



**Universität
Zürich** UZH

Digital Society Initiative (DSI)

Digital Society Initiative – September 2023



Dear interested readers, dear researchers

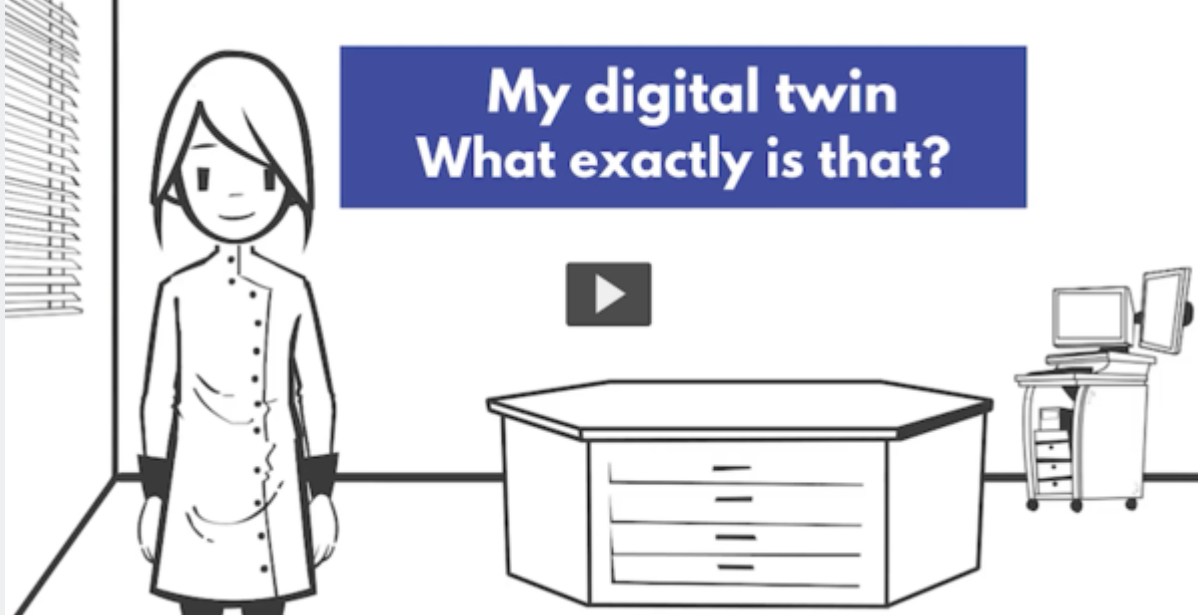
We have ventured a look into the future and are certain that digital twins will change medicine. Already today, almost two thirds of the Swiss population would like to have such a twin, as a representative survey conducted by us shows.

Other topics in this DSI News at the start of fall include: digital support for an informed election decision in October, the digital transformation in educational institutions, more inclusive mobility thanks to mobile maps, the influence of digital games on our society and the attempt to close wisdom gaps.

We hope you enjoy the reading.

The Digital Society Initiative Team

News



DSI STRATEGY LAB

Majority of Swiss want a digital twin

In the **DSI Strategy Lab**, we looked into the future and explored the **use of artificial intelligence (AI) in medicine**. In doing so, we identified the **digital twin** as an important development in medicine: The digital replicate of a human body is likely to have a major impact on healthcare in the future and will be used, for example, in prevention, diagnosis or treatment.

A **representative survey** commissioned by the DSI now shows that almost **two thirds of the Swiss population would like to have a digital twin**. We have developed recommendations – also in accordance with the wishes of the population – for dealing with this new technology. Under the following link you will find not only our position paper with these **recommendations**, but also **case studies** that are available as **teaching material**.

[Learn more about AI in medicine](#)

OCTOBER ELECTIONS

Digitalisierungsmonitor 2023

How do the candidates position themselves on digital policy issues? The **«Digitalisierungsmonitor»** for the **National Council and Council of States** elections on October 22, 2023, enables voters to identify the candidates' positions in the area of **digital policy** and thus make an **informed voting decision**.

The DSI is involved in the project as a scientific partner via the **DSI Community Democracy** and has co-financed the project.

