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DECaDE

Centre for the Decentralised Digital Economy

January Newsletter

Wishing you a Happy New Year!

You're invited...



Join us for a high-impact, in-person symposium hosted by the Centre for the Decentralised Digital Economy (DECaDE), bringing together leading voices shaping the future of the decentralised digital world.

25 March 2026 | 9:00–17:30
The Royal Society, London
Free Event – Open to All
Complimentary lunch, refreshments & drinks reception

What to expect:

- ◆ Keynote address from [The Lord Holmes of Richmond MBE](#)
- ◆ Insightful panels and lightning talks
- ◆ Live demos, research posters, and hands-on discussions
- ◆ High-value networking with experts across sectors
- ◆ The launch of innovative technologies with real-world impact

Key themes include:

- ◆ Supply Chain & Digital Trade Borders
- ◆ Authenticity & Copyright in the Creative Industries
- ◆ Digital Reputation & Identity
- ◆ Policy Research & the Future Digital Economy

Don't miss out on meaningful discussions and connections that could shape tomorrow's technological landscape!

[Register here](#)

DECaDE Director Highlights Media Provenance to address AI and Copyright Challenge

DECaDE – The Centre for the Decentralised Digital Economy – welcomed the focus on transparency, provenance, and creator agency during the [House of Lords Communications and Digital Select Committee's latest inquiry on AI and copyright](#).

Professor [John Collomosse](#), Director of DECaDE, appeared before the Committee on 9 December 2025 to give expert witness testimony on technical approaches that enable creative rightsholders to meaningfully reserve and enforce their rights in relation to AI systems.



[Read more](#)

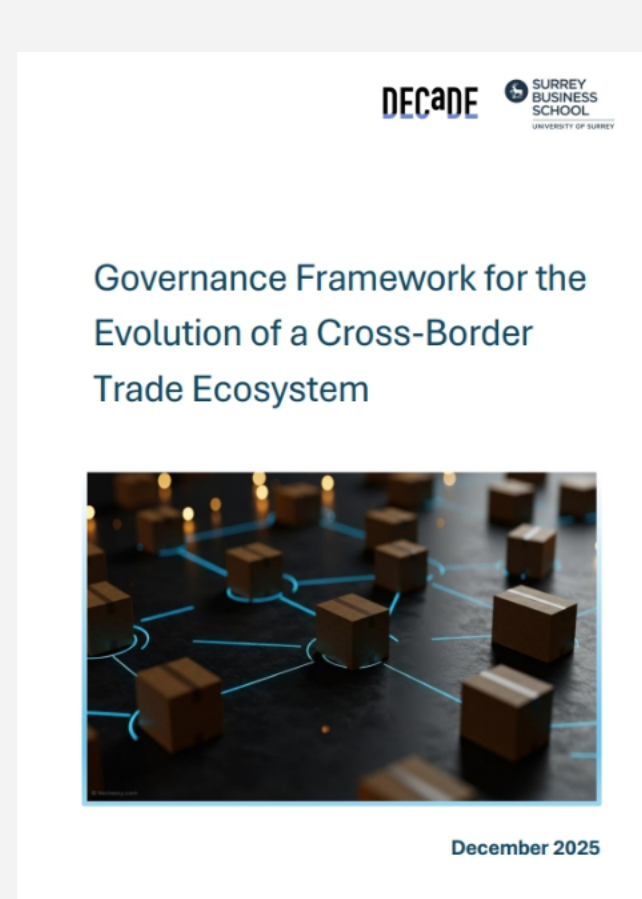
DECaDE publishes new framework to evolutionise UK Government's cross border system

Researchers from the Centre for the Decentralised Digital Economy at the University of Surrey, have released a white paper proposing a collaborative governance framework to help government and industry work together in shaping the evolution of the UK's digital border.

"The UK has already taken important steps toward a modern digital border. Our aim is to provide a framework that help bring policy, technology and operational realities into closer alignment. Strong collaboration will ensure the UK continues to lead internationally in digital trade."

