neue Juristische Wochenschrift (NJW)   | <i>Bonitätsscores, DSGVO und KI</i> Erbguth/Wenning   | NJW 15/2023   |
| Neue Juristische Wochenschrift (NJW)   | <i>Regulierung einer Risikotechnologie</i>  | <a href="#">NJW 46/2022</a>   |
| Editorial Zeitschrift für Datenschutz (ZD)   | <i>“Fruit of the poisonous tree”-Doktrin im Datenschutz?</i><br>Erbguth/Stepanova   | <a href="#">ZD 2022, 249</a>  |
| Gruppe. Interaktion. Organisation, Zeitschrift für Angewandte Organisationspsychologie (GIO) | <i>Co-creating innovation for sustainability</i><br>Erbguth/Schörling/Birt/Bongers/Sulzberger/Morin                                 | <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11612-022-00619-8">doi.org/10.1007/s11612-022-00619-8</a> |
| INATBA / CLI   | <i>Blockchain for Climate Action and the Governance Challenge, A Joint Report from CLI and INATBA</i>                               | <a href="#">5/2021</a>  |
| Token World Conference   | <i>What does the MICA regulation offer in terms of privacy?</i>   | <a href="#">online 4/2021, publication end of 2021</a>                                      |
| Distributed Ledger Meetups, ITU  | <i>DLT standardization: ITU-T standards and the way forward</i>   | online, 12/2020   |
| Geneva Trade Week, WTO   | <i>How can Blockchain help alleviate the impact of COVID-19 on supply chains?</i>   | online, 9/2020  |
| WSIS-Forum, ITU  | <i>The use of Decentralized Identities (DIDs) in development projects</i>   | online, 8/2020  |
| ReMeP  | <i>Tools for Contract Negotiations</i>  | online, 6/2020  |
| EDV-Gerichtstag  | <i>Virtuelle Verhandlungen vor Gericht</i>  | online, 6/2020  |
| Bloxberg Summit  | <i>GDPR-compliant Verification of Academic Titles using Blockchain</i>  | online, 6/2020  |
| Legal Revolutionary (LR)   | <i>Datengewerkschaften - Eine Lösung für das Einwilligungsdilemma?</i>  | <a href="#">LR 2020, 145-155</a>  |
| ITU Regional Cybersecurity Forum for Europe and CIS  | <i>A high-level discussion on hot issues in Cybersecurity in relation to emerging technologies including blockchain, AI and IoT</i> | Sofia, 2/2020   |
| SAC Conference, Brno, Czech Republic   | <i>Self-Sovereign Identity on Public Blockchains and the GDPR</i>   | <a href="#">Online, 4/2020</a>  |
| World Economic Forum   | <i>Valuing natural capital to combat climate change</i>   | Davos, 1/2020   |
| Geneva Blockchain Congress   | <i>E-Identity and E-Voting</i>  | Geneva, 1/2020  |
| Chaos Computer Club Conference 36C3  | <i>Datengewerkschaften im Kampf gegen Facebook, Google &amp; Co.</i>  | Leipzig, 12/2019  |
| Datenrecht in der Digitalisierung (Book)   | <i>Bitcoin/E-Geld/Virtuelle Währungen</i>   | ESV, 12/2019  |
| UN Internet Governance Forum   | <i>How can DLT foster the SDGs?</i>   | Berlin, 11/2019   |
| Conference on Blockchain & GDPR  | <i>Conference Organizer</i>   | Berlin, 11/2019   |
| Convergence  | <i>Legally, technically or both? How to address the conflict between blockchain technology and the GDPR.</i>                        | Malaga, 11/2019   |
| Blockchain Forum 2019  | <i>Panel on International Perspectives for Blockchain Regulation</i>  | Lisbon, 11/2019   |
| ICDPPC   | <i>The Blockchain Solution: Data Sharing for a Better Protection</i>  | Tirana, 11/2019   |
| Zeitschrift für IT-Recht und Recht der Digitalisierung (MMR)                                 | <i>Wann sind kryptografische Hashwerte von personenbezogenen Daten selbst wieder personenbezogene Daten?</i>                        | <a href="#">MMR 2019, 654</a>   |
| EDPL 3/2019 p. 427 (Journal)   | <i>Five Ways to GDPR-Compliant Use of Blockchains</i>   | <a href="#">10/2019</a>   |
| Informatik 2019 (Conference proceedings)   | <i>Smart Contracts und die DSGVO</i>  | <a href="#">Kassel, 9/2019</a>  |
| Blockchain 4 Impact  | <i>Co-Organizer, Panelist and Co-Author</i>   | UN, Geneva, 9/2019  |
| OECD Global Blockchain Policy Forum  | <i>Panel on Decentralized Identity and Privacy</i>  | Paris, 9/2019   |
| IT-Rechtsberater (ITRB)  | <i>Einsatz maschinellen Lernens in der Justiz: Ethische und technische Aspekte</i>  | <a href="#">ITRB 2019, 160</a>  |
| DuD 2019 - Datenschutz und Datensicherheit   | <i>Die DSGVO als Showstopper der Blockchain-Technologie?</i>  | Berlin, 6/2019  |
| WSIS 2019  | <i>Blockchain &amp; GDPR</i>  | Geneva, 4/2019  |
| Landtag Dresden  | <i>Sachverständigenvortrag zum Gesetz zur Neuordnung der Informationssicherheit im Freistaat Sachsen</i>                            | Dresden, 4/2019   |
| Neue Juristische Wochenschrift (NJW)   | <i>Trifft die DS-GVO die Falschen?</i>  | <a href="#">NJW 3/2019</a>  |
| ICSESS (Conference proceedings)  | <i>Towards Governance and Dispute Resolution for DLT and Smart Contracts</i>  | Beijing, 11/2018  |
| Blockchain and Bitcoin Conference  | <i>Blockchain &amp; GDPR</i>  | Geneva, 10/2018   |
| Universität Neuchâtel  | <i>Smart contract et blockchain</i>   | Neuchâtel, 9/2018   |
| Swiss Legal Tech Conference  | <i>GDPR-compliant use of Blockchains</i>  | Zurich, 9/2018  |
| Universität Freiburg i.Br.   | <i>Echte Transparenz bei Smart Contracts</i>  | <a href="#">Freiburg i.Br., 7/2018</a>  |
| EU Blockchain Observatory  | <i>Panel on GDPR and Blockchain</i>   | Brussels, 6/2018  |
| Deutsche Richterzeitung (DRiZ)   | <i>Juristische Entscheidungen nach maschinelltem Bauchgefühl</i>  | <a href="#">DRiZ 2018, 130</a>  |