

# Workshop (online and in person): AI Generating New Habits. Critical Reflections

We invite you to submit your abstract for the workshop AI Generating New Habits: Critical Reflections, which will take place in the framework of the IS4SI Summit 2025 in Vienna on June 2/3 2025.

AI makes our daily life safer, easier, and healthier in many aspects, but it also poses serious threats to our rights and society overall. We may say, with J. Baudrillard, that AI's societal influence includes:

**Seduction:** AI attracts and captivates us through its presence and aesthetics, focusing more on symbolic meaning than practical use.

**Fascination:** AI creates simulations that replace true meaning with superficial attraction, exerting symbolic power over users.

**Discreet Power:** AI subtly shapes behavior, attitudes, and social interactions without users fully realizing it, gradually taking control.

**Excess of Meaning:** AI generates more meaning than its practical function, creating an illusion of significance beyond its utility.

**Homogeneity:** AI blurs distinctions, creating homogeneity and standardizing behavior, which alienates us as users.

**Hyperreality:** AI blurs the line between reality and simulation, creating simulacra that reshape our perception of what is real.

These influences lead to new habits, such as:

**Over-reliance on Automation:** AI fosters dependence on automated systems for decision-making, weakening human cognitive skills and reducing self-reliance.

**Subjugation to External Guidance:** AI technologies like virtual assistants and recommendation algorithms subtly shape decisions and behavior, shifting from passive tools to controlling influences, eroding autonomy and leading to objectification.

**Inability to Solve Unscripted Problems:** As AI takes on more complex tasks, humans lose the ability to tackle unforeseen challenges independently, leading to diminished personal initiative.

**Normalization of Surveillance:** AI's reliance on data collection normalizes surveillance, blurring the line between personal and public spaces and eroding privacy, often without users' awareness.

**Loneliness:** AI increases loneliness in a big city because of easy solutions.

The diffusion of AI is often appreciated because it makes things much easier and helps save precious time. Nevertheless, there is a price to pay. AI brings big money. AI poses significant ethical, social, and legal challenges and threats to our societies.

To mention some application fields of AI: consider sex robots, which, while intended to help, could normalize harmful behaviors, create privacy and anonymity problems; the enormous amount of personal data that technology companies collect for commercial purposes; privacy violations by voice assistants and smart home devices; and the risks associated with using Google search, messaging, email, streaming apps, and health technologies.

We would like to promote an interdisciplinary discussion on these issues to reflect together on the pros and cons of AI in our daily lives.

You can submit a short abstract (max 500 words) to [irena.mostowicz@gsis.at](mailto:irena.mostowicz@gsis.at).

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