About the lecture

Modern digital technologies, data and AI allow to understand, control and manipulate individuals and societies on a massive scale. The ever growing automation of the public and private sphere, from the production and dissemination of text and visual material to Neuralink types of human – physical connections, poses new challenges to Democracy, Fundamental Rights and the Rule of Law. In a world ever more dominated by technology, the control of technological power becomes a central function of democracy.

The new potentialities of technologies add to traditional impacts of technologies in terms of safety and environment. The traditional risk and impact assessments for this reason need to be complemented with societal impact assessments.

We need a new curriculum for “Engineers for Democracy” to equip society with people able to certify societal technology impact assessments, whether mandated by law or not yet mandated by law. “Engineers of Democracy” must be able to imagine technological potentialities, whether from intended or unintended use of technology, must have a good understanding of sociology, law, philosophy and history, and thus must be able to assess impacts of new technologies on society, in particular the functioning of Democracy, the protection of Fundamental Rights and the Rule of Law.

Mittwoch, 14.04.2021, 18:15 – 19:45 Uhr

– delivered in digital form –
Details to access the lecture will be made public at http://uhh.de/inf-eit on a timely basis.