Digitisation Congress 2018

Public welfare in a digitally connected society: We’re working on it!

The congress will be held in cooperation with the United Services Trade Union (ver.di) and INPUT Consulting gGmbH.

12 April, Thursday

From 11:00 h Check-in with small snack for arriving participants

Overall chair: Martin Kaul, die tageszeitung (taz)

12:30 h
Words of welcome
• Annette Mühlberg, Head of the ver.di Digitisation Project Group, ver.di Headquarters

12:40 – 13:00 h
Practitioners speak up: representatives from various occupational groups make their demands known to politicians and trade unionists

13:00 – 14:00 h
Keynote speech
Public welfare in a digitally connected world
• Lothar Schröder, Member of the ver.di-Executive Board

14:00 – 14:30 h Break

14:30 – 15:00 h
Introductory speech
Digital dependencies – who is pulling whose strings?
Align business models and (IT) infrastructures to public welfare!
• Tahar Schaa, graduate engineer, Cassini Consulting GmbH

15:00 – 16:30 h
Panel discussion
To what extent do digitisation strategies serve public welfare? Let’s take stock!
• Annelie Buntenbach, DGB National Executive Board
• Klaus Müller, Executive Director of The Federation of German Consumer Organisations (vzbv)
• Ela Kagel, supermarkt Berlin
• Frank Rieger, Spokesman, Chaos Computer Club
• Real-life example: Dr. Christian John, Wuppertaler Stadtwerke (WSW)

Chaired by: Dr. Julia Kropf, moderator and business coach

16:30 – 17:15 h Break

17:15 – 18:45 h
Workshop phase I

From 19:00 h
Dinner and get-together
Music: DJ Ipek

13 April, Friday

9:15 – 10:15 h
Introductory speech
Technological sovereignty!
Ethical digital standards and data infrastructures for public innovation and democracy

- Francesca Bria, Chief Technology and Innovation Officer of the City of Barcelona
  [simultaneous translation of an English speech]

10:15 – 11:15 h
Panel discussion
Develop and enforce public welfare criteria for digitisation
- Prof. Dr.-Ing. Prof. (honorary) Wilhelm Bauer, Executive Director of Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering, IAO
- Christoph Bornschein, Digitalagentur Torben, Lucie und die gelbe Gefahr TLGG
- Lorena Jaume-Palasi, Algorithm Watch
- Andreas Kahlert, Chairman of the Works Council, Wasserwerke Westfalen GmbH

Chaired by: Martin Kaul, die tageszeitung (taz)

11:15 – 12:15 h Lunch break

12:15 – 13:45 h
Workshop phase II

13:45 – 14:00 h Break

14.00 – 15:15 h
Panel discussion
Innovative impulses and rules for digital public welfare and social justice and the welfare state 4.0:
- Lothar Schröder, Member of the ver.di Executive Board
- Christiane Benner, Second Chair of IG Metall
- Björn Böhning, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
- Steffen Kampeter, Director-General of the German Business Administration (BDA)

Chaired by:
Shelly Kupferberg, journalist, rbb-Kulturradio and Deutschlandfunk Kultur

15:15 – 15:30 h
Outlook
Frank Bsirske, ver.di President
Workshop 7: Qualification 4.0 – development of labour, securing of skilled labour; capacity building
On-the-job training and HR development are of special importance in the field of digitisation. New vocations, dynamic and multi-discipline job profiles, career changes and lifelong further training demands will stamp their mark on the working environment more than ever before. The central issues here are building capacities to adapt to the new working environment but also capacity-building in order to perform new job-related tasks so as to ensure employability. Practical examples drawn from the healthcare and logistics sectors will be highlighted to illustrate the new requirements and identify the courses of action propounded by employee representation. A further topic that will be addressed is the current state of vocational further training and whether it is in any way capable of measuring up to the digital transformation.
Input: Wolfram Gießler, BiG - Bildungsinstitut im Gesundheitswesen (Educational Healthcare Institute) , Wolfgang Scheda, ver.di Training Institute Lower Saxony, Anne van Eimern, Project In Digi Train
Chaired by: Mechthild Bayer, Division Manager Further Education and Training Policy, ver.di Headquarters (Head of Further Training Policy Division)

