![dbjw logo – Deutsch-Baltisches Jugendwerk]

GERMAN-BALTIC
CONFERENCE VILNIUS2020

– POLICY PAPER –

"EUROPE SHALL HEAR YOU"
European Answers how to shape our Future

Under the patronage of Arnoldas Pranckevičius,
Head of European Commission Representation in Vilnius

October 16th – 18th, 2020

Auswärtiges Amt

Botschaft der Republik Lettland in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland

Lettland 100

Botschaft von Estland in Berlin

WALLS.IO

The Conference is organized by:

German-Baltic Academic Foundation. German-Baltic Youth Office

The German-Baltic Academic Foundation promotes exchange and cross-cultural understanding between young adults from Germany, the Baltic States and Russia on the foundation of democracy and human rights. For this purpose, we award scholarships, organise seminars and congresses, arrange internships and facilitate networking of participants and scholarship recipients through alumni work. In the context of the shared history, the Foundation aims to continuously develop towards becoming a German-Baltic Youth Office (Deutsch-Baltisches Jugendwerk /„DBJW").

The Conference is supported by:

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CLUSTER A

United or divided – is there a way between individualism and collectivism?

Vilnius, 18.10.2020
Moderator: Jürgen Buch
Rapporteur: Jennifer Klenk

Individualism and Collectivism – two strong words that are somehow united but also divided. Cluster A of the conference "Europe shall hear you" has taken a closer look on those two words. Hereby, especially the young target group revealed some social and political problems and demanded better conditions from Europe. The main problem with the topic "united or divided" are the political decisions which too often are too far away from the reality of the young population. As a conclusion, one can say that only strong individuals can build a strong community - a strong community that is especially needed for the future.

1. Europe should make sure that economic activity contributes to commonwealth.
The common good in Europe must come to the fore. Some people are still at the mercy of poor working conditions.

Therefore, basic principles for the entire commonwealth have to be developed. This requires places where the principles are not only respected but also shaped. Europe should promote production conditions that give workers a say in working hours, working conditions, opportunities for working from home, etc.

2. Europe should encourage young people to start social engagement.
Generation Y and Z is the future of tomorrow. However, Europe still has to face a lack of social engagement coming from this generations. Therefore, Europe has to take the responsibility of encouraging the youth to take social actions. Hereby, it is important that young people have an easy access to programs, funds, etc. to implement their ideas for social engagements on a local level.

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3. Europe should invest more in political education.

Europe has to invest more into political education since there is a tremendous lack of qualitative information for young people in schools. Political education needs to be implemented in the syllabus of an education institution through workshops or an own subject. Before an election, representatives of local parties should organize visits in schools to inform the young population about their mission and vision for the future. But not only theoretical education is important but also practical participation that needs to be promoted. Hereby, Europe needs to support schools to open up political groups for students that are interested in this field and want to work in a young community.

4. Europe should promote young leaders.

Young people need trust and a feeling of community. It is important to assure the younger generation that their opinions matter and that Europe is listening to them. Especially young people with strong leadership qualities have to be supported and promoted. Therefore, we need young leader initiatives where they can get inspired. Hereby, the youth needs to be included in European topics and programs such as Erasmus that have to be more popularized in order to build a strong youth community.

5. Europe should provide more information about "Europe" to the youth.

Young people are lacking information about Europe, their possibilities and issues. Europe has to spread more information of what the youths can do in order to make their future more like their visions and values. Hereby, the platforms young people use have to be taken into consideration. Information do not need to be provided in form of paper advertisements such as flyers or catalogues but in a digital way by using channels such as Instagram, Facebook or Twitter. Europe needs to regularly publish information concerning Europe and political topics on those platforms and make it available to the youths.

6. Europe should support intergenerational programs.

Political and economic discussions affect not only young people but also older people. Europe needs to organize intergenerational conferences, discussions or practical projects in order to build a community of people of all age groups. Therefore, opinions and perspectives on topics concerning Europe or a respective country can be exchanged, and the younger generation can have a feeling of unity and support of the older ones.

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7. Europe needs to include young people outside of the European Union

Europe is more than the EU - young people need to be encouraged to get to know other youth cultures outside the EU. And young people from countries like Ukraine, Belarus, Georgia should get easier access to EU youth or exchange programs. The EU should create creative space to bring youth from EU and non-EU countries together.

