



# Digital Communication Lab for Exchange between Research and Media

## #4: Smart New Worlds: How AI, Robotics and Digitalisation Transform our Lives

5 – 6 November & 12 – 13 November 2021, Virtual Workshop

Artificial intelligence, robotics and new digital technologies are changing our lives. To which extent, benefit or at which cost is often hard to grasp for regulators, civil society and media. While transformative technologies hold great potential in medicine, industry, logistics and urban planning, hardly any other scientific field sparks so much speculation. From automated mobility to biorobots and intelligent implants: The relationship between humans and machines is full of promise, but is also marked by misunderstanding and ignorance.

Together, journalists and researchers can point out research trends and development trajectories of AI, robotics and digital innovations, assess designs and possible applications, and discuss their ethical implications. And this is not an easy task since the expectations of future technologies are high. They should have an innovative and effective impact on society and equally benefit the common good. The workshop will address future trends and the social dimensions of innovative technologies.

The programme is financed by:



# Programme

The times indicated refer to CET (Central European Time)

## 5 NOVEMBER

- 9:30      **Welcome**  
Stephanie Siewert, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation  
Martina Johns, International Journalists' Programmes
- 9:45      **Official Opening**  
Vito Cecere, Federal Foreign Office Germany  
Judith Wellen, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
- 10:15     **Meet & Mingle / Practical Exercises**
- 11:45     **Goals and Expectations**
- 12:00     Break
- 13:00     **Opening Keynote**  
Can We Trust Machines? The Social and Ethical Implications of AI  
Iyad Rahwan, Max Planck Institute for Human Development
- Profiling Human Behaviours: A Quick Journey from Robustness to Fairness in Machine Learning with Heterogeneous Sensors  
Flora Salim, RMIT University
- 14:30     Break
- 14:45     **Intervention: How Smart is Your Life?**  
Work, Education, Home, Transport, Communication
- 16:00     **Communicating Complex Ideas – How to Find Your Story?**  
Alok Jha, The Economist
- 16:30     **Match-Making Tandems**
- 17:00     **Closing**

**6 NOVEMBER**

- 10:00      **Warm-Up**
- 10:15      **Forum: Transformative Technologies and Public Well-Being**  
Social Robots as Social Agents  
Cristian Becker-Asano, Media University Stuttgart
- AI, Climate Change and Public Health  
Joacim Rocklöv, Umeå University
- Journalist Comment  
Hazel Sheffield, farnearer.org
- Discussion
- 11:30      Break
- 11:45      **Forum: Connected Living / Smart Cities**  
Hybrid Workplaces of the Next Normal  
Elisa Rönkä, Digital Market Development, Siemens
- Urban Artificial Intelligence and the End of the City  
Federico Cugurullo, Trinity College Dublin
- Journalist Comment  
Albert Steinberger, Deutsche Welle
- Discussion
- 13:00      Break
- 14:00      **Discussion: Machine Ethics**  
Kristian Kersting, TU Darmstadt
- 14:30      **Brainstorming: Potentials and Challenges of Science-Media Tandems**
- 15:00      **Tandem Work**
- 16:30      **Closing**

**12 NOVEMBER**

- 9:30      **Warm-Up**
- 9:45      **Expert Corner on Infographics and Visual Storytelling**  
Anika Nicolaas Ponder, IKEM
- 10:00     **Pool of Methods**
- 10:30     **Food for Thought: Science Communication – A Survey of Formats**  
Rebecca Winkels, Wissenschaft im Dialog
- 11:15     Break
- 11:30     **Expert Corner on Digital Formats**  
Jens Radü, Multimedia, Der Spiegel
- 12:30     Lunch Break
- 13:30     **Regional Reports**
- 14:00     **Discussion: Facts or Fiction? The Importance of High-Quality Science Reporting**  
Annegret Burkert, Science Media Center Germany
- 14:45     Break
- 15:00     **Tandem Work and Individual Mentoring**
- 16:30     **Closing**

**13 NOVEMBER**

- 10:00 Warm-Up
- 10:15 Tandem Work and Individual Mentoring
- 11:15 Break
- 11:30 Tandem Work
- 12:30 Lunch Break
- 13:30 **Pitch Your Project**  
Alok Jha, The Economist
- 14:30 **Feedback and Outlook**
- 14:45 **Closing**

**Moderator:** Anika Nicolaas Ponder, Institute for Climate Protection, Energy and Mobility (IKEM)

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