

19-21
MARCH
2025

University of Luxembourg
Campus Belval
Maison du Savoir (MSA)



Humanities

International conference

Democracy and Youth in the Digital Age

PROGRAMME



UNIVERSITÉ DU
LUXEMBOURG



PRÉSIDENTIE DU / PRESIDENCY OF
LUXEMBOURG
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE / COUNCIL OF EUROPE
11/2024 - 05/2025

Wi-Fi Access

Network: Dig_Demo

Password: Democracy_2025

Please use the Wi-Fi to access digital resources, connect with others, and make the most of your conference experience.

Livestreamings

Opening Ceremony: <https://youtube.com/live/ltbSHT-TQH0>



Friday: <https://youtube.com/live/hqw1nfGaG1c>



Wednesday, 19 March 2025

MSA 3.500

- 12.00 Registration
- 16.00 **Ceremonial opening of the conference**
 - Wilhelmus* by **Blechensemble Harmonie Clemency**
 - Welcome: **Prof. Dr. Georg Mein**, Director of the University of Luxembourg Institute for Digital Ethics
 - Speech: **Prof. Dr. Jens Kreisel**, Rector of the University of Luxembourg
 - Address: **His Royal Highness, the Hereditary Grand Duke of Luxembourg**
 - Speech: **Stéphanie Obertin**, Minister for Research and Higher Education
 - Keynote: **His Excellency Alain Berset**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
 - Address: **Clifton Grima**, Minister of Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation (Malta)
 - Closing Words: **Claude Meisch**, Minister of Education, Children and Youth
- 17.15 Welcome reception

Thursday, 20 March 2025

6 parallel sections

- 8.30 Welcome
- 9.30 **Presentation 1**
- 10.15 **Presentation 2**
- 11.00 Coffee break
- 11.15 **Presentation 3**
- 12.00 **Presentation 4**
- 12.45 Lunch
- 15.00 **Presentation 5**
- 15.45 **Presentation 6**
- 16.30 **Presentation 7**
- 17.15 **Presentation 8**

Friday, 21 March 2025

- 9.30 Welcome
- 10.00 **Presentation and synthesis of the panels by the chairs and discussion of the results**
- 11.30 **Roundtable Discussion**
- 12.30 Final Reception

Thursday, 20 March 2025

Section 1

Fragmentation versus Participation: The Public Sphere in the Digital Age



Chair: Prof. Dr. Robin Samuel, Associate professor in Youth Studies

- 09.30

Youth, Social Media, and Democracy: The Influence of Digital Platforms on the Building of Opinions and Values.

• Dr. Hannes Käckmeister

• Laurent Langehegermann

• Dr. Sandra Biewers

University of Luxembourg
- 10.15

The Theatrical Public Sphere and Young Citizens in the Age of Climate Change and Health Crisis.

• Stephen Ogheneruro Okpadah

University of Warwick, UK
- 11.00

Coffee break
- 11.15

Silencing Falsehoods: Enhancing the EU’s Regulatory Approach to Online Gendered Disinformation.

• Valentina Golunova

Maastricht University, Netherlands
- 12.00

Access Creep: A Mixed Methods Approach Exploring Political Participation Among Adolescents in Luxembourg.

• Laurent Langehegermann

• Gilles Scheifer

• Robin Samuel

University of Luxembourg
- 12.45

Lunch break
- 15.00

Distinct Young and Old Interests? Age Differences in the Policy Preferences of Candidates and the Public.

• Clemens Nollenberger

University of Konstanz, Germany
- 15.45

Empowering Youth through Digital Sovereignty: A Framework for Political Participation in the Age of AI.

• Dr. Christian Filk

Europa-Universität Flensburg, Germany

Section 2

Parliamentary Democracy versus Activism: Techniques of Engagement



Chair: Prof. Dr. Stefan Braum, Full professor

- 09.30** Astroturfing and Legitimacy Illusion – Harming Democratic Dialogue.
• Sahajveer Baweja
University of Cambridge, UK
- 10.15** Practicing Democracy - What's There to Learn? Following Young Activists' Media Practices in Institutional Politics”
• Alice Bergholtz
Södertörn University, Sweden
- 11.00** Coffee break
- 11.15** A Laboratory for Democracy: the FreeSZFE Protest and Reimagining Youth Political Participation
• Kyle Mares
Södertörn University, Sweden
- 12.00** Social Media Algorithms and Youth Political Participation: Analysing Segmentation, Polarization, and Engagement Strategies in the Digital Age.
• Ignacio Fornaris Valls
Royal University Institute for European Studies, CEU San Pablo University, Spain
- 12.45** Lunch break
- 15.00** Antisemitism in the protest communication of Fridays For Future.
• Prof. Dr. Olaf Gätje
• Dr. Felix Böhm
University of Kassel, Germany
- 15.45** Empowering Youth Through Digital Active Citizenship Workshops: Bridging Democratic Participation and Digital Activism.
• Efe Kayra Soylu
Schwarzkopf-Stiftung Junges Europa, Berlin, Germany
- 16.30** The postdigital city as networked civics classroom: future imaginaries of a global climate strike.
• Saralie Sernhede
Maastricht University, Netherlands