Authors: [Moderator: Jürgen Buch, Rapporteur: Jennifer Klenk]

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NILS KÖBEL (KEYNOTE, CLUSTER A)

Nils Köbel is a German educational scientist who has been teaching as a professor of education at the Catholic University of Mainz since 2017. He became known to a wider audience as the host of the podcast Soziopod, which won the Grimme Online Award in 2013.

JÜRGEN STEINER (PANELIST, CLUSTER A)

Senior Manager Corporate Communication, SCHOTT AG

Jürgen Steiner works in Marketing and Communication at SCHOTT in Mainz, a leading international technology group in the fields of special glass and glass ceramics. As Senior Manager Corporate Communication, he is responsible for the communication of general group topics, including the main topics of group profile, sustainability and company history.
Before joining SCHOTT in 1989, Steiner studied political science and history at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz. He then worked there as a research associate and received his doctorate.

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SUSAN RANCHBER (PANELIST, CLUSTER A)

Susan Ranchber leads the project right.open at right. based on science - a provider of climate metrics and software, founded in Frankfurt in 2016. right. has developed the X-Degree Compatibility (XDC) Model to calculate the impact a company, portfolio or other economic entity has on global warming (Temperature Alignment). The results are expressed as a tangible degree Celsius value. The aim: to bring maximum transparency on climate-related risks and opportunities to the market. right.open was launched by right. in May 2019 as a first step in going open source with the XDC Model. Driven by the vision of a future in which science, business and policy work together to address the challenges of global warming, right.open provides researchers and decision makers with the tools, the training and the network of support needed to create collaborative and science-based responses to this pressing challenge.

Prior to leading the development of right. open, Susan contributed to developing the green startup ecosystem in Frankfurt through her role as GreenTech Hub Manager and Innovation Product Manager at the Frankfurt-based innovation platform TechQuartier. Susan joined TechQuartier after having worked as an analyst and operational developer with a focus on operationalizing Agenda 2030 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals at Vinnova - the Swedish Governmental Innovation Agency. Susan holds a M.Sc. in Business and Economics from Stockholm University and a M.Sc. in Sustainable Development from Uppsala University.

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JÜRGEN BUCH (MODERATOR CLUSTER A)

Jürgen Buch is the moderator for Cluster A.
He is a part of the DBJW since summer 2020.
With his knowledge and his engagement, he became an important team member.
Jürgen Buch is a radio and TV journalist from Berlin, who often deals with topics concerning central and eastern Europe. He also works as a tour guide for culture trips to Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, and Russia, and as a translator of texts from Lithuanian into German.

JENNIFER KLENK (REPORTER, CLUSTER A)

Jenny Klenk is 22 years old and comes from Stuttgart in Germany. She studies a double degree program in International Management in the 5th semester at the University of Applied Sciences Würzburg-Schweinfurt and the Shih Chien University Taipei in Taiwan.

During her first two semesters in Germany, she worked as a working student for the soccer club VfB Stuttgart in the service center. In her leisure time she likes to cook, drink coffee, enjoy the nature, meet friends, play soccer, and do other kinds of sport.

She is in Vilnius for a cross-divisional internship at the German-Baltic Chamber of Commerce that goes until March 2021. After her gap year in Canada and her 1-year-stay in Taiwan, Lithuania is her first stop in the Baltic states – so far, she really likes it and she is excited to explore even

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more of the country. Next year, she will be back at the University in Germany to achieve her bachelor's degree. For the future, she plans to do a master´s degree in Sportsmanagement in order to be able to work in the sport sector after finishing her studies. She is delighted to be part of the conference "EUROPE SHALL HEAR YOU" of the "Deutsch-Baltisches Jugendwerk" and looks forward to hearing the speakers talking about such interesting topics.

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CLUSTER B

For a few or for everyone? How can we ensure active participation in a digital society?

Tartu, 18.10.2020
Moderator: Kristjan Tedremaa
Rapporteur: Lara Löser

We live in an era of digital society, where people spend more and more time online. This online environment and digital society influence our beliefs, behavior, and activities daily, which also include political decision making and participation. Although the new digital sphere gives us almost unlimited information around the clock and opens many doors, which for a long time have been closed for many people, it also bears certain downsides: the creation of information bubbles and hive minds, which tend to lead to radicalization, limited access for people with fewer digital skills, loosely regulated platforms and massive use of personal data are just a few issues with which we have to deal with.

