

Call for papers

Digital Humanism: How to shape digitalisation in the age of global challenges?

Online Workshop at the

International Society for the Study of Information (IS4SI) Online Summit, 12-19 September 2021*

Organisation:

Special Interest Group **Emergent Systems, Information and Society** (@IS4SI, @The Institute for a Global Sustainable Information Society (GSIS), and @Leibniz Society of Sciences to Berlin e.V. (LS)), and **Forum Computer Professionals for Peace and Social Responsibility** (FIF)

Chairs:

Wolfgang Hofkirchner, TU Wien, Vienna, Austria, GSIS, and LS

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Britta Schinzel, University of Freiburg, Germany

Tomáš Sigmund, University of Economics, Prague, Czech Republic

Modestos Stavrakis, University of the Aegean, Greece

Summit Keynote Speakers:

Julian Nida-Rümelin, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany

Rainer E. Zimmermann, Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Berlin, Germany, and Clare Hall, UK

Topic:

The current pandemic crisis is a reminder that the humankind lives in an age of global challenges. Responses require worldwide efforts to assure **survival and a better life for all**. What can we learn from the failures and successes during our performance in the COVID-19 crisis for tackling even deeper crises – **crises** regarding **how we develop** our **societies**, our **natural environment** and our **technologies**? How can we avoid passing points of no return?

How can we empower humankind to do what needs to be done? How can we shape digitalisation for mitigating and solving those crises instead of escalating them?

The **Vienna Manifesto on Digital Humanism** claims: “We must shape technologies in accordance with human values and needs, instead of allowing technologies to shape humans. Our task is not only to rein in the downsides of information and communication technologies, but to encourage human-centered innovation. We call for a Digital Humanism that describes, analyzes, and, most importantly, influences the complex interplay of technology and humankind, for a better society and life, fully respecting universal human rights.” [<https://dighum.ec.tuwien.ac.at/>]

Digital Humanism sets out for an update of humanism – the image of human beings – in times of digitalisation, aiming at promoting a **humane digitalisation**. Humane digitalisation needs to take account of the dangers that threaten humanity with extermination. It **must provide tools for mastering those global challenges**.

This workshop focusses on discussing

- the **foundations of Digital Humanism** as well as
- **steps towards its implementation** from the design to the use of information and communication technologies **for a techno-eco-social transformation** to cope with the global challenges.

Thus, contributions are welcome to bridge different disciplines from

- **social and human sciences** including philosophy, cultural sciences, political science, economics, and arts, to
 - **any field of informatics** including, in particular, artificial intelligence, robotics, cyber-physical systems, human-machine interaction, and data science
- in an inter-/transdisciplinary attempt as, for example, science and technology studies, technology assessment, future studies do.

Submissions:

Please, email

- **extended abstracts** between 300 and 500 words for intended presentations in English until the extended deadline of **15 June 2021** to office@gsis.at “re: DIGHUM”. Submissions will be reviewed according to the scope of the workshop, you will be notified soon.
- **Short papers** of around 5 pages based on accepted presentations will be published in the proceedings of the Summit. Details will be announced in due time. Publication of
- **full papers** will be considered for publication in a special issue of [New Explorations: Studies in Culture and Communication](#) after the workshop.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask the chairs under the same email address.

* The workshop is part of the IS4SI Summit 2021: <https://is4si.org>