Michael Brookbanks,
Surrey Business School

The report, "[Governance Framework for the Evolution of a Cross-Border Trade Ecosystem](#)," led by [Michael Brookbanks](#) FLET from Surrey Business School provides practical guidance to complement existing Government strategies aimed at creating a more efficient, resilient and trusted cross-border digital trade environment.



[Read more](#)

DECaDE presents at BMVC 2025

DECaDE research featured prominently at the [British Machine Vision Conference \(BMVC\) 2025](#), held from 24–27 November, one of the UK's leading international conferences in machine vision and image processing.

A highlight of the programme was the presentation of *"ImProvShow"* by former DECaDE PhD student [Alexander Black](#), developed in collaboration with Professor [John Collomosse](#) and Jing Shi and Yifei F. at Adobe Research.

The work introduces a novel AI-based approach to summarising the provenance and edit history of digital images, generating concise, human-readable explanations from both C2PA metadata and visual signals.

In addition, DECaDE Director Professor John Collomosse delivered a keynote at the *Privacy & Fairness in AI for Computer Vision (PFATCV)* workshop, exploring *Decentralised Futures for the Creative Economy* and the role of decentralised technologies in supporting trust, fairness and sustainability in AI-generated media.

DECaDE's presence at BMVC 2025 underscores its continued leadership in research at the intersection of AI, media provenance, decentralisation, and the future digital economy.

[Read the paper here](#)



Our latest research

DECaDE researchers are publishing on topics related to decentralised platforms in fields such as creative industries and cross-border supply chain.

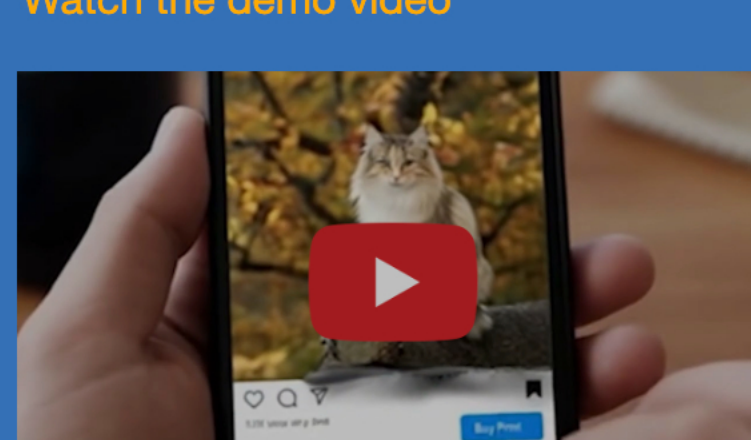
DECaDE unveils decentralised content licensing platform at CVMP

The DECaDE Centre's latest research was showcased at [CVMP 2025](#), held at the [British Film Institute \(BFI\)](#), where Research Software Developer [Junaid Awan](#) presented the first live demo of DECaDE's decentralised content licensing platform.

The work addresses a growing challenge in today's AI-driven creative economy: how to ensure copyright protection, attribution, and fair compensation for creators in the age of Generative AI. DECaDE's approach empowers creators through a decentralised media licensing platform built on open provenance and rights standards, enabling consent, control, and compensation for the use of their content.

Using the Rights, Compensation (Authenticity, Rights, Compensation) framework, the platform demonstrates how creators can manage provenance, licensing, and monetisation of their media assets on distributed ledgers, leveraging open standards such as [C2PA](#).

[Watch the demo video](#)



At the core of the system:

- ◆ Durable C2PA content credentials are embedded directly into media assets
- ◆ Credentials are linked to smart contracts enabling granular opt-in and opt-out licensing
- ◆ Value exchange, including micropayments, flows directly to creators without reliance on centralised platforms or intermediaries

This approach offers a clear and open pathway to support responsible AI and help build a fairer creative ecosystem.

[Read the full paper](#)
[Decentralised Asset Management.pdf](#)

[Read More](#)

CVMP—the 22nd ACM SIGGRAPH European Conference on Visual Media Production—brings together production and post-production professionals from film, broadcast, and games, alongside leading imaging and graphics researchers.

[Read our latest publications here](#)



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THE CENTRE FOR THE DECENTRALISED DIGITAL ECONOMY



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