Key-issues:

A) Who should have control over the platforms so that the well-being of the users is assured?

B) How to face undemocratic influences in a digital environment?

C) The red line – where do digital freedom end and responsibility begin?

D) How to limit the spread of fake news?

E) How to identify minorities in the digital sphere?

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Propositions for key-issues:

1. Who should have control over the platforms so that the well-being of the users is assured?   Setting ethical standards and using a data strategy for Artificial Intelligence   Until now, the main problems are caused due to inner-European differences on how to deal with platforms. Therefore, we agreed that the European Union should set obligatory ethical standards for these kinds of companies. Furthermore, these specific standards should be an addition to the "White Paper" that the European Commission published this year in February. The supplement also includes a data strategy for Artificial Intelligence that will help to create a single market and assure the citizens' well-being. Another measure should involve the constitution of an independent Executive Committee for data protection that is acting on a European level.

1. How to face undemocratic influences in a digital environment?
   1.1. Identification is the first action
   In this case, we are talking about the personal recognition of undemocratic content. That requires awareness of the problem of filter-bubbles and a lack of digital competencies. A lot can be done by the individual when it comes to fighting undemocratic influences. Therefore, we need to give competent tools for the identification of this unwelcome content online.

   1.2. Teaching digital and political competencies
   We need an educational system that educates about technologies as well as the risks and dangers that come with it. With solid educational competencies, the identification of fake news and trolling is ensured on a personal level.
   The education could be taking place in schools implemented in subjects like media studies, seminars and workshops in public institutions and of course in workspaces.

   Additionally, there is a need to raise awareness of democratic values to be able to recognize undemocratic

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ones. Therefore, teaching political competencies is also required.

1.3. We are proposing platforms for political education for every Member State in the European Union. For this, we take as a role model the German platform BPB (Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung) that is functioning on a state and regional level and assures the mediation of democratic values and fact-checked information. Platforms like BPB help to prevent the dissemination of false information online and set common standards for informing the public on the main issues of society. The obligatory possession of such a platform for every Member State could create a foundation for digital debates about politics in the future.

2. The red line – where do digital freedom end and responsibility begin?

2.1. We need a single European answer and response. Since we want to play a role in the digital market, we have to respond in unity. In the future, it won't be possible to reply separately to problems like the banning of the 5G from Huawei.

2.2. Update of the Treaty of Lisbon We need a digital constitution on what grounds we can define the line between responsibility and digital freedom. A key for that could be Artificial Intelligence policies that should also be embraced in the constitution. With this achievement, we can define borders and can start to research Artificial Intelligence in the areas needed.

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2.3. The creation of a minimum kind of ethical standards

For that, we take as a role model the Copenhagen criteria of the EU. The criteria implement and define the guarantee of democracy, the rule of law, human rights, as well as respect for and protection of minorities. That is a suitable basis for creating ethical standards in the digital sphere.

3. How to limit the spread of fake news?

3.1. Education

We believe that fake news is only then successful if there are people who trust in them. So, education is key to recognizing and dealing with them.

3.2. Keeping an open dialogue

Constitutions must be transparent and keep an open dialogue with the public sphere. Therefore, the ground on what fake news is produced won't be so fertile.

3.3. The 4th power, journalism, is lacking and has to be reinforced

There is a common distrust in the mainstream media, and the trust in them has to be restored. Otherwise, the development of filter-bubbles would be inevitable.

3.4. We have to raise the debate about political inscriptions and labeling

It would be fatal to forget that fake news is, more and more, instrumentalized for labeling other politicians in identifying them, for example, as populists. By raising the debate, we can assure awareness of the dangers.

3.5. Obligatory fact-checking for platforms in cooperation with a third-party organization on the state level

We propose to implement fact-checking protocols together with social media platforms. These practices have already been implemented, for example, in the Czech Republic. There, Facebook is working together with the website ‚demagog.cz', which is fact-checking politicians' speeches. We suggest making such cooperation with platforms in every Member State obligatory to ensure better communication between the

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two agents, the Member States of the European Union and the platforms.

