Today’s privacy concepts are based on principles that were developed for the first all-encompassing data protection acts of the 1970’s. While these concepts still coin the current data protection laws in all of Europe, they seem outdated in the digital age and it is doubtful whether they are fit for the future. Nevertheless, all these principles have been cemented in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) for the time being on a European level. For lack of alternatives, Switzerland will also follow the same path when revising its Federal Act on Data Protection (FADP).

It is against this background that a fundamental analysis of the subject privacy in an information society is needed and new concepts have to be developed. Sustainable new concepts would have to embrace the opportunities of digitalization while at the same time providing the data subjects with adequate protection.

The Center for Information Technology, Society, and Law (ITSL) at the University of Zurich addresses these questions. We start by analysing the current state of law. Stakeholders from science, business, public administration and the civil society point out whether the current concepts satisfy the existing privacy needs and whether today’s concepts are fit for the future. Following the keynotes, there will be a public discussion.

Admission is free. No registration is necessary. The event will be held in German only.
Program

6:15 – 6:25pm Introduction
Prof. Dr. Florent Thouvenin, University of Zurich, ITSL

6:25 – 7:15pm Keynotes

Scientific Research:
Prof. Dr. Mike Martin, University of Zurich
Prof. Dr. Milo Puhan, University of Zurich

Business:
Christian Drechsler, LL.M., Zurich Insurance Group

Public Administration:
Dr. Bruno Baeriswyl, Data Protection Officer, Canton of Zurich

Civil Society:
PD Dr. Simon Schlauri, Digitale Gesellschaft

7:15 – 7:45pm Panel and Public Discussion
Moderation: Prof. Dr. Florent Thouvenin