



Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>

Digital Society Initiative (DSI)

# Digital Society Initiative – August 2022



Dear interested parties, dear researchers

A festive ceremony, less CO<sub>2</sub>, machine learning, cyber attacks, primates and artificial intelligence. We continue with 16 million Swiss francs, ethical data economy, the money of the future, a deadline that is approaching in giant steps, and a «Save the Date».

This is the wide-ranging mix of topics in our DSI News at the end of the 2022 heatwave summer.

We hope you enjoy the reading.  
The Digital Society Initiative team

## News

**EXCELLENCE PROGRAM (PHD)**

### **Congratulations**

We congratulate the **PhD students** of the **first cohort** of our **Excellence Program** on their successful graduation.

After a festive **ceremony** with laudations by the two DSI directors Abraham Bernstein and Florent Thouvenin, we celebrated with barbecue, wine, beer and music.



## REDUCING CO2 EMISSIONS

### New conference format

The DSI hosted a **European Hub** for a **conference** held in **Australia** in mid-June. In the [video](#), organizer and DSI postdoc Mario Angst, talks about his experience with this new format and how it helps to **reduce** researchers' individual **CO2 emissions**.

## NEW EDUCATIONAL OFFER OF THE DSI

### Machine Learning

Together with the School for Transdisciplinary Studies (STS), the DSI is launching the course **«Machine Learning – an Interdisciplinary Introduction»** in the coming semester.

The course offers an **introduction** to and **reflection** on **machine learning** (ML) from the perspective of different disciplines. **Master students** will learn about basic methods that are summarized under the term ML and understand their potential, limitations and suitability for different types of problems.



## The deadline is approaching in giant steps

The **application deadline** for our DSI Bridge Postdoc Call is **September 18, 2022**.

A **fellowship** as a DSI Bridge Postdoc at the University of Zurich – with a total budget of **CHF 770,000** – is offered.

Therefore, apply now at the latest or share with valid candidates. Thank you very much. **Detailed information** can be found [here](#).

### EVENT OF THE DSI COMMUNITY ETHICS

## Ethics & data economy

Today, many are demanding that companies **deal ethically with data and algorithms**. But what exactly does ethics bring to a **sustainable data economy**? And how can data ethics be integrated into a company's culture and processes?

The **DSI Community Ethics**, together with **economiesuisse** and the **data innovation alliance**, invites you to explore these questions in depth. (The event will be held mainly in German)

On **September 29, 2022 from 4 pm** at the premises of DSI at Rämistrasse 69 in Zurich. **Register** [here](#).

### TA-SWISS & ZB

## Calls for tender

TA-SWISS is inviting tenders for a study on the topic of **«Digital currency»**. The interdisciplinary study will assess the opportunities and risks of new virtual forms of money.

Project outlines can be submitted until **November 4, 2022**.

With **Willy Bretscher Fellowships**, the Zentralbibliothek Zürich (ZB) supports researchers who pursue a digital humanities approach in their project, set a temporal focus on the 20th century, and draw on holdings or data from the the Zentralbibliothek Zürich.

Applications can be submitted until **September 30, 2022**.



## DSI GENERAL MEETING 2022

### Save the Date

The next **DSI General Meeting** will be held on **November 10, 2022**.

All **regular members** of the DSI will receive a **personal invitation** before the event.  
You are not yet a member of the DSI? Click [here](#) to register.

For those who can't wait until November. [Here](#) you can find presentations and minutes of the last years.

## Events

### 07.-09.09.

#### To trust or not to trust

The workshop «To trust or not to trust: When should AI be allowed to make decisions?» is organized by the DSI together with the College of Humanities of EPFL and the Swiss AI Lab IDSIA USI-SUPSI.

[More information](#)

### 07.-08.09.

#### Creative Economies Forum 2022

«Futures Skills – Future Now»

An event of the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK), held at the Toni Campus Zurich.

[More information](#)

**14.09.-25.10.**

## **Innovathon Fall '22: The Digitalization of Mobility**

A collaboration between the [DSI Community Mobility](#) and the cluster «Digital Innovation» of the UZH Innovation Hub. With the three practice partners «IKEA», «Mobility» and «TCS». The offer is aimed at Master and PhD students.

[More information](#)

**20.09.**

## **«Grosse» und «kleine» Daten in Schule und Gesellschaft**

An event in the series «Digitaler Wandel in Schule und Gesellschaft», organized by the Zurich University of Teacher Education (PHZH).

[More information](#)

**27.09.**

## **Introduction in QGIS Cloud**

An introductory workshop to the QGIS Cloud platform, where self-created, professional maps as well as geodata can be published. The workshop is organized by the [DSI GIS Hub](#).

[More information](#)

**28.09.**

## **Lecture Serie «Digital Worlds»**

First event of the second Campus Oerlikon lecture series. This year's topic is «Digital Worlds: Research on Digitalization and Digitalized Research».

[More information](#)

[More information](#)

29.09.

## Ethics & data economy

«Ethik und Datenwirtschaft – wie passt das zusammen?»  
The [DSI Community Ethics](#), together with [economiesuisse](#) and the [data innovation alliance](#), invites you to explore this question in depth.

[More information](#)

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