4. How to identify minorities in the digital sphere?   Redefine minority

We realized that there is a need for a new definition of minorities in the digital sphere. In this case, establishing the definition based on numbers or power won't do justice to, for example, the older generation who is despite their large number of people underrepresented on these platforms. Just like in real life, minorities on the internet should be (over-)represented, and the majority is to be informed about them. While educating people, propagating acceptance of the minority should be the highest goal. Instead of forcing its will, the majority should be open to discussion. And the minority should have its safe place on the internet, where it can feel secure.

Authors: [Moderator: Kristjan Tedremaa, Rapporteur: Lara Löser]

IVARS IJABS (KEYNOTE SPEAKER, CLUSTER B):

Ivars Ijabs is a Member of the European Parliament, elected in 2019 from the electoral alliance "Attīstībai/Par!".

Before entering politics, he was a widely known political scientist, publicist, associated professor at the University of Latvia and a researcher at the Advanced Social and Political Research Institute of the University of Latvia.

MALTE ENGELMANN (PANELIST, CLUSTER B)

Malte Engelmann works as a policy advisor to a Member of the German Bundestag (German Parliament). He studied International Political Management (B.A.) as well as European and World Politics (M.A.) in Bremen, Germany and Groningen, Netherlands. He was Chairman of the Junge Union (Young Christian Democrats) in the State of Bremen and member of the International Commission of the Junge Union Deutschlands.

His main fields of work are soft power aspects in security policy, german foreign cultural and educational policy, digital diplomacy and security policy in the Baltic Sea Region. He is member of the German Council on Foreign Relations (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik / DGAP) and the foreign policy Think Tank Polis180 in Berlin.

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KRISTJAN TEDREMAA (MODERATOR, CLUSTER B)

Kristjan has a master's degree in Political Science and Governance from
Tallinn University. He has also completed a Management and Engagement course at the University of South Carolina. Kristjan was the vice-chairman of Board at the Estonian National Youth Council, where his role was to advocate the rights of Estonian youth organizations on international, national and local level.

Kristjan currently works as a research and consultant in the private sector where he conducts management and personnel surveys and research. In addition, he's currently serving as a member of board at the Estonian Scout Association.

LARA LÖSER (REPORTER, CLUSTER B)

Lara is 21 years old and comes from Germany. Almost three years ago, she moved to Estonia to study the languages German, Estonian, and English at the University of Tartu. Lara has always been interested in the world and the cultures of the different countries that occur in it. As a result, she has developed a healthy amount of wanderlust and curiosity.

Due to her current studies, Lara understands more and more every day how important it is to get to know and understand the world and the people living in it and their culture. Therefore, she decided to put her heart into the work of the Deutsch-Baltisches Jugendwerk (DBJW) as representative of the DBJW Country Office in Estonia. To reach and connect even more people through her work, that is Lara's goal.

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CLUSTER C

To whom shall my data belong? Data sovereignty

Vilnius, 18.10.2020
Moderator: Ivo Visak
Rapporteur: Eva Eirich, Kilian Simon

Current Situation:

During our conference in Vilnius, were we able to identify several key issues regarding data sovereignty, which we as young European citizens feel a need to be addressed. With technology becoming increasingly present in our lives, the proper and lawful usage of data by both private and state actors has become vital for societal coexisting. Data and its collection have the potential to be either beneficial for us all or, with the wrong legal framework, to serve only the few who can exploit it. The EU already set a legal precedent with its GDPR regulation, however, as with some many precedents, especially in the fairly new field of data collection, is it imperfect. We believe that further action must be taken to create a better and fairer future for all of us.

Identified issues and proposed solutions:

Issue A: Protecting personal data as human right vs commercialization of personal data
With data becoming a commercial good, is it important to remember that privacy and the protection of one's own data is and should be covered by the law. Since the usage of personal data should be determined by originator of the data, we propose a personal data "wallet". Individuals would be able to decide exactly when and where to give access and control of their personal data to third or second party providers.

Issue B: Patterns of unethical design when giving consent to processing your personal data
While the usage of data in an ethical way is already included in the GDPR, it is also true that the concept of consenting to the processing of personal data is often deceiving. The flow of data should only be allowed if the individual is giving consent, not only passive but active conformation for the usage and processing of their personal data.

