

AI, Democracy, and the Public Interest: Building Resilient Digital Futures

Project presentations with discussion | Tuesday, October 14th 2025 | 9.30–11:30 | venue: Hotel City, Ljubljana

In an era of rapid digital transformation, citizens face growing challenges in navigating complex digital environments shaped by artificial intelligence, misinformation, and evolving democratic norms. This joint event brings together researchers, policymakers, journalists, and civil society representatives to critically examine the role of AI in shaping democratic societies.

This event is part of a broader effort of different European research projects to **rethink AI for democratic societies**, emphasizing the public interest and inclusive governance in the digital age.

Time	Activity
9.00-9.30	Walk-in, Coffee, networking
9.30-9.40	Welcome and welcome addresses. - Mojca Štruc, Director General of the Directorate for Digital Society, Ministry for Digital Transformation of Slovenia - Alberto Domini, European Commission (online)
9.40-10:10 (3x10 min)	- Prof. dr. Federica Russo, representing Horizon Europe project Solaris, Utrecht University, The Netherlands (online) - Dr. Tanja Zdolšek Draksler, representing Horizon Europe project AI4Gov, Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia - Dr. Alenka Guček, representing Horizon Europe TWON, Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia
10.10-11.15	Discussion with panelists and audience about topics: - How AI technologies influence democratic processes and public trust - The impact of misinformation, deepfakes, and media manipulation - Ethical frameworks and policy responses for responsible AI - Strategies to empower citizens and foster digital resilience Panelists: - Dr. Izidor Mlakar, University of Maribor, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Slovenia - Prof. dr. Achim Rettinger, University of Trier, Department of Computational Linguistics, Germany - Simon Delakorda, Institute for Electronic Participation (INePA)/ NGO, Slovenia Moderated by Domen Savič, journalist and NGO representative (director of Citizen D).
11.15-12.00	Coffee with networking

VideoLectures.NET support: Video materials will be available for watching on the VideoLectures.NET platform.



*Zoom link for online participation:

<https://zoom.us/j/96268225230?pwd=8ogb1urLzr6RpCUSelcpgfagenpzaPQ.1>