

Thematic Conference

Technological Change, Digitalization and Life Course Inequalities

20-21 September 2021

Haus der Wissenschaft Bremen

SOCIUM Research Center on Inequality and Social Policy, University of Bremen

In cooperation with the Berlin Social Science Center (WZB)

Technological change has major implications for social inequality. Most of the research focuses on changes in skill requirements and labor market transformations. Yet, digitalization, more than ever before, has the potential to impact inequalities across a wide range of life domains and for different groups in society. This workshop aims to connect researchers to discuss the most important developments and challenges that digitalization has for inequality. The aim is to stimulate and cross-fertilize research on digitalization and inequality regarding various dimensions of the life course and life periods/stages, across various institutional settings.

Example questions are: Are gender inequalities intensified or alleviated by technological changes? Do digital technologies foster family relations across generations? What are the implications of changes in skill requirements at work for the reproduction of social inequality? Can elderly benefit from technological advancements or are they left behind? How does digitalization impact ethnic inequalities and segregation (e.g., language barriers, labor market integration)?

This workshop encourages contributions on the following topics (but not limited to)

- Labor market inequality;
- Family relations;
- Gender inequality;
- Cognitive and noncognitive skills;
- Educational inequality;
- Work-life interferences;
- Well-being;
- Civic and democratic participation.

Keynote Speakers

Tali Kristal, University of Haifa

Mario L. Small, Harvard University

Glenda Quintini, OECD

Research on the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic is particularly welcome.

We invite researchers to submit Abstracts of max. 1000 words (plus three keywords) to socium-ecsr@uni-bremen.de

Organizers: Wiebke Schulz (SOCIUM), Heike Solga (WZB)

Scientific program committee: Mark Levels (Maastricht/ ROA), Renae Loh Sze Ming (Nijmegen), Gina Potarca (Geneva), Wiebke Schulz (Bremen), Heike Solga (Berlin).

In accordance with the pandemic situation (parts of) the workshop may be held virtually.

Important Dates

- February 15, 2021: Deadline for submissions
- Latest May 1, 2021: Notification of acceptance
- August 15, 2021: Deadline for registration

There will be no fee for the conference. The ECSR will cover travels and accommodation costs up to 650€ for three outstanding PhD students. In order to be eligible for a travel award, the applicant must be the sole author, or the first author of the paper and the full paper must be submitted to and accepted by the workshop committee.