

List of Authors

Lenn Blaschke is a media artist and research associate at the Institute for Democratic Culture at Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences. His work investigates how simultaneity and instantaneity across digital and physical worlds challenge contemporary norms and values. Using VR and installations, he explores extended realities as spaces of political and cultural reflection.

Caroline Böck is a PhD researcher at the Institute for Theory and Future of Law at the University of Innsbruck. Her research focuses on several topics in European and international digital law, such as the Metaverse and platform regulation.

Dr. Julia Ebner is a Calleva Researcher at the University of Oxford and leads the Violent Extremism Lab at Oxford's Centre the Study of Social Cohesion. She also serves as Co-Executive Director at the Institute for Strategic Dialogue. Her research focuses on radicalisation, violent extremism and threats to democracy.

Dr. Jonas Fegert is Head of the House of Participation at FZI Research Center for Information Technology. At his research group at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, he investigates digital democracy, focusing on information manipulation, societal polarization, and public participation.

Jessica Galissaire is Senior Policy Researcher in the “Digital Public Sphere” programme at interface (formerly Stiftung Neue Verantwortung). During her time at French think tank Renaissance Numérique, she conducted research on virtual worlds, especially their governance, regulation and impact on fundamental rights and freedoms.

Dr. Eva Groß is Professor of Criminology and Sociology and Co-Chair of the Hamburg Institute for Interdisciplinary Research on Crime and Security (HIKS). She leads research projects in the fields of discrimination, racism and police. Her main research areas include bias-motivated crime, victimization, radicalization, empirical police research, perceptions of crime and antisemitism.

Henri Isaac holds a PhD in management sciences, and is an Associate Professor, Paris-Dauphine University, PSL Research University. He directs the Master Management Telecoms & Media. He was President of the Think Tank Renaissance Numérique” (2016–2020) and a member of National Digital Council (2018–2020). He was a member of Economic Observatory of Online Platforms (2021–2023).

Sandra Kero is a research assistant and PhD candidate at the Centre for Media, Communication and Information Research (ZeMKI). Her research focuses on long-term transformation processes in the public sphere, especially affective and activist communication and communication within fringe communities. Her PhD project examines competing futures of knowledge and contemporary metapolitical struggles.

Dr. Matthias C. Kettemann is Professor of Innovation, Theory and Philosophy of Law and head of the Department of Theory and Future of Law at the University of Innsbruck. He leads research groups at the Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society in Berlin and the Leibniz Institute for Media Research (Hans-Bredow-Institut) in Hamburg, and advises governments, the private sector, and foundations on the development and application of rules in digital constellations.

Jean-François Lucas, PhD in sociology, is the Managing Director of Renaissance Numérique. He previously worked as a consulting director, supporting local authorities and private-sector stakeholders in the development of inclusive and sustainable “smart” territories. He has also spent several years designing and managing innovative research projects at the intersection of the humanities, social sciences, engineering, and the arts.

Dr. Octavia Madeira researched Virtual Reality applications in clinical psychology before expanding her research focus on technology’s role in radicalization and extremism at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). There, she also led a project on technology assessment and gained practical experience in forensic psychology alongside her academic work. Currently, she is training as a psychotherapist.

Martin Müller is PhD researcher (pre-doc) at the University of Innsbruck, Austria. His research focuses on International and European Law, particularly in matters of digitality and cybersecurity.

Dr. Georg Plattner is a secondary school teacher of politics and English and holds a PhD in political science. Before entering the teaching profession, he conducted research at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) on the nexus of technology and radicalization. He has published on far-right parties and tech-related extremism.

Mick Prinz is a social scientist and works at the Amadeu Antonio Foundation. He heads the “Good Gaming Support” project, which deals with strategies against the extreme right in gaming. His research focuses on right-wing extremist propaganda games, modifications and other anti-democratic and democratic agitations in video game spaces.

Dr. Matthias Quent is Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Institute for Democratic Culture at Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences. He leads several research projects on education, ethics, and political culture in the context of the metaverse and extended reality. He also serves as Managing Director of Soziovista GmbH, a company specialising in analysis and consulting (www.soziovista.de).

Dr. Josephine B. Schmitt is a scientific coordinator and postdoctoral scientist at Center for Advanced Internet Studies (CAIS). Her expertise lies at the intersection of media psychology, communication sciences, media education, and science and technology studies. Her research focuses among others on the content and dissemination of hate speech and political education on the internet.

Dr. Deborah Schnabel is a psychologist and has been the director of the Anne Frank Educational Center in Frankfurt/Main since 2022.

Dr. Danielle Shanley is an Assistant Professor in the Philosophy Department at Maastricht University and a senior researcher at the Brightlands Institute for Smart Societies (BISS) in Heerlen. Dani works on interdisciplinary projects, exploring the ethics and politics of technoscience. Her research focuses on the question of responsibility in technological development and the ethical and societal implications of technological change.

Dr. Anabel Taefi is Professor of Criminology at the Police Academy of Lower Saxony, and a lecturer at the University of Hamburg. Her current research focusses on the dynamics of violent interactions and on various fields of police research (e.g. racism and discrimination, organizational sociology).

Esen K. Tütüncü is a PhD researcher at the University of Barcelona and an artist exploring human-AI collaboration, virtual embodiment, and immersive storytelling. Her work blends cognitive science, XR, and creative tech to design new forms of interaction, presence, and agency across digital and physical worlds.

Arne Vogelgesang is a performing artist focusing on politics of digital representation. With the label *internil*, and under his own name, his work has been combining documentary material, new media, fiction and immersive theatrical settings since 2005. He is currently pursuing an artistic research doctorate on virtual embodiment and desire at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna.

Sara Lisa Vogl is a Virtual Reality designer, immersive media researcher and creative technologist. As co-founder of *XR Future* and *Mindprise*, she explores how immersive technologies can expand human experience and cognition. Her work focuses on virtual embodiment, altered states of consciousness and the design of immersive, multisensory experiences. With a background in design and anthropology, she bridges scientific inquiry and creative practice to investigate the transformative potential of extended realities.

Dr. Ulrike Zähringer is a Professor of Criminology and Criminal Law at the Hamburg Police University of Applied Sciences and is founding member of the Hamburg Institute for Interdisciplinary Crime and Security Research. Her research focuses on group-focused enmity in the police force as well as on violence against children.