Issue C: Processing of data in a lawful way
Data processing must happen in a regulated and lawful way. Consent for the usage of personal data must be given via active conformation. The product and/or usage of data should be clearly identified by the data processing provider.

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Issue D: Big data for the common good vs personal data privacy

As we have seen during the Covid-19 crisis, the usage of certain data can be very helpful. If used correctly, it can advance our society. Understanding the possible societal benefits to making data available is a major step to making data collection a common good. Individuals must be able to fully understand the reward for both society and the individuals themselves that are giving up their data.

Issue E: Low media literacy on our digital rights vs. dependency on trust in new technology and technology companies

As data collection in the digital sphere is a comparatively new phenomenon, many citizens do not fully understand their rights. Media literacy education and campaigns for non-digital natives, early teachings on the possibilities and dangers of the internet and identity theft awareness campaigns are a useful tool to generate a more literate and digitally confident society. Furthermore, easy access and transparency on how your data is being used should be considered vital. An EU wide policy like the Estonian x-Road would be one possible solution.

Issue F: Identify individuals through combining non-personal data

With the current legal framework, companies are able to combine non-personal data to identify individuals. Those regulatory gaps should be closed. Additionally, clear definitions of personal data are to be added.

Issue G: Dependency on closed and dominant software ecosystems

Under the current situation in the digital sphere, individuals are highly dependent on closed or dominant software ecosystems. These providers need to abide to European jurisdiction, not only when the data is physically located in the EU, but also when European data is being used.

Issue H: Processing data in a lawful way:

The processing of data must be done in a lawful manner. Companies need to clearly identify how data is being used and what product/service they deliver in exchange for the data they collect and process. Further must privacy and data sovereignty be linked to human dignity and made understandable to society.

Future perspective:

It is our believe as young European/German/Baltic citizens that action must be taken now, and that a concrete and precise legal framework for the usage and collection of data must exist. This must be done to ensure a smooth transition into an increasingly digitalized world, with induvial liberties

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and sovereignty at the heart of it. We do not underestimate the possible benefits of data collection, and we understand that data collection is a helpful and perhaps necessary tool to ensure the prosperity and well-being of our nations. Nevertheless, human dignity should not come in second place. We, the young people, wish to be included into the future policy making process and expect the policy makers to change the current situation rather sooner than later.

Authors: [Moderator: Ivo Visak, Rapporteur: Eva Eirich, Kilian Simon]

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PAULIUS JURČYS (KEYNOTE SPEAKER, CLUSTER C)

Dr. Paulius Jurčys is co-founder of a San Francisco-based data technology company Prifina and a senior research fellow at Vilnius University Faculty of Law. His main areas of expertise are data privacy law, intellectual property, copyright, and innovation.

Previously, Paulius worked at Google Japan and at a corporate law firm in Tokyo, Japan. He graduated from Harvard Law School (LL.M.) and holds a doctoral degree in law. Since 2015, Paulius has been serving as a Teaching Fellow at Harvard's Berkman Center's online teaching project CopyrightX. He has also published a number of law review articles on IP, copyright, international law, and the future of data technologies.

MAIT VALBERG (PANELIST, CLUSTER C)

Mait is a lawyer from Estonia specializing in data protection and privacy, intellectual property, e-commerce and corporate law. Excited about law and technology, Mait's career revolves around where the two meet and how that will shape the future. An MA in Law was followed by an MA in IT-Law from the University of Tartu and future plans include knowledge improvement in computer science.

Currently, Mait works as an associate at an international business law firm Magnusson advising start-ups to mid-market businesses and well-established multinational companies on all areas of IT law and general technology-related legal matters. He keeps his eye on the latest developments in IT and is an active member of different IT lawyers' networks. Mait is interested in boosting the Estonian start-up ecosystem through different mentorship and co-operation initiatives.

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CLAUDIA OTTO (PANELIST, CLUSTER C)

Claudia is a German lawyer. She was born in Berlin and lives in Frankfurt/Main. She founded the Frankfurt law firm "COT Legal" in 2016. In 2017 she founded Recht innovativ (Ri), an academic journal dealing with digitization, the future of law and the impact of technical innovations on legal services. As a lawyer and editor-in-chief, author, and speaker, she stands for responsible and reasonable digitization: Opportunities and risks must be balanced in order to promote progress, both for the individual and for society as a whole.

