

HSB - MONTPELLIER ESPORTS CONFERENCE 2026

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

(Time Zone - Hanoi Local Time, GMT+7)

Conference Day I: Hybrid Agenda - 21st May 2026 (Thursday)

Reporting location: HSB-VNU, Hanoi, Vietnam

Detailed programme schedule (Hybrid mode)

Google meet link for Day I: <https://meet.google.com/wuk-xivo-ogm>

Time (Hanoi Local Time)	Session/ Topic	Speaker(s)/ Affiliation	Mode
13:30 - 14:00	Introductory words Operational and technical introduction of the conference	Dr. Florian Lefebvre, Dr. Eric Perera, Dr. Duc Loi Vu	Online
14:00 - 14:10	Remark from HSB Head of Scientific Research and Technology Department, HSB	Hanoi School of Business and Management (HSB-VNU), Vietnam	Online
14:10 - 14:15	Remarks from Montpellier	Dr. Eric Perera <i>University of Montpellier, France</i>	Online
14:15 - 15:00	Introductory Keynote - Esports	Dr. Tobias M. Scholz <i>University of Agder, Norway</i>	Online
15:00 - 15:20	Presentation 1 (12 min talk + 8 min Q&A) <i>“The Construction of Mental Health Problem among Esports Athletes: from denunciation of (e)sports institutions to the governance of esports bodies (2016-2025).”</i>	Dr. Nicolas Voisin <i>Marie and Louis Pasteur University, Besançon, France</i>	Online & Offline (Montpellier)
15:20 - 15:40	Presentation 2 <i>“Narrative Systematic Review on the Effects of Cognitive Training on the Performance of Esports Players.”</i>	Kelvin Ing (PhD Student) <i>Brunel University of London, UK</i>	Online
15:40 - 16:00	Break	-	-

16:00 - 16:20	Presentation 3 “Multi-layer Professional Constraints Shaping the Career Sustainability of Esports Game Companions in China’s Gig Economy.”	Wenling Gou (PhD Student) - University of Montpellier, France Dr. Florian Lefebvre - HSB-VNU, Vietnam Dr. Robin Recours - University of Montpellier, France Dr. Jing Yang - Mianyang Normal University, China	Online & Offline (Hanoi)
16:20 - 16:40	Presentation 4 “Professionalism in Vietnamese eSports Tournaments: A Comparative Analysis of the Vietnam Championship Series (VCS) and Global League of Legends (LoL) Competition Systems.”	Nguyễn Thị Thuỳ Linh, Đỗ Thị Trà My, Lê Thị Linh (Students) Dr. Phan Quang Anh VNU School of Interdisciplinary Sciences and Arts (VNU-SIS), Vietnam	Online & Offline (Hanoi)
16:40 - 17:00	Presentation 5 “Does How You Play Matter More than How Much? Social context, gaming intensity, psychological wellbeing and implications for sustainable esports practices.”	Dao Tuan Duc (PhD Candidate) HSB-VNU, Vietnam	Online & Offline (Hanoi)
17:00 - 17:20	Presentation 6 “I Coach, Therefore I Am: Identifying Coaching Styles in eSports.”	Jihane El Harizi (PhD Student) Pr. Aicha Mrhari Mohammed V University of Rabat, Morocco	Online
17:20 - 17:40	Presentation 7 “‘I Try to Make Things Happen’: Women’s Journeys in Esports in MENA.”	Jihane El Harizi (PhD Student) Pr. Aicha Mrhari Mohammed V University of Rabat, Morocco	Online
17:40 - 17:50	Closing of Day 1	Dr. Florian Lefebvre, Dr. Eric Perera, Dr. Duc Loi Vu	Online

Conference Day II: Hybrid Agenda - 22nd May 2026 (Friday)

Reporting location: HSB-VNU, Hanoi, Vietnam

Detailed programme schedule (Hybrid mode)

Google meet link for Day II: <https://meet.google.com/bbr-twvb-iki>

Time (Hanoi Local Time)	Session/ Topic	Speaker(s)/ Affiliation	Mode
13:30 - 13:50	Industry Topic sharing	Darine Benamara - Esports Manager Montpellier Université Club (MUC), Montpellier, France	Online
14:00 - 14:20	Industry Topic sharing	Huy Phong - Esports Manager Dino Saigon, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	Online

