

OPENING SPEECH OF CO-CHAIR DR. ASAF VAROL

Distinguished President, Distinguished Dean, Dear colleagues, Members of the press, and Esteemed participants who are here or following this opening ceremony remotely from different countries, welcome to the 11th International Symposium on Digital Forensics and Security.

We are proud to organize this event 11 consecutive years. While we gather in the USA this year, previously we held this event 5 times in Turkey, once in Romania, once in Portugal, once in Lebanon and 2 times in the United States. Also, this event has been supported by IEEE since 2016 and the papers presented at the symposium are published by IEEE Xplore, one of the largest digital libraries in the world.

This year's event has two most important stakeholders. One is The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and the other is the IEEE Education Society. There is a consortium behind this important event. There are universities and associations from different countries and there are you that help us to bring your expertise working in the field of computer science, especially cyber security, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and robotics, to exchange ideas and to encourage to do joint projects.

With your permission, I would like to read to you the names of universities and associations in the ISDFS consortium. From Lebanon Arab Open University, From Turkey: Association of Software and Cyber Security of Turkey, The Informatics Association of Turkey, Firat University, Gazi University, Hacettepe University, Maltepe University, Ondokuz Mayıs University, Osmangazi University, Yildiz Technical University, From Portugal Polytechnic Institute of Cavado and Ave, From the USA Sam Houston State University, San Diego State University, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, from Serbia Singidunum University, from Canada TELUQ University and IEEE Education Society.

May we please applaud the consortium members for their support of this event?

Here we are growing every year because we were able to establish an excellent relationship with these stakeholders at the ISDFS event, and our international recognition is increasing year by year.

In achieving this success, we have UTC President Dr. Angle, Provost Dr. Hale, and Dean Dr. Pack. We have colleagues who have taken part in the organization, especially the Head of the department, Dr. Nasab who is the Co-Chair of this event. There are Ms. Anderson, Ms. Jackson, Ms Waldrep. Dozens of experts who reviewed the papers. Most importantly, we have students.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the symposium for coming to this day for their support.

But if you allow me, I would also like to thank two people especially. These are Dr. Karabatak and Dr. Cihan. With their inexhaustible energy, they worked day and night and played an important role in our success.

I want to thank to our keynote speaker, AISHWARYA ASESH, for his speech about **“How Artificial Intelligence Driven Anomaly Detection can help the Data Security.”** This symposium has a workshop **“2nd Workshop on Applications of Artificial Intelligence for Society”**. This workshop is organized by Dr. Lopes and Dr. Gonçalves, from Portugal. Thank you for your support.

If I may, I would like to enumerate the countries delivered in this symposium. Papers came from 20 countries: Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Canada, China, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Lebanon, Netherlands, Philippines, Portugal, Russia, Rwanda, Serbia, South Korea, Taiwan, Tanzania, Turkey, and the USA.

This symposium is being held both in person and online. Our symposium program is on our website. Changes are made to the program from time to time. Therefore, please follow the current program on our website.

After the papers are presented, they will be sent to IEEE for indexing, and you will soon see your papers published in the IEEE Xplore digital library.

As I end my speech here, I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the symposium and wish them success. Thank you! 11.05.2023

Dr. Asaf Varol