

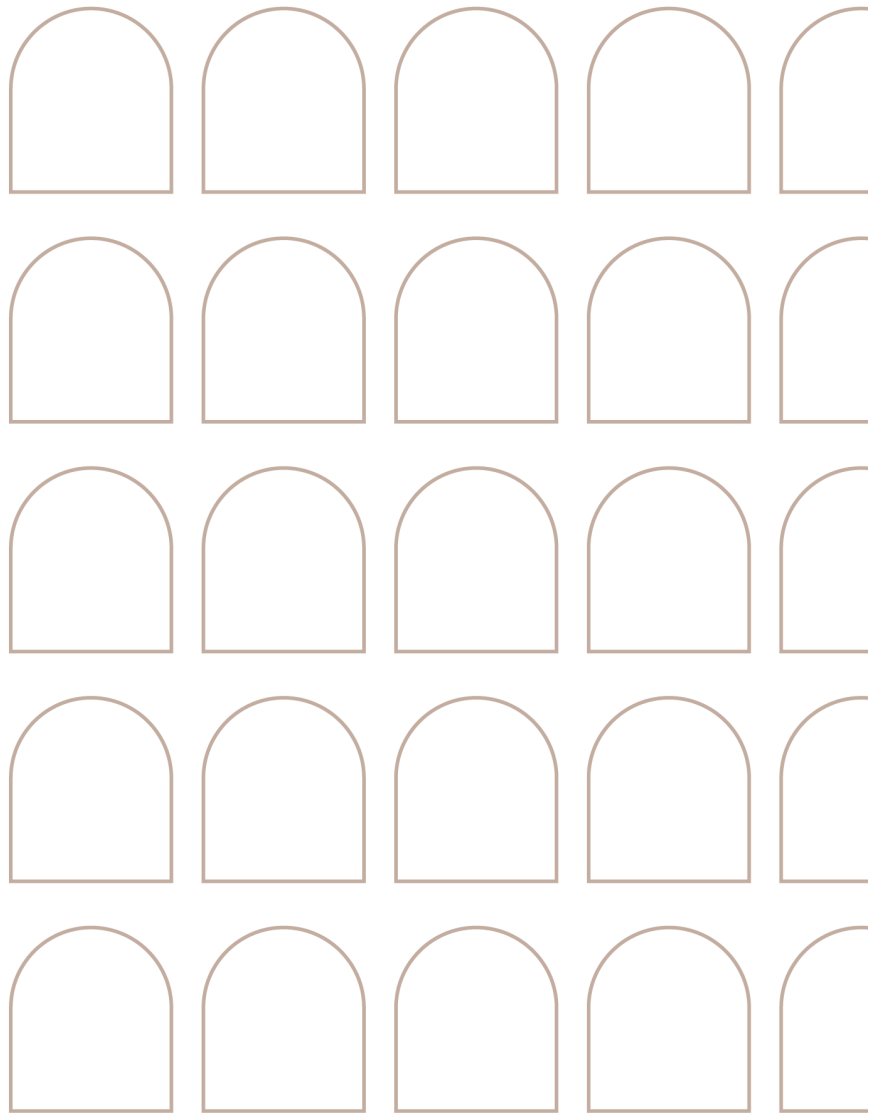
## POLICY DIALOGUE

# *Artificial Intelligence and Democracy: Contemporary Challenges and Perspectives*

Thursday, 30 May - Friday, 31 May 2024

### OVERVIEW

Organiser .....	2
Event information.....	2
Practical Information.....	3
Contacts .....	3
Programme.....	3
Participants .....	6



## Organiser

**Prof. Daniel Innerarity** | Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Democracy at Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI

## Event information

We live in an era of disruption, characterized by accelerated technological advances and the evolution of big data. In this context, a key question has to do with the opportunities and challenges posed by artificial intelligence (AI) to our democratic systems.

Advocates of technology and AI argue that increased access to information and machine learning can help address societal problems, including political complexities, more efficiently. They believe that machine learning algorithms can make better political decisions than humans. In this age of abundant data and technological innovation, these AI-driven decisions are thought to be not only more optimal but also faster, more rational, and less biased, serving the greater good of society. Consequently, some propose replacing the shortcomings of traditional politics with more efficient and effective AI data-driven approaches. Yet, questions persist: To what extent can these new AI solutions replace traditional political approaches, and in which areas? Should democratic politics shift entirely to AI-driven doctrines, or is there room for a partial collaboration between the two?

The Policy Dialogue will explore key aspects shaping the relationship between AI and democracy, addressing questions such as:

- How are Artificial Intelligence and Democracy connected, if at all?
- Is AI a challenge to democracy?
- How can we transform AI into a valuable tool that strengthens democratic structures worldwide?

The event will take place in the context of the [Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Democracy](#), established by the Florence School of Transnational Governance (EUI), the Spanish Secretary of State for Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence (SEDIA), and the Institute of Democratic Governance (Globernance). The project aims to develop an interdisciplinary research agenda, conduct teaching and dissemination activities, and create a global network of research institutions, policymakers and other stakeholders on topics related to AI and democracy.

