

## DPE Forum 2026 15–16 June, Passau, Germany

### Critical Perspectives on Digital Platform Ecosystems: Governance, Influence and Consequence Preliminary Programme

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**MONDAY, 15 JUNE 2026**

University of Passau, IT-Zentrum, Innstraße 43, 94032 Passau

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09:00–09:30 **WELCOME ADDRESS & LIGHT BREAKFAST**

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09:30–10:45 **PARALLEL SESSION I**

**Session I (A)**

**Governance Framework**

**Algorithm Audits for Platform Governance: A Cross-Domain Framework**

Franziska Harpenau (WIK Wissenschaftliches Institut für Infrastruktur und Kommunikationsdienste)

**The (Dis-) Intermediation Paradox: Complementor Agency and Power Reconfigurations in Platform Ecosystem Evolution**

Luca Binder (Vlerick Business School)

**Social Media Platforms as Networked Data Ecosystems: An Expert Review of Kenya's Data Protection Enforcement**

Sally Boyani Mokaya (University of Passau)

**Session I (B)**

**Economics of Online Markets**

**Online Travel Agencies and Beyond: The Role of Sales Channels for Hotels and Consumers**

Andrea Mantovani (Toulouse Business School)

**De-Throning Platforms: Governing Markets with Post-Sale Control**

Björn Hanneke (Goethe University Frankfurt)

**Digital connected goods and innovation incentives**

Carlo Cambini (Politecnico di Torino)

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10:45–11:15 **COFFEE BREAK**

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11:15–12:30 **PARALLEL SESSION II**

**Session II (A)**

**Innovation & Entrepreneurship**

**Substitutes or Complements? Angel Investment and Board Governance in B2B Platform Survival**

Tali Blank (Tel Hai University)

**From Software Development Capability to Firm Competitiveness: The Mediating Role of Innovation Platform Capability**

Shivakumar Malagihal (Indian Institute of Technology Bombay)

**Open Foundations, Layered Innovation: How Transparency in Open - Source AI Affects Model Adaptation**

Fabian Fleischmann (University of Passau)

**Session II (B)**

**Moderation & Recommendation**

**Curbing Promotions in Kids' Content? The Limits of Platform Policies**

Sumeet Kumar (Indian School of Business)

**Recommender System Bias in Subscription Services**

Marcin Roter (University of Passau)

**The spread and impact of disinformation in the context of online platforms**

Lukas Wiewiorra (WIK Wissenschaftliches Institut für Infrastruktur und Kommunikationsdienste)

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12:30–13:30 **LUNCH**

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13:30–14:45 **PARALLEL SESSION III**

**Session III (A)  
Platform Harms & Social Evaluations**

**Addictive Design as Attention Steering  
Mechanisms in Digital Platform Ecosystems:  
Evidence from Germany**

Serpil Taş (WIK Wissenschaftliches Institut für  
Infrastruktur und Kommunikationsdienste)

**The Architecture of Vulnerability – Digital  
Harms and Children**

Sonja Hermann (University of Passau)

**Digital Platforms, Reputation, and Stigma:  
Evidence from the German Medical Cannabis  
Industry**

Verena Kummer (University of Passau)

**Session III (B)  
Infrastructure & Labour**

**Skill Development and Worker Success in the  
Online Gig Economy: An Empirical Analysis  
Using System GMM**

Zixin Pan (Radboud University)

**Who Should Pay for the Internet? Consumer  
Acceptance of Cost-Sharing**

Anil Gürbüz (WHU - Otto Beisheim School of  
Management)

**Digitizing extension services: Evidence from a  
two-sided randomized experiment in Indonesia**

Irene Furlani (University of Passau)

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14:45–17:00 **PASSAU SIGHTSEEING WALKING TOUR**

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**MONDAY, 15 JUNE 2026**

Redoute, Gottfried-Schäffer-Straße 2, 94032 Passau

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17:00–18:00 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**  
**“Two Decades of Platform Thinking: Strategy, Power, Harms and Policy”**

**Hemant Bhargava**

Distinguished Professor, Jerome and Elsie Suran Chair in Technology  
Management, University of California, Davis

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18:00– **RECEPTION & CONFERENCE DINNER**

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**TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 2026**

University of Passau, IT-Zentrum, Innstraße 43, 94032 Passau

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08:30-09:00 **LIGHT BREAKFAST**

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09:00–10:00 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**  
**“The Governance of Digital Platforms: A Global Perspective”**

**Tawfik Jelassi**

Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, UNESCO

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10:00–11:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**“Governing the Platform Economy: Global Challenges and Perspectives”**

**Hemant Bhargava**

University of California, Davis

**Carolin Häussler**

University of Passau & Commission of Experts for Research and Innovation (EFI)

**Tawfik Jelassi**

UNESCO

**Lukas Wiewiorra**

WIK Wissenschaftliches Institut für Infrastruktur und Kommunikationsdienste

**Moderator: Jan Krämer**

University of Passau & Centre on Regulation in Europe (CERRE)

11:00–11:30 **COFFEE BREAK**

11:30–12:45 **PARALLEL SESSION IV**

**Session IV (A)**  
**Platform Ecosystem Governance**

**Institutional Role Models and the Governance of Platform Ecosystems: Insights from a GAIA-X Lighthouse Project on Digital Vehicle Sovereignty**

Wolfgang H. Schulz (Zeppelin University)

**Extending the Core: Extensibility and Governance in Generative AI Platforms**

Thanyalak Ubonsiri (University of Innsbruck)

**Seeking Money or Meaning? Exploring Sustained Contributions to Decentralized Governance on Digital Platforms**

Jonas Riefle (University of Passau)

**Session IV (B)**  
**Content Moderation**

**Do social media platforms enforce their rules uniformly? Evidence from Suspensions on Twitter**

Adam Feher (University of Lausanne)

**Can User Controls Enhance Value Creation on Social Media?**

Dhara Atul Mungra (SimPPL)

**Platform Governance and Automated Enforcement: Evidence from YouTube Content ID**

Sverrir Arnorsson (University of Zürich)

12:45-13:45 **LUNCH**

13:45–15:00 **PARALLEL SESSION V**

**Session V (A)**  
**Stakeholder Relationship**

**Unpacking the Conceptual Foundations of Data Ecosystems: A Comparative Perspective on Digital Platform Ecosystems**

Maarten de Mildt (Ghent University)

**Clearing the relational fog: How platform organizations advocate transparency in relationship-driven supplier industries**

Georg Reischauer (Johannes Kepler University Linz)

**Direct and Indirect Customer Orientation in Digital Multi-Sided Platforms: A stakeholder Perspective**

Nour Mohamed (University of Passau)

**Session V (B)**  
**Signalling & Reputation**

**Cross-Platform Reputation Management After Platform Punishment**

Yang Jiang (Bocconi University)

**Signaling Platform Change to Ecosystem Members: An Actor-Specific View**

Vladimir Sobota (University of Glasgow)

**Digital Decoys by Design: Steering Consumer Choice through Endorsement and Punitive Badges on Digital Platforms**

Sarah Ben Messaoud (University of Passau)