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Vienna
Citizen Lab
2025

Call for Applications

Free Speech or Free-for-All? Tackling Hate, Misinformation and Polarisation in the Age of AI and Tech- Oligarchs

11 - 14 May 2025 | Vienna, Austria

In today's digital world, social media platforms don't just host conversations – they shape them. Algorithmic ranking, AI-driven content, and reduced moderation and fact-checking amplify hate speech, antisemitism, anti-Muslim racism, racism and misinformation, threatening democratic values and inclusivity.

The DialoguePerspectives Vienna Citizen Lab 2025 invites you to join the frontlines of this urgent debate. Together, we'll explore the cutting edge research of the challenges that exist and how platform design and digital policies can counter polarisation, combat online discrimination, and safeguard democracy.

Why Apply?

- **Understand the Impact:** Uncover how algorithms and platform decisions shape public discourse and amplify harmful narratives.
- **Build Solutions:** Collaborate with experts, activists, and policymakers to address the challenges of AI-driven misinformation and rising hate speech and security risks to minority groups.
- **Shape Change:** Co-create actionable strategies to foster inclusivity, pluralism, and democracy in digital spaces.

What You'll Do

- Participate in Citizen Labs – interactive discussions bringing research to the public.
- Contribute to policy recommendations that redefine social media regulation and design.
- Be at the forefront of research into social networks to test solutions for healthier online debates.



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Format

The DialoguePerspectives Vienna Citizen Lab 2025 invites young European leaders to deepen connections and collaborate with European and international experts. Through interactive sessions and hands-on training, participants will gain practical tools, exchange insights with experts, and cocreate impactful solutions for a stronger European democratic and pluralist future.

The Citizen Lab workshop is part of the international TWON project. TWON (Twin of Online Social Networks) is an EU-funded project that sets out to study the potentially harmful effects of online social networks (OSNs) on democratic debates and to provide the European Commission with strategic recommendations for possible regulation of technology companies or platform operators. The Citizen Lab workshop is realised through a partnership with the FZI Research Center for Information Technologies.

Application Details

We invite 30 young European professionals to take part in the DialoguePerspectives Vienna Citizen Lab 2025. If you would like to participate, please apply [here](#). The application deadline is **13 April 2025**.

Join us in rethinking the future of online platforms and their role in democracy. Apply now to the DialoguePerspectives Vienna Citizen Lab 2025 and be part of the solution!

Costs

Travel expenses can be reimbursed up to €100 for national travel and €300 for international travel in (only second class travels). Accommodation and meals related to the event will be included. More detailed information will follow after the application process.



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twon
twin of online social networks



Federal Foreign Office



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Workshop Lead

Kira Wisniewski (Programme Manager DialoguePerspectives)

Scientific Monitoring

Dr. Jonas Fegert & Prof. Dr. Achim Rettinger (FZI Research Center for Information Technologies)

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DialoguePerspectives. Discussing Religions and Worldviews e.V. is a Berlin-based European platform for strengthening plurality and democracy in Europe through educational and civil society programmes. Promoting a pluralistic European society, fostering a productive interreligious and worldview dialogue, combating antisemitism in Germany and Europe, establishing a pluralistic remembrance culture, and promoting contemporary Jewish life in Germany and Europe through educational programmes – this is what DialoguePerspectives e.V. stands for.

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