The Chair's Policy Dialogues provide a platform for representatives from academia, policymakers, officials and members of civil society to openly exchange views concerning the priorities of the STG Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Democracy within a transnational context. This third edition follows the Policy Dialogue "[The Democratic Challenges of Artificial Intelligence](#)" hosted in June 2022 and "[Artificial Intelligence and Democracy: Challenges and Avenues of Amalgamation](#)" hosted in May 2023 at the EUI premises.

Attendance at this event is by invitation only and all deliberations will take place under the Chatham House rule (no views or positions may be attributed publicly to any participant).

## Practical Information

**Venue:** Elinor Ostrom Room, [Palazzo Buontalenti](#), Via Cavour 65, 50129

### Online participation:

<https://eui-eu.zoom.us/j/94250743345?pwd=Z3kzSG5GVFk3ZXcrSHlQU3o5cE9jQT09>

Meeting ID: 942 5074 3345

Passcode: 548234

## Contacts

**Ioannis Galariotis** | [ioannis.Galariotis@eui.eu](mailto:ioannis.Galariotis@eui.eu) (+39 3248315817)

**STG Events Team** | [stg.events@eui.eu](mailto:stg.events@eui.eu)

## PROGRAMME

### Thursday, 30 May 2024

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>13.00 – 13.30</b> | <b>Light lunch</b> (optional)   |
| <b>13.30 – 14.00</b> | <b>Guided tour of Palazzo Buontalenti</b> (optional)  |
| <b>14.00 – 14.10</b> | <b>Opening remarks</b><br><b>Fabrizio Tassinari</b>   Executive Director, Florence School of Transnational Governance   |
| <b>14.10 – 15.00</b> | <b>Presentation: UNESCO Document AI &amp; Democracy</b><br><b>Gabriela Ramos</b>   Assistant Director-General for the Social and Human Sciences of UNESCO (online)<br><b>Daniel Innerarity</b>   Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Democracy at Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI   |
| <b>15.00 – 16.30</b> | <b><u>Session 1: AI as a matter of democratic concern? Revisiting the nexus</u></b><br>Democracy is gaining ground as one of the main topics of AI-related concerns. Some well-known cases of AI-systems' misuse in politics or the unintended unfair outcomes in AI-supported decision-making render this quite understandable. However, it is still to be thoroughly clarified the sense in which AI is indeed to be taken as a matter of democratic concern. This entails unfolding the nexus between AI technology and democracy as a process of collective decision-making and as a certain sociopolitical structuring of human life. In turn, that demands delving into the knowledge conditions of democracy on the one hand, and on the political dimension of technology, on the other hand, which is what this session will focus on. |

**Panel discussion 1: *The interplay between AI and the epistemic conditions of democracy***

**Mark Coeckelbergh** | Professor of Philosophy of Media and Technology, University of Vienna

**José Luís Martí** | Associate Professor of Philosophy of Law, Pompeu Fabra University

**Helga Nowotny** | Senior Fellow, Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI & former President of the European Research Council

Moderator: **Marta Cantero**

**16.30 – 16.40**

**Group Photo**

**16.40 – 17.00**

**Coffee Break**

**17.00 – 18.30**

**Session 1 (continued): AI as a matter of democratic concern? Revisiting the nexus**

**Panel discussion 2: *The politics of AI beyond instrumentality***

**Kalypso Nicolaïdis** | Full-time professor, Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI

**María Amparo Alonso-Betanzos** | Full-time professor of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence, University of A Coruña

**Juan Ortiz Freuler** | Doctoral Researcher, University of Southern California

Moderator: **Ioannis Galariotis**

**19.30 – 21.00**

**Group dinner at Santa Cocktail Club** (Piazza Santa Maria Novella 3, Firenze)

**Friday, 31 May 2024**

**09.45 – 11.15**

**Session 2: Are we conceptually equipped for the normative challenges of AI-mediated politics?**

Beyond transforming our daily practices, the deployment of AI systems in different spheres of human activity seems to call into question some of the core normative concepts that have so far made sense of and ruled our life in society. For instance, AI systems' potential to carry out tasks that were exclusively belonging to human agency might render traditional ethical-political concepts such as moral autonomy or responsibility ineffective to navigate such new scenarios. This session will critically examine the extent to which we might be facing a

conceptual disruption and advance revised notions to normatively respond to the challenges.