Currently, Claudia mainly focuses on the areas of BioTech and FinTech. While the Corona crisis continues and progress in the area of digital assets, stablecoins, and digital currencies are in full swing, there are probably no other areas of law where a lawyer could be innovative at this time. Claudia also co-founded the project Legal Automation Blog, a team-led blog offering simple technical solutions for legal professionals in everyday work.

IVO VISAK (MODERATOR, CLUSTER C)

Ivo is school principal from Saaremaa, the biggest island in Estonia and has extensive background in youth work and education.

Ivo has also worked in design agency Velvet as a producer and shares a deep interest in the future of digital design and how to make a more ethical and more privacy-oriented digital environments for everybody.

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EVA EIRICH (REPORTER, CLUSTER C)

Eva is 21 years old and studies International Relations at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, Germany, in her final year. She grew up in a small town in the South of Germany in the beautiful Kocher-valley before moving to Kleve at the Dutch border to attend university. During her second year, Eva was elected to the council of student representatives of her faculty where she served as a member of the finance team. Eva later worked as a course coordinator for a business English school and as an office assistant for a start-up before traveling to Central Mexico for one semester to study at Cuernavaca's International University and improve her Spanish.

At the moment Eva is working as a Public Relations Intern for the German-Baltic Chamber of Commerce in Vilnius. In her free time she likes watching movies, hanging out with friends, exercising, and traveling. This is Eva's first time in Lithuania, and she is very excited to get to know the country and its culture.

KILIAN SIMON (REPORTER, CLUSTER C)

Kilian is currently intern at the German-Baltic Chamber of Commerce in Vilnius. He is from Germany and is living in Lithuania. During his studies of political science, the Baltic region was often mentioned as an example of exceptional democratic development, digital advancement, and overall success as new nations. Learning about the region from afar was not enough for Kilian, that is why he moved to Estonia for his student exchange in 2019, where he immediately fell in love with the region.

Before Kilian started to study at the University of Mannheim, he volunteered with the "weltwaerts" program. He worked in a school for blind people in the Dominican Republic. During that period Kilian had the opportunity to learn about both the life and culture of Latin-America. Kilian continued being a volunteer at his university, where he became a board member of the social initiative RockYourLIfe! RockYourLIfe! connects pupils from

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disadvantaged backgrounds with university students. Their goal is it to overcome the social hurdle many pupils face in an equal society and help them to reach potential which might otherwise would have been lost. Now that Kilian is in

Lithuania he hopes to gain more insight into the Baltic way of life and the relationship between the Baltics and Germany.

CLUSTER D

Cure or Design – What kind of genetic engineering do we want?

Hamburg, 18.10.2020
Moderator: Maximilian Wende
Rapporteur: Max Schmid

Cluster D dealt with genetic engineering and the question of whether we want this in the form of "cure" or "design". With great help from the biochemist Gediminas Drabavičius, the medical ethicist Julia Inthorn and the immunologist Edo Kapetanovic, the participants were able to discuss this subject.

It became apparent relatively early that the conference participants from the Baltic States and Germany are categorically against the "design" aspect of genetic engineering. Further discussions dealt with the "red line" and the social dimension of genetic engineering. Constructive discussions resulted in the conclusion that no genetic modifications are moral beyond a medical benefit. Examples for modifications without medical benefit are eye or hair color, weight, height or intelligence.

In the social dimension, the participants dealt with two problems. First, the cure of diseases through genetic engineering should not be linked to financial resources. Every person should have equal access to medical options. Secondly, the establishment of human germline engineering could reduce society-wide tolerance towards chronic diseases and disabilities. In this regard, the state must take action and secure the rights of minorities.

The main conclusion is that the European Union should take an proactive part on a global scale to promote public engagement/deliberation and provide more open minded platforms for discussions, just like the DKBVilnius.

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1. Active role in regulations concerning genetic engineering

The European Union should support an environment in which certain genetic modifications with a medical purpose are permitted. This prevents people who want such treatment from accessing an unregulated and illegal black market outside of Europe.