Section 3

Truth versus Trust: Affective Politics after the End of Argument



Chair: Prof. Dr. Anna-Lena Högenauer, Associate professor

- 09.30** Are the Public and the Political Elite Living in the Same Information Bubble? A Comparison of Uses from an Intergenerational Perspective in Luxembourg.
• Dr. Stéphanie Lukasik
• Dr. Raphaël Kies
University of Luxembourg
- 10.15** Trump Dancing. Mimesis, Music and Politics on Social Media.
• Dr. Stefan Börnchen
University of Luxembourg
- 11.00** Coffee break
- 11.15** Fact-Checking and Opinion Making: A Crisis of Deliberation?
• Dr. Dominic Harion
University of Luxembourg
- 12.00** Language use and democracy. Language use and democracy: pedagogical implications.
• Prof. Dr Birgit Huemer
University of Luxembourg
- 12.45** Lunch break
- 15.00** The Mediality of Post-Truth: A Heterarchy of Realities in the Digital Age.
• Alexander Mellin
Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
- 15.45** New Generation, Lower Trust? Media Use and Political Trust of Dutch Adolescents.
• Prof. Dr. Marc Verboord
Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 16.30** The New Apostolic Reformation: U.S. Religious Movements and Digital Democracy.
• Dr. Andrew Mackey
Creighton University, USA

Section 4

Memory versus History: Imagined Identities and Ethical Claims



Chair: Prof. Dr. Andrea Binsfeld, Associate professor

- 09.30

I Am Fed Up with the Conflict in Ukraine: The Interplay of Young Europeans’ Crisis Memory, Social Media Use, and Their Democratic Disposition.
• Dr. Eva Tamara Asboth
• Dr. Andreas Schulz-Tomančok
Austrian Academy of Sciences & University of Vienna
- 10.15

Digital Nostalgia: PASOK’s Governmental Past as a Consumerism Utopia during the Greek Economic Crisis.
• Dr. Nikolaos Gkionis
Min. of Digital Governance, Greece Advisor at Hellenic Parliament
- 11.00

Coffee break
- 11.15

Inequalities in Youth Development: Social Origin, Developmental Tasks, and Socio-Political Attitudes in Switzerland.
• Prof. Dr. Andreas Hadjar
• Prof. Dr. Dirk Baier
University of Fribourg, Switzerland & Zurich University of Applied Sciences
- 12.00

Public Online Space and Gift Economy.
• Prof. em. Mag. Dr. phil. Marc Ries
University of Luxembourg
- 12.45

Lunch break
- 15.00

Transforming Education Through Technology: How Blockchain and Tokenization of Identity Capital Can Shift the Paradigm of Learning for Youth.
• Dr. Igor Dunayev
V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Ukraine
- 15.45

Digitization of World War II and Holocaust Remembrance in the Context of the Russo-Ukrainian War.
• Prof. Dr. Hedwig Wagner
Europa-Universität Flensburg, Germany
- 16.30

The Politics of Enjoyment and the Crisis of Deliberative Democracy.
• Assistant Prof. Oliver Kohns
University of Luxembourg

Section 5

Gaming versus Explaining? The Future of Political Education



Chair: Prof. Dr. Pedro Cardoso Leite, Associate professor in Cognitive Science and Assessment

- 09.30

Learning history through serious games - The example of „The Migrants’ Chronicles: 1892“
• Dr. Johannes Pause
• Marie-Paule Jungblut
University of Luxembourg
- 10.15

Empowering Play: Bridging Technology and Democratic Engagement.
• Irena Medina Sanchez Vilar
Fundación Cibervoluntarios, Spain
- 11.00

Coffee break
- 11.15

Gamifying Political Education: Bridging the Digital Divide.
• Prof. Dr. Andreas Hadjar
• Dr. Juliette Torabian
University of Fribourg, Switzerland
- 12.00

Holographic Historical Personalities as Democracy Teachers: Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality as Catalysts for Civic Education.
• Dr. Cringuta Pelea
Titu Maiorescu University, University of Bucharest, Romania
- 12.45

Lunch break
- 15.00

Civic Participation in the Era of Gamification and New Technologies.
• Chenet Marie Joseph Vérane
University of Luxembourg
- 15.45

School Mock Elections in the Early Digital Age: Teaching Parliamentary Democracy in 1980s-90s Britain.
• Dr. Helen Sunderland
University of Oxford, UK

Section 6

Cultures of Democracy: Political Narratives and Forms of Representation



Chair: Matjaž Gruden, Director for Democracy at the Council of Europe

09.30 Digital Democracy and Cultural Narratives: Navigating Nationalism and Representation in the Digital Age.

• Pedro Abrantes Martins

Paraná State Court of Appeals, Brazil

10.15 Web Literary Criticism and Digital Literacy: On the Fundamentals of Political Ethics in the Digital Society.

- Prof. Dr. Thomas Ernst

University of Antwerp, Belgium

11.00 Coffee break

11.15 Education for Democracy: From Communitarian Participation to Public Discourse Participation.

- Dr. Jean-Marie Weber

University of Luxembourg

- Christiane Meyers

University of Luxembourg

- Andreas Vuori

SNJ

12.00 The Crisis of Liberal Democracies.

- Dr. Harry Lehmann

University of Luxembourg

12.45 Lunch break

15.00 Digital Diplomacy in Wartime: Narrative Framing of Sexual Violence in the War in Ukraine.

- Valeria Găvoază

• Prof. Dr. Miruna Butnaru Troncotă

SNSPA Bucharest, Romania

15.45 What role do AI and disinformation play in BEE SECURE's working practices?

- Dr. rer. nat. Debora Plein

BEE SECURE/SNJ, Luxembourg

16.30 'I Believe That Democracy Is Connected to Citizenship'. Young Danes and Informed, Democratic Citizenship.

- Associate Prof. Dr. Gitte Bang Stald

University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



UNIVERSITÉ DU
LUXEMBOURG



PRÉSIDENTE DU / PRESIDENCY OF
LUXEMBOURG
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE / COUNCIL OF EUROPE
11/2024 - 05/2025