**Panel discussion 3: *Checkmate to our humanist ethics?***

**Linda Eggert** | Early Career Fellow, University of Oxford

**Paolo Benanti** TBC | Professor, Pontifical Gregorian University

**Piergiorgio Donatelli** | Full-time Professor, Sapienza Università di Roma

**Theodore Lechterman** | Assistant Professor of Philosophy, IE University

Moderator: **Júlia Pareto**

**11.15 – 11.30**

**Coffee break**

**11.30 - 13.00**

**Session 2 (continued): Are we conceptually equipped for the normative challenges of AI-mediated politics?**

**Panel discussion 4: *What do we mean by...? Rethinking core democratic values and principles in the light of AI***

**Paolo Gerbaudo** | Professor & Director of the Centre for Digital Culture, King's College London

**Norberto Nuno Gomes de Andrade** | Professor, IE University

**Michael Schoenstein** | Head of General Digital Policy, Federal Chancellery of Germany

Moderator: **Daniel Innerarity**

**13.00 – 14.00**

**Lunch Break**

**14.00 – 15.30**

**Session 3: Navigating AI-mediated democracies**

Which strategies do we or could we have at hand to strive towards democracy-enhancing AI systems? Ranging from practices of data curation to the elaboration of frameworks for making technology account for specific values, several initiatives are being developed in response to the non-neutrality of technology. This session will critically identify and assess some practical resources we might have in this regard, not only at the technical but also at the political level.

**Panel discussion 5: *Is a democratic politics-centered value-sensitive design possible?***

**Ljubisa Bojic** | Senior Research Fellow, The Institute for Artificial Intelligence Research and Development of Serbia

**Marjolein Lanzig** | Assistant Professor Philosophy of Technology, University of Amsterdam

**Toju Duke** | Founder, Diverse AI

Moderator: **Lucía Bosoer**

**15.30 – 15.45**

**Coffee Break**

**15.45 – 17.15**

**Session 3: Navigating AI-mediated democracies continued**

**Panel discussion 6: *Public-private encounters for global democracy-enhancing AI systems***

**Rahaf Harfoush TBC** | Executive Director, Red Thread Institute of Digital Culture (online)

**Antoinette Rouvroy** | Permanent Research Associate, FRS-FNRS & Professor, Namur University

**Amanda Craig Deckard** | Responsible AI Director of Public Policy, Microsoft

**Helen Margetts** | Professor of Society and the Internet, Oxford University (online)

Moderator: **Stefania Milan**

**17.15**

**End of the event**

## PARTICIPANTS

<b>María Amparo Alonso-Betanzos</b>	Full-time professor of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence, University of A Coruña
<b>Paolo Benanti</b>	Professor, Pontifical Gregorian University <i>TBC</i>
<b>Ljubisa Bojic</b>	Senior Research Fellow, The Institute for Artificial Intelligence Research and Development of Serbia
<b>Lucia Bosoer</b>	Project Associate, Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI
<b>Marta Cantero Gamito</b>	Research Fellow, Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI
<b>Mark Coeckelbergh</b>	Professor of Philosophy of Media and Technology, University of Vienna
<b>Amanda Craig Deckard</b>	Responsible AI Director of Public Policy, Microsoft

<b>Piergiorgio Donatelli</b>	Professor, Sapienza Università di Roma
<b>Toju Duke</b>	Founder, Diverse AI
<b>Linda Eggert</b>	Early Career Fellow, University of Oxford
<b>Ioannis Galariotis</b>	Research Fellow, Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI
<b>Paolo Gerbaudo</b>	Professor & Director of the Centre for Digital Culture, King's College London
<b>Norberto Nuno Gomes de Andrade</b>	Professor, IE University
<b>Daniel Innerarity</b>	Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Democracy at Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI
<b>Rahaf Harfoush</b>	Executive Director, Red Thread Institute of Digital Culture (online)
<b>Marjolein Lanzing</b>	Assistant Professor Philosophy of Technology, University of Amsterdam
<b>Theodore Lechterman</b>	Assistant Professor of Philosophy, IE University
<b>Helen Margetts</b>	Professor of Society and the Internet, Oxford University (online)
<b>José Luis Martí</b>	Associate Professor of Philosophy of Law, Pompeu Fabra University
<b>Stefania Milan</b>	Research Fellow, Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI and University of Amsterdam
<b>Kalypto Nicolaidis</b>	Full-time Professor, Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI
<b>Helga Nowotny</b>	Senior Fellow, Florence School of Transnational Governance, EUI & former President of the European Research Council
<b>Juan Ortiz Freuler</b>	Doctoral Researcher, University of Southern California
<b>Aviv Ovadya</b>	Research Fellow, newDemocracy & Affiliate at Harvard, Berkam Klein Centre & Affiliate, Centre for Governance AI

**Júlia Pareto**

Research Fellow, Florence School of Transnational  
Governance, EUI

**Gabriela Ramos**

Assistant Director-General for the Social and Human  
Sciences of UNESCO (online)

**Antoinette Rouvroy**

Permanent Research Associate, FRS-FNRS & Professor,  
Namur University

**Ronald Sáenz**

Visiting Fellow, Florence School of Transnational  
Governance, EUI

**Carlos Saura Garcia**

Visiting Fellow, Florence School of Transnational  
Governance, EUI

**Michael Schönstein**

Head of General Digital Policy, Federal Chancellery of  
Germany

**Fabrizio Tassinari**

Executive Director, Florence School of Transnational  
Governance, EUI