[Click here for the «Digitalisierungsmonitor»](#)



DSI COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Research on digital education

With which **digital tools** and in which **digital environments** will we learn in the **future**? What didactic approaches does the 21st century need? And how can the **digital transformation** in **educational institutions** succeed?

The **DSI Community Education** deals with such questions. In the [video](#), community leader Sascha Schneider gives an insight into the work of the newly formed community.

[More info about the community](#)

DIZH

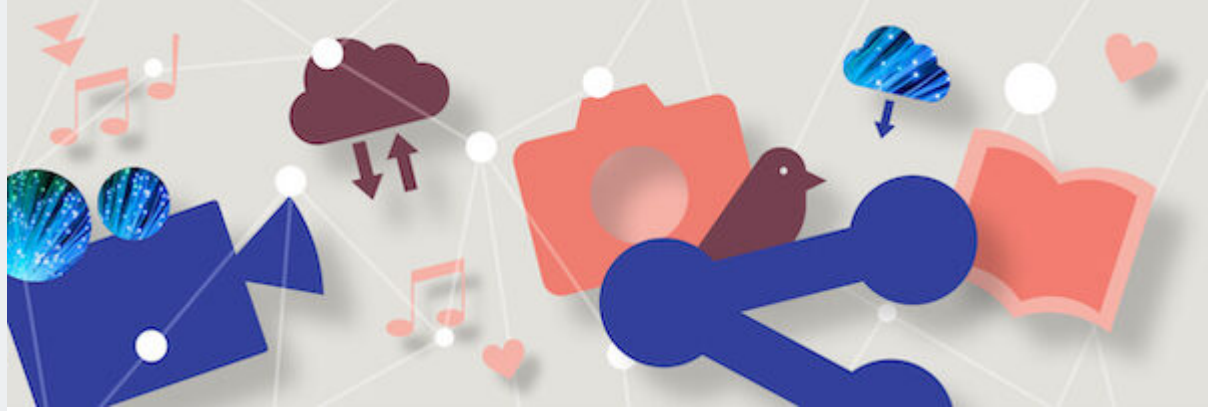
Project Call

The **3rd Project Call in the DIZH Innovation Program** promotes the processing of innovative projects through cross-disciplinary and cross-university collaboration. The goal is to find future-oriented solutions for **practical challenges** and **social issues** in the context of **digital transformation**.

This call places particular emphasis on **collaborations between universities and practice partners**. Projects with **durations of 1 to 3 years** can apply for **funding between CHF 100'000 and 300'000** from the DIZH special credit.

An **information session** for UZH members will be held online **today at noon**. ([Zoom-Link](#))

[Click here for the call](#)



DSI INSIGHTS

More inclusive mobility

Why do **map apps** look so similar and do they optimally support our **mobility**?

In the latest DSI Insights, Tumasch Reichenbacher explains how digitalization can help to make **mobile maps** more individual and thus make **mobility more inclusive**. Tumasch is Co-Leader of the [DSI Community Mobility](#) as well as Senior Lecturer and Group Leader in the Department of Geographic Information Visualization & Analysis at the Department of Geography, University of Zurich.

All DSI Insights (in German) from the last seven years can be found [here](#).

[Click here for the column \(in German\)](#)

OPEN POSITIONS

Two assistant professorships

The Department of Geography and the Department of Informatics at the University of Zurich have open positions: **two assistant professorships** (tenure track) with thematic links to digital transformation. Both professorships will be **affiliated members of the Digital Society Initiative (DSI)**.

Assistant Professorship in Cybersecurity (Tenure Track): Applications are open until **November 15, 2023**.

Assistant Professorship in Urban Analytics 50 - 100 % (Tenure Track): Applications are open until **October 22, 2023**.

GAMES

IN CONTEXT

UNTIL END OF THE YEAR

Games in Context

Since March of this year, the [DSI Community Gaming](#) has been organizing the **public event series «Games in Context»** together with the Zentralbibliothek Zürich and the Zurich University of the Arts. In this series, the increasing **influence of digital games on our society** is made visible and discussed.

