

DPE Forum 2026

15–16 June, Passau, Germany

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

Preliminary Programme

MONDAY, 15 JUNE 2026

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

09:00–09:30 **WELCOME ADDRESS & LIGHT BREAKFAST** – ITZ R 017

09:30–10:45 **PARALLEL SESSION I**

Session I (A) – ITZ SR 002 **Governance Framework**

Algorithm Audits for Platform Governance: A Cross-Domain Framework

Franziska Harpenau (WIK Wissenschaftliches Institut für Infrastruktur und Kommunikationsdienste)

The Orchestration-Circumvention Paradox: Complementor Agency in Dominant Platform Ecosystems

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) – ITZ SR 004

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

Jan Krämer (University of Passau)

10:45–11:15 **COFFEE BREAK**

11:15–12:30 **PARALLEL SESSION II**

Session II (A) – ITZ SR 002 **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) – ITZ SR 004 **Moderation & Recommendation**

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

Sumeet Kumar (Indian School of Business)

Opt-In to Innovation? The Effects of Apple's App Tracking Transparency Policy on Complementor Innovation

Robin Nowak (University of Passau)

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

Lukas Wiewiorra (WIK Wissenschaftliches Institut für Infrastruktur und Kommunikationsdienste)

12:30–13:45 **LUNCH & DPE POSTERS**

13:45–15:00 **PARALLEL SESSION III**

Session III (A) – ITZ SR 002
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) – ITZ SR 004
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)

15:00–17:00 **PASSAU SIGHTSEEING WALKING TOUR**

MONDAY, 15 JUNE 2026

Redoute, Gottfried-Schäffer-Straße 2, 94032 Passau

17:00–18:00 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

“Ecosystems of Control: The Rise, Regulation, and Next Wave of Tech Platforms”

Hemant Bhargava

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

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

TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 2026

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

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

09:00–10:00 **KEYNOTE LECTURE – ITZ R 017**

“The Governance of Digital Platforms: A Global Perspective”

Tawfik Jelassi

Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, UNESCO

10:00–11:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION – ITZ R 017**

“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) – ITZ SR 002
 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) – ITZ SR 004
 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) – ITZ SR 002
 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) – ITZ SR 004
 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)