Workshop 8: Critical infrastructure information security: how can we protect our modern society?
Water and other examples
What are critical infrastructures? What does critical infrastructure information security entail? What is infrastructure security management? What impact do such management systems have on resources (e.g. finances, employees)? What about costs and benefits, risks and opportunities?
Input: Andreas Kahlert, Chairman of the Works Council, Wasserwerke Westfalen GmbH, Jan Feldhaus, graduate geocologist, Head of Management Systems Team, DVGW CERT GmbH
Chaired by: Clivia Conrad, Head of National Section Water Supply and Distribution | Public Services Wage Coordination, Department 8, Supply and Waste Disposal, ver.di Headquarters

Workshop 9: How can works and staff councils use the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)?
What legislative novelties are there? What does it mean for corporate practice: how can the technical and organisational processes be intelligently designed in the interest of the workforce? Which GDPR instruments could help to do this?
These are the questions that our experts will examine from a variety of perspectives and discuss together with the workshop participants. New GDPR materials will also be made available during that time.
Input: Prof. Dr. Peter Wedde, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, Marit Hansen, graduate of information science and State Commissioner for Data Protection Schleswig-Holstein, Clara Fritsch, Labour and Technology, gpa-djp Österreich
Chaired by: Barbara Susec, Innovation and Best Practice Division, ver.di Headquarters

Workshop 10: Best digital practice – less labour intensity through agility or a move towards burnout?
Can agility aid best practice? We want to examine this issue during this workshop and have representatives from ver.di, the “Best agile project work in the digitised world” (diGAP)
project of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and codetermination engage in an exchange of views and opinions. Because: as labour becomes more digitised, stress levels, i.e. the mental strains increase. This is backed up by a ver.di study. Work-related mental disorders cost society around € 6.3 billion every year and work-related mental strain around € 30 billion according to a report published in 2012. Proponents of agile methods are therefore advocating that a specific number of working hours should not be exceeded (principle of sustainable work rates).

Input: Dr. Nadine Müller, Innovation and Best Practice Division, ver.di Headquarters, Christian Wille, ver.di Innovation and Best Practice Division, diGAP Project, Eva Snigula, GBR TSI

Chaired by: Sarah Sahl, Union Secretary for Educational Work, ver.di training centre Das Bunte Haus, Bielefeld

Workshop 11:
Artificial intelligence at the workplace and in society: avoid disadvantages, use opportunities

We want to understand and help to shape the consequences that automated learning algorithms have on public welfare and the labour world. Where can AI provide enhanced forecasts, swifter decisions and the automation of routine tasks to help improve the work environment? What new means of forecasting and automated monitoring entail risks for the workplace and society? What mechanisms and actors can facilitate using such technologies for the benefit of everyone and what possibilities exist to counter the lack of fairness, accountability and transparency of AI?

Input: Hendrik Heuer, Institute for Information Management, University of Bremen
Chaired by: Dr. Martin Beckmann, Policy and Planning Division, ver.di Headquarters

Workshop 12 (Forum):
Quo vadis postal network? The political and economic significance of the postal infrastructure in a digitally connected society

Does the Internet, as a means of communication and ordering platform, render even a physical postal network obsolete? Or is a nationwide postal infrastructure needed more than ever for the democratic and economic participation of all citizens? How can a postal network contribute to equal living conditions in urban and rural environments? Given the demographic changes, what shape must this network take? What do basic postal services signify for democracy? These are the questions that we want to examine and, in doing so, we want to build a positive vision for a modern, universal postal service.

Input:
Dr. Peter Knauth, Head of Division Principle Issues of Telecommunications and Postal Policy in the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi), Bonn
Andrea Kocsis, Vice President of ver.di, Berlin
Thomas Koczelnik, Chairman of the Group Works Council of Deutsche Post DHL, Bonn
Doris Sickenberger, Deputy Chair ver.di Site Group Rodgau, parcel deliverer

Chaired by: Dr. Sigrun Rauch, Head of Division Ministry Coordination, Member Media, Advertising, Postal Services Division, Forwarding and Logistics, ver.di Headquarters