Until the end of the year, you still have the opportunity to immerse yourself in this exciting world and engage with a wide variety of topics. For example:

- [Eine Ideengeschichte digitaler Horrorspiele](#)
- [Archiving Swiss Video Games](#)
- [Games als transmediale Phänomene der Populärkultur](#)
- [Immersive Trainingswelten für Körper und Kopf](#)

[All events of «Games in Context»](#)

Infrastructures & Labs

RESEARCH AT THE DSI

3 Questions about the BRIDGE Lab

Dr. Ning Wang introduces the BRIDGE Lab in a brief interview:

What is the BRIDGE Lab – in three sentences?

The BRIDGE Lab is a collaborative platform promoting research and innovation across sectors and cultures. In particular, it connects universities with industries, governments, and organizations around the conditions of successful implementation of digital innovations in Switzerland and beyond. In doing so, we strive to smoothen the path to prepare the society towards better acceptance of, and adaptation to, emerging technologies of high impact as well as its related services and infrastructure.

How does the BRIDGE Lab close the wisdom gap?

The BRIDGE lab offers an exploratory space to bridge the «wisdom gap» by addressing the challenge of «value sensitive innovation» through its strategically defined activities and a dynamic network around the global innovation community. Driven by its [Vision and Mission](#), the lab has four central pillars of expertise – research, education, consultancy, and partnership. More details about the scope, features, and involved projects of these pillars, please refer to the lab's [Service Portfolio](#).

Who specifically benefits from the Lab?

At the BRIDGE Lab, we leverage on two main avenues to generate tangible benefits for stakeholders – strategic lab publications and flagship public events, both are tailored for non-academic societal actors. One example is the summer edition of the quarterly publication series which features our first Briefing Report on «[Societal Acceptance of Urban Drones](#)», including key findings of a recent study and recommendations for implementation. Another example is the inaugural event at the lab's first anniversary «[DIAS Meets IPZ](#)», co-organized with the Canton of Zurich to support its innovation promotion efforts. More lab outputs will be produced in the coming months, we invite you to keep updated by following us on [LinkedIn](#).

Learn more about Ning Wang and the BRIDGE Lab [here](#).



DSI GENERAL MEETING 2023

Save the date

The next **DSI General Meeting** will be held on **November 2, 2023**.

All full 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.

Events

22.09.

Die politische Rhetorik des Grauens: Eine Ideengeschichte digitaler Horrorspiele

Talk with Eugen Pfister, who conducted research on the history of political ideas in digital games from April 2018 to August 2021 in his SNF Ambizione research project «Horror Game Politics».

[Workshop on the topic on 23.09.](#)

An event of the series «Games in Context».

[More information](#)

27.09.

Data protection and ethics in research

Data protection and ethics are placing ever greater demands on research practice. In «Data protection and ethics in research - from legal boundaries to practical guidance», challenges and possible solutions are examined from various perspectives.

[More information](#)

28.09.

Using GIS to tackle SDGs

How can a company, an NGO or an authority use ArcGIS tools to quantify, monitor and keep track of its progress towards a sustainable development goal (SDG)? At the DSI GIS Hub event, you will find out.

[More information](#)

28.09.

Data Technologies for the Humanities

In the field of humanities research, the expansion and use of research infrastructure is experiencing a boom. At

the «Data Technologies for the Humanities – Discover new ways to generate and work with data at UZH» event, various technology platforms will present their services which are particularly suitable for research in the humanities subjects.

The registration window closes today: sign up now.

[More information](#)

29.09.

Workshop on Escape Rooms

In this first game-based Learning Workshop, members of the DSI Gaming Community, serious game enthusiasts, and non-academic actors are invited to learn about and experience the digital and non-digital formats of escape rooms.

[More information](#)

05.10.

How civilians can help in a crisis

The DSI Community Cybersecurity, the DSI Community Democracy and CYRENTZH are collaborating on Open Source Intelligence (OSINT), citizen labs and the question, how civilians can help in a crisis.

[More information](#)

12.10.

DSI Democracy X DSI Communication meets...

Another event in the exciting «DSI Democracy meets» series. Together with the DSI Community Communication, the role of social media in the National Council elections in the fall of 2023 will be discussed.

[More information](#)

13.10.

Event DSI Education

The DSI Community Education informs about its projects and goals, Prof. Dr. Maik Beege gives a guest lecture,

and there will be a Q&A at a brown-bag lunch afterwards.

[More information](#)

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