2021 Annual Report

for the Contract between GSIS Wien and Faculty of Informatics and Statistics, Prague University of Economics and Business, 0013/VŠ/2020

In the year 2021, the situation was also affected by the coronavirus pandemic and personal meetings were limited. Despite that, we worked and developed our cooperation:

- Tomáš Sigmund and Wolfgang Hofkirchner published in the field of **Transhumanism** and **AI**. In an edited volume on „Transhumanism: The Proper Guide to a Posthuman Condition or a Dangerous Idea?", co-edited by Hofkirchner [Springer 2021], Sigmund's chapter is on „Senseless Transhumanism", while Hofkirchner's contribution is on „Promethean Shame Revisited: A Praxio-Onto-Epistemological Analysis of Cyber Futures".

- In March 2021, Tomáš Sigmund, GSIS and other GSIS representatives became members and supporters of the initiative **Homeland Earth** founded by ASPR Wien. The Department of System Analysis supported the initiative, too. We took part on two subsequent meetings in 2021. Wolfgang Hofkirchner was invited to hold an online talk on "Die Verknüpfung von Globaler Citizenship, Globalem Dialog und Globaler Governance" at the ASPR Summer Academy.

- GSIS co-organized together with the IS4SI the 2021 the Summit of the International Society for the Study of Information. GSIS organized the **Digital Humanism** Workshop and Tomáš Sigmund helped with the reviewing, organization and moderation of the event. He also represented GSIS at the 5th International Conference on Philosophy of Information which was part of the IS4SI 2021 Summit. Sigmund prepared the manuscript for the Canadian journal New Explorations which was based on his speech on the IS4SI Summit, the discussions there and with the GSIS members and supporters. He also reviewed manuscripts for this journal. Preceding the workshop, Hofkirchner had written on "Digital Humanism: Epistemological, Ontological and Praxiological Foundations", published in the edited volume "AI for Everyone? Critical Perspectives" [P. Verdegem, University of Westminster Press 2021].

- In September 2021, Tomáš Sigmund took part on the conference **Discourse and Power** organised in Wittenberg by the Institute für Design Science, München. He presented a contribution on Foucault and internet which was based on the cooperation with GSIS and the common discussions.

- During Summer Semester, Wolfgang Hofkirchner taught 2 Bachelor online courses for students of Informatics at the IMC University of Applied Sciences in Krems, Austria. The topic was **Reflections on Computer Science, Society and Ethics**.

- Hofkirchner and Sigmund contributed to a festschrift for the German philosopher Rainer E. Zimmermann titled **Assoziation** (Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Berlin 2021): "Ein dritter Sprung zum Menschsein: Mensch werden!" (Hofkirchner) and "Philosophische Reflexion der Wissenschaft" (Sigmund).

For the year 2022, we are preparing papers for the annual conference of the Bloch's society and for the annual conference of the Institute für Design Science, München. We will also deepen the collaboration within the Homeland Earth.

21.2.2022

Wolfgang Hofkirchner, GSIS Wien

Tomáš Sigmund, Faculty of Informatics and Statistics, Prague University of Economics and Business