14:30 - 14:50	Presentation 8 (12 min talk + 8 min Q&A) “ <i>The Missing Middle Layer: Rethinking the Public-Private Relationship in China’s Esports Governance from a Corporatist Perspective.</i> ”	Yuxin Luo (PhD Student) - Hunan Normal University, Changsha, China <i>Lu Liu (PhD Student) - Central China Normal University, Wuhan, China</i>	Online
14:50 - 15:10	Presentation 9 “ <i>The Legal Protection of Esports Players’ Health.</i> ”	Pierre-Xavier Chomiac de Sas <i>Attorney and lecturer in digital law</i>	Online
15:10 - 15:30	Presentation 10 “ <i>Is (or Could) Esports Be a Sport? Legal Perspectives.</i> ”	Pierre-Xavier Chomiac de Sas <i>Attorney and lecturer in digital law</i>	Online
15:30 - 15:50	Break	-	-
15:50 - 16:10	Presentation 11 “ <i>Esports Player Contracts - Developments and Legal Classification.</i> ”	Pierre-Xavier Chomiac de Sas <i>Attorney and lecturer in digital law</i>	Online
16:10 - 16:30	Presentation 12 “ <i>Mapping Esports Governance in Aotearoa New Zealand: An Actor-Network Theory Analysis of the Development of a National Esports Federation.</i> ”	Yago Nascimento (PhD Student) - School of Sport and Human Movement <i>Pr. Holly Thorpe - Te Huataki Waiora School of Health</i> <i>Pr. Belinda Wheaton - Te Kura Whatu Oho Mauri School of Psychological and Social Sciences</i> <i>Pr. Gareth Schott - School of Design, Media and Creative Technologies</i> <i>University of Waikato, New Zealand</i>	Online
16:30 - 16:50	Presentation 13 “ <i>From Gap-Filling to Embedded Refereeing: Role-Boundary Ambiguity, Governance Legitimacy, and Sustainability of Esports Referees Across Two Competition Contexts in China.</i> ”	Yu Fang - Guangdong Esports Association, China <i>Xuhao Huang (PhD Student) - Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau, China</i> <i>Dr. Jiaxuan Liu - Guangzhou College of Applied Science and Technology, China</i>	Online
16:50 - 17:10	Presentation 14 “ <i>Regimes of Performance: Body Discipline and Training Governance in Chinese Professional Esports Clubs.</i> ”	Yueting (PhD Student) <i>School of Physical Education & Research Center for Sport Humanities and Social Sciences, Shaanxi Normal University, China</i>	Online
17:10 - 17:30	Presentation 15 “ <i>War as Salience Shock: Geopolitical Conflicts and Demand Dynamics in Military-Themed Esports.</i> ”	Aravind Krishnan (Research Assistant) <i>Central University of Kerala '24, India</i>	Online
17:30 - 17:40	Closing remarks	Dr. Florian Lefebvre, Dr. Eric Perera, Dr. Duc Loi Vu	Online

Conference Information

Format: Hybrid (Offline & Online)

- Google meet link for Day I: <https://meet.google.com/wuk-xivo-ogm>
- Google meet link for Day II: <https://meet.google.com/bbr-twvb-iki>

Venue (Offline):

- Hanoi School of Business and Management (HSB-VNU), Hanoi, Vietnam
- University of Montpellier, France

Online platform: Google Meet (joining link will be circulated to registered participants prior to the event)

Conference Co-chairs:

- Dr. Florian Lefebvre (HSB-VNU)
- Dr. Eric Perera (University of Montpellier)
- Dr. Duc Loi Vu (HSB-VNU)

Conference webpage: <https://santesih.edu.umontpellier.fr/journee-detude/>

Special issue (Sport in Society): https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special_issues/towards-more-professionalized-and-sustainable-esports-practices/

*Note: Programme times are in Hanoi Local Time (GMT+7)
Schedule and speakers are subject to minor adjustments*