



Digital Society Initiative – June 2023



Dear interested readers, dear researchers

In this DSI News we celebrate ourselves: We have recently reached a milestone and are proud to count over 1000 researchers in our network. We are very pleased that our work has met with such great interest and look forward to more: For example, to new DSI postdocs, to a new DSI community, to many participants for a project on accessibility, to exciting events in fall 2023 and to the upcoming summer break. 😊

We hope you enjoy reading and wish you a sunny summer.

The Digital Society Initiative Team

News

THE DSI IS GROWING AND GROWING...

Milestone & a warm welcome

There is reason to celebrate: **We are now more than 1000!** Currently, exactly 1049 researchers are part of our [network](#) – including over 250 UZH professors.

We are pleased to introduce **two new members** of the **DSI Board of Directors**: **Michael Coors** and **Jean-Michel Hatt** have been contributing to the fact that all seven faculties of the University of Zurich are represented in our Board of Directors.

We also welcome **new colleagues** among our **DSI professors**, who research the causes, consequences and future scenarios of the digital transformation of society and science. We extend a warm welcome to eight new faces.



WE ARE HIRING

DSI Bridge Postdoc Call

We are looking for **researchers (PhDs)** who are at the beginning of their academic career and conduct interdisciplinary research on topics closely related to **digitalization and its impact on society**. Possible research fields include digital health, digital ethics, religion and digitalization, digital humanities, legal tech, etc.

The call offers the opportunity for a **fellowship** with a **total budget of CHF 780'000** as a **DSI Bridge Postdoc** at the University of Zurich.

Apply now or please share the information with valid candidates. The application **deadline** is **September 17, 2023**.

[To the details](#)

PARTICIPANTS WANTED

Project for accessibility in Zurich

Do you want to work for an **accessible Zurich city center**?

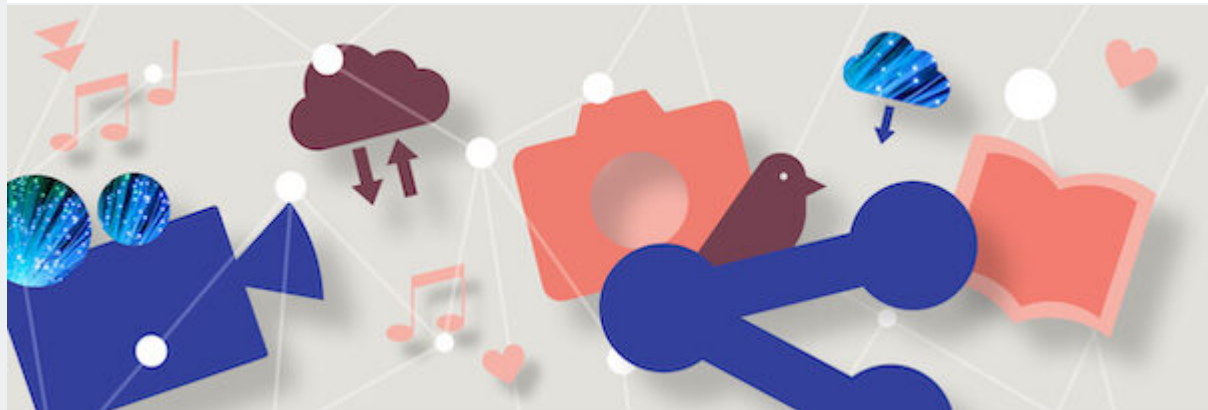
Then take part in the **ZuriACT** (Zurich Accessible CiTy) project. Together with the City of Zurich, we want to create a basis for routing services and digital maps that are a reliable orientation aid for people with limited mobility.

We are looking for **elderly people with age-related mobility impairments, parents with strollers, people with disabilities** and their **relatives** or **caregivers** to contribute their experiences with barriers and obstacles.

[Hoda Allahbakhshi](#) (DSI Bridge Postdoc) and her research team are looking forward to

your participation.

[More information](#)



DSI INSIGHTS

New Work

In recent years, especially during the Covid pandemic, **the way we work** has changed dramatically. «**New Work**» offers **flexibility**, can motivate employees and increase **productivity**. On the other hand, team **collaboration** is becoming more demanding.

DSI member **André Meyer** provides tips on these new challenges in our latest DSI Insights: «**Balance between focus work and teamwork**» (in German).

