



**Universität  
Zürich** <sup>UZH</sup>

Digital Society Initiative (DSI)



Dear interested, dear researchers,

Autumn has arrived, the days are getting shorter – unlike our DSI News. In this edition, we explore how artificial intelligence can be used in psychotherapy and discuss legal questions that arise in the context of workplace digitalization.

We are also delighted to welcome two new DSI professors and a new cohort of doctoral students in the DSI Excellence Program. And once again, there's a whole range of exciting events inviting you to think, engage, and exchange ideas.

Enjoy the read.

Your Digital Society Initiative team

## News

## AI in Psychotherapy

In the [latest column of the series «DSI Insights»](#) (in German), philosopher and ethicist **Jana Sedlakova** asks what role dialogue-based **artificial intelligence (AI)** should play in **mental healthcare** – and offers a clear recommendation.

In the column series «DSI Insights» the DSI showcases its **expertise** and **interdisciplinarity** on topics of **digital transformation**. The columns by authors from the DSI network appear in the online magazine «Inside IT».

[Read all «DSI Insights» \(in German\)](#)

# Genial digital?

UZH

Antworten von der  
Digital Society Initiative (DSI)



## The Future of Work: Digitalization of the Workplace from a Legal Perspective

The DSI podcast «**Genial digital?**» offers answers to key questions of digital transformation. In its first episodes – produced in collaboration with the **DSI Community Work** – the podcast focuses on the future of work.

The fourth episode explores how digitalization is changing the workplace. How far may employers **monitor** their staff? Must every employee be **constantly reachable** via phone and computer? Podcast host **Milena Ragaz** talks with DSI member and labor-law professor **Prof. Dr. Roger Rudolph** about the future of work from a legal perspective – and where changes to current laws may be sensible in light of digitalization.

[All episodes of «Genial digital?» \(in German\)](#)



## DSI PROFESSORS

# Welcome, Anastasiia and Martina

We're pleased to welcome two new DSI professors. [Prof. Dr. Anastasiia Koloskova](#) is Assistant Professor of «**AI (Artificial Intelligence) and Optimization**» with tenure track. [Prof. Dr. Martina Pons](#) is Assistant Professor of «**Econometrics in the Digital Age**».

A warm welcome to Anastasiia and Martina – we wish you every success and much enjoyment in your new roles.

[To all DSI professorships](#)

## PARLDIGI MASTERCLASS

# Conclusion of the Series at the Federal Parliament in Bern

The event «Blick in die Zukunft: Quantentechnologie und digitale Transformation» marked the conclusion of the Parldigi MasterClass 2024/25 for members of the **National Council and the Council of States** on 8 September 2025.

The series began a year earlier, on 9 September 2024. Over five events, members of both chambers of parliament were able to deepen their knowledge of digital topics in a neutral setting. The themes – presented by experts directly at the Federal Palace – included not only **quantum technology** but also **disinformation, digital sovereignty, sustainability and digitalization**, and a **programming crash course**.

[More on the Parldigi MasterClass 2024/2025](#)



## DSI EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

### A new cohort takes off

With a **bootcamp** in the first week of September 2025, a **new cohort** started the DSI Excellence Program. We wish the **18 PhD students** every success and lots of enjoyment over the next two years.

As a **complementary curriculum** to a doctoral program or discipline, the **DSI Excellence Program** prepares students from all fields for an environment in which **interdisciplinary collaboration** on digitalization topics is top priority.

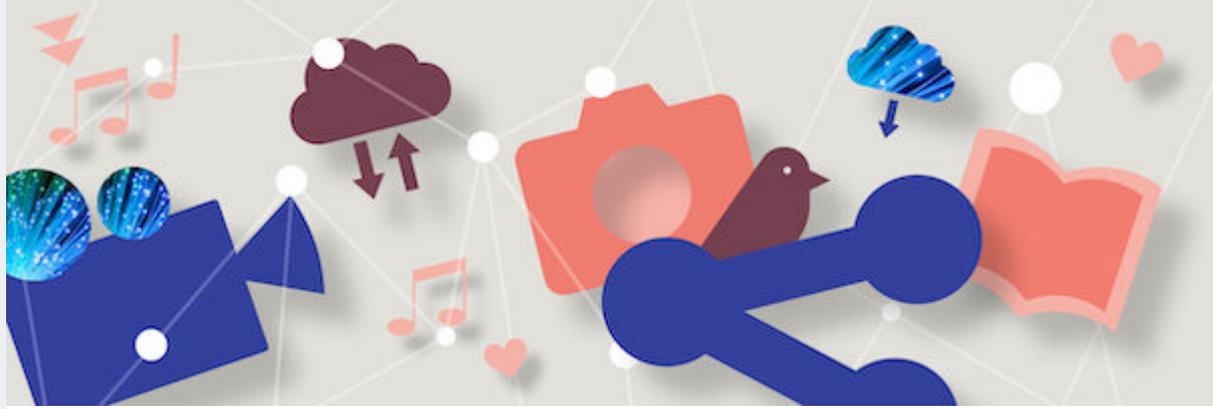
## NEW INITIATIVE

### UZH.ai gets rolling

You may have heard the name **UZH.ai** in recent weeks and wondered what lies behind it. UZH.ai is a **cross-faculty initiative** that bundles and advances all AI-related activities at the University of Zurich – a place where **research, teaching, events, and communities** come together.

UZH.ai is still at an early stage but is now gaining momentum, recently presenting itself to an interested audience at the **AI+X Summit on 2 October 2025**.

The **DSI supports** UZH.ai in its build-up, including the creation of the website. Want to stay informed? Visit the **UZH.ai website** and follow UZH.ai on **LinkedIn**.



## FOLLOW US

### The DSI on LinkedIn

Would you like to receive more regular updates on the **activities** of the **Digital Society Initiative**? Join more than 5 000 people and follow us on [LinkedIn](#). There you'll find near-daily **news and event recommendations** from across the DSI network.



## MORE NEWS IN BRIEF

### DSI Shorts

In this section, we highlight **more news** from the DSI universe:

- DSI researcher **Dr. Ning Wang** is [featured in the report «Top 100+ Women in AI+Data in Switzerland»](#), and thus, according to the editors, ranks among the 100 most influential women in the field of artificial intelligence and data in Switzerland. Congratulations!
- We also extend our congratulations to three other DSI members on [their promotions](#): **Aniko Hannak**, **Titus Neupert**, and **Markus Christen**.
- The public lecture series [«Artificial Jurisprudence!?»](#) examines the impact of artificial intelligence on legal scholarship. Several **lectures by DSI members** are part of the series.
- The Centre for Digital Health Interventions is organizing the [7th Scale-IT-up Workshop](#) from 2–3 March 2026 in Marbella, Spain. The organizers **invite submissions until 20 November 2025**.

# Events

**17.10**

## **DSI Community AI & Law – Fall Meeting**

An event by the DSI Community AI & Law, where research activities and upcoming events are discussed and participants can network.

[More information](#)

**21.10.**

## **DSI Community Education: Plenary Meeting «Vielen Dank»**

An event of the DSI Community Education to celebrate achievements, shape future goals, and make new connections in a relaxed atmosphere.

[More information](#)

**21.10.**

## **Zürcher GLAM-Community Meeting**

An event of the University Library Zurich with support from the DSI Community **Libraries**, bringing together experts from Zurich's GLAM institutions to exchange ideas on new datasets, digital humanities, and generative AI.

[More information](#)

**21.10 –  
09.12.**

## **Wie Digitalisierung und Künstliche Intelligenz unsere Gesellschaft verändern**

A lecture series by the Department of Media Change & Innovation (IKMZ) in cooperation with the Center for Information Technology, Society, and Law (ITSL), exploring how digitalization and AI are shaping social change.

[More information](#)

**30.10.**

## **AI, Culture & Society Reading Group – Fall 2025**

The DSI Community AI, Culture & Society discusses the societal impact of artificial intelligence through selected readings, highlighting the contribution of the humanities.

[More information](#)

**30.10.**

## **KI-Regulierung in der Schweiz – Zwischen Freiheit und Verantwortung**

An event by the Paulus Akademie in cooperation with the AI Startup Center and the Forum Kirche & Wirtschaft, discussing the opportunities and challenges of AI regulation in Switzerland between economic freedom and ethical responsibility.

[More information](#)

**30.10. –  
01.11.**

## **Hackathon on Crisis Apps**

A hackathon organized by the research project «Government as a Platform», where students collaborate with experts to develop innovative apps for digital crisis management and to strengthen societal resilience.

[More information](#)

**31.10.**

## **«Datenökosystem Schweiz» – a new funding scheme for data space prototypes**

An online event, where Felix Gille, DSI postdoc and enterprise architect at the Federal Chancellery, presents the new funding program «Datenökosystem Schweiz» for prototypes of interoperable data spaces.

[More information](#)

**3.11.**

## **Von Poetologie zu Poetologie?**

A lecture in the series «Games in Context» by Dr. Bojan Perić, showing how digital games employ poetic techniques and reflect on their own medium.

[More information](#)

**6.11.**

## **Social-Media-Verbot für Jugendliche: Notwendiger Schutz oder Überregulierung?**

A Lunch & Learn event by the DSI partner organization Center for Information Technology, Society, and Law (ITSL), discussing a possible social media ban for adolescents in Switzerland.

[More information](#)

**13. –  
14.11.**

## **6th Digital Democracy Workshop**

An international workshop by the DSI Community Democracy, bringing together current research on AI, content moderation, democracy, and governance, and fostering exchange among researchers worldwide.

[More information](#)

**17.11.**

## **Quo Vadis, Philosophy of AI? Interdisciplinary Perspectives**

A workshop by the Institute of Biomedical Ethics and History of Medicine (IBME) and the DSI Community

Ethics, exploring open questions in the philosophy of artificial intelligence from an interdisciplinary perspective.

[More information](#)

**20.11.**

## **Ständetalk: Teaching, Research, and AI: Aufbruch mit Nebenwirkungen**

A panel discussion organized by the Association of Senior Researchers and Teaching Staff (VFFL).

[More information](#)

**26.11.**

## **From Hype to Reality: AI in the Study of Art & Culture**

A symposium by the DSI Community Digital Humanities on the use of AI in art and culture – from authorship and meaning to curation, preservation, and new research methods.

[More information](#)

**27.11.**

## **Talk to Your Library: AI-Powered Multimedia Discovery**

An event of the University Library Zurich, supported by the DSI Community Libraries, showing how AI-powered multimodal search systems connect text, image, and audio to make digital collections more accessible.

[More information](#)

**28.11.**

## **The Brussels Effect and Legal Transplants between the EU-Latin America's AI Policy and Governance**

A lecture by the DSI Community AI & Law with Prof. Diego Borbón on the «Brussels Effect» and how European AI regulations influence debates and legislation in Latin America.

[More information](#)

**3.12.**

## Frauen in Esports und Gaming

A lecture in the series «Games in Context» by Theresa Schaffer about the role of women in esports and gaming, presenting initiatives from the DACH region and studies promoting inclusivity in the industry.

[More information](#)

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