The last two Insights «[What Switzerland thinks about digitalization](#)» and «[Games between daily life and science](#)» as well as all other columns (all in German) of the past years can be found [here](#).

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

AI Week @ DSI

Anyone interested in the future of artificial intelligence (AI) and related ethical issues should mark the week of **September 18 – 22, 2023** on their agenda. That's when DSI Community Ethics will host AI Week. The event series will feature two workshops, an Apéro Philo, and a panel discussion.

AI Week is aimed at **experts from various disciplines**, such as AI researchers, ethicists, social scientists and pioneers from industry. AI Week is also the right place for those who simply want to **learn more about the ethical aspects of AI**.

More information about the event series can be found [here](#).

Infrastructures & Labs

RESEARCH AT THE DSI

Three questions on HDR

Dr. Sebastiano Caprara presents the Health Data Repository (HDR) project in a short Interview:

What is the Health Data Repository (HDR)?

With the HDR project, we aim to foster collaboration between physicians at Balgrist University Hospital and researchers in the field of medical imaging. We want to provide a secure collaborative framework that aims to capture best practices in AI development for medical imaging and provide a user-friendly interface. The vision of improved reproducibility aims to accelerate the pace of clinical translation.

Who provides the data for the platform?

Initially, the imaging data for this project will come from research datasets collected at Balgrist University Hospital. We are in the process of aligning this project with other initiatives such as the LOOP BMI platform, where data from the University Hospital Zurich will eventually be found.

How does research or even medical practice benefit from the HDR?

Thanks to the software framework, we aim to accelerate the iteration cycle between AI development in medical imaging and clinical use by physicians. One example is the three-dimensional results of image segmentation (so called anatomical digital twins), which can be visualized and corrected by physicians on the same platform. In this way, the corrected data is directly available to researchers and can be used to improve the performance of segmentation models.

You can find out more about Dr. Sebastiano Caprara and HDR [here](#).

DSI COMMUNITY MOBILITY

UZH Innovathon 2023: The Digitalization of Mobility

The course and open innovation format «UZH Innovathon: The Digitalization of Mobility», developed by DSI Community Mobility together with the UZH Innovation Hub, will take

place again **in fall 2023**.

Master's and doctoral students from all UZH faculties are invited. Students will discover the interdisciplinary nature of digitalizing mobility, be equipped with an innovation handbook, and – guided by experienced facilitators and researchers – develop **creative solutions to real challenges**.

Interesting for you or someone in your environment? You can find more information [here](#).



NEW COMMUNITY IN FORMATION

DSI Community Digital Humanities

A group of DSI researchers is currently working to establish a new DSI Community. The **DSI Digital Humanities Community** will focus on the various opportunities and challenges of interdisciplinary research at the **intersection of technology and the arts and humanities**.

The goal of the community is to bring together a diverse group of researchers exploring digital methods in areas such as historical and textual data analysis, geospatial humanities, cultural heritage, digital cultural studies, art and image analysis, performance and exhibition practices, agency and creativity, and other related fields.

If you are interested in helping to shape a new DSI community from the ground up, or if you have questions about the project, please email DSI Postdoc [Eva Cetinić](#).

Digital Policy Alert

Regulation of the digital economy is increasingly complex. The number of national regulations is growing in an uncoordinated way, due to a lack of international standards and organizations monitoring regulatory approaches. The **Digital Policy Alert (DPA)** seeks to close the evidence gap on digital regulation – with public, transparent and timely documentation on policy and enforcement developments.

For more information on the project by DSI member Tommaso Giardini and his team, click [here](#).



DSI MANAGING OFFICE

Summer break

Hooray, summer is here. We are enjoying the sun and taking a break.

Our office at Rämistrasse 69 in Zurich will be closed **from July 24 to August 4**.

We wish you a sunny summer.

23.06.

Entwicklung und Marketing von Games

«Entwicklung und Marketing von Games aus der Perspektive Schweizer Entwicklungsstudios» with Philomena Schwab, co-founder of the indie studio Stray Fawn.

An event of the series «Games in Context».

[More information](#)

24.06.

Paperprototyping

In this short workshop, participants try out how to get from a game idea to the first playable prototype.

An event of the series «Games in Context».

[More information](#)

06.07.

Cyber-Defence Campus

«Cyber-Defence Campus: Working Together To Strengthen Switzerland's Cybersecurity»: Keynote by Bernhard Tellenbach of armasuisse.

An event organized by CyrenZH.

[More information](#)

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