2. Open and broad debate on genetic engineering

Genetic engineering will not only influence our own life, but also the life of our descendants. A society-wide debate is necessary in order to be able to find widely accepted regulations in this regard. In such debates, the chronically ill and handicapped should explicitly be able to contribute their wishes and suggestions.

3. Genetic Engineering should be accessible to everyone.

The existing social inequalities in many European countries are economic, cultural and social in nature. If Genetic Engineering is only available for a few in monetary terms, the inequality will be extended by the genetic dimension. Social justice will no longer be achievable from that point on.

4. Self-determined decision of the parents whether a child should be born healthy with the help of Genetic Engineering.

Genetic Engineering cannot be mandatory. Even if it is foreseeable that the child will be born with a chronic disease or disability, it must still be the decision of the parents if they wish to intervene with genetic engineering. This also includes that welfare state services for chronically ill and disabled people will not be dismantled and that these persons will not be discriminated against.

5. Genetic Engineering should be used for Cure

European funds should be used for research to prevent or cure diseases with genetic engineering. The disease must have a medical relevance and its background must already have been researched. If a european company conducts research in a third country, european regulations must apply to the test subjects.

6. Genetic engineering should not be used for design.

Human germline engineering that do not pursue a relevant medical benefit should not be allowed. Neither parents nor

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any government should have the possibility to circumvent this regulation. Concrete examples of a "design" of a baby are eye and hair color, height, weight or intelligence.
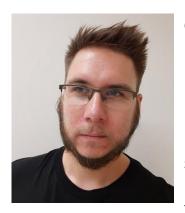
7. Tolerance towards the chronic ill and disabled

A danger that emerges with the spread of genetic engineering is the possibility of a decreasing tolerance towards sick and disabled children and people. If all parents have the chance to bring a healthy child into the world, the tolerance towards chronically ill and disabled people could decrease. This is where states must act, for example by normalizing chronically ill and disabled people through inclusion classes and other aid programs.

Authors: [Moderator: Maximilian Wende, Rapporteur: Max Schmid]

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GEDIMINAS DRABAVIČIUS (KEYNOTE SPEAKER, CLUSTER D)

Gediminas is a PhD student at Vilnius University (under the guidance of the Nobel-nominated Professor of Biochemistry, Virginijus Šikšnys) in Lithuania and KU Leuven in Belgium. He is doing a dual degree, where he splits his time between researching bacterial immune systems and using them to edit mammalian genomes. Gediminas has worked on CRISPR-Cas systems, from which main genome editing tools are derived, for about five years and more recently, he has expanded to using Cas9 protein to edit mammalian cell genomes to better understand how bacterial toxins target human cells. During this period, Gediminas, with colleagues, has discovered novel mechanisms of how bacteria gain immunity using CRISPR-Cas systems. Furthermore, using technology known as genome-wide CRISPR knock-out screening, they have found novel mechanisms, which bacterial toxins use to kill human cells. These mechanisms can be potentially useful in protecting against several bacterial toxins.

In the near future, Gediminas hopes to use the variety of skills he has picked up during his PhD to study and edit the non-coding human genome. Which, so far, has been relatively understudied and is one of the last frontiers of biology.

EDO KAPETANOVIC (PANELIST, CLUSTER D)

Edo is a medical doctor by training, currently pursuing a doctorate degree in immunoengineering at ETH. His research revolves around genetic manipulation of immune cells for development of novel cancer therapies.

Edo is excited about the future advancements in medicine and vigilant about the ethical questions it will raise.

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JULIA INTHORN (PANELIST, CLUSTER D)

Dr. Julia Inthorn has been Director of the Center for Health Ethics in Hannover since October 2018. Together with her team, she works and researches on current medical, bio- and nursing ethics issues, participates in social discourses and organizes scientific conferences and advanced training courses. Julia studied mathematics and statistics as well as adult education and earned a doctorate in philosophy.

After working as a research associate in Munich, Vienna, Göttingen, Uppsala and Mainz, Julia became head of the Center for Health Ethics. Her research focuses on ethical questions of the digitalization of medicine and care, risk communication, health and justice and ethical questions at the beginning and end of life. Julia's research is empirical-ethical and combines social science methods with normative approaches. She is a member of the Central Ethics Commission at the German Medical Association.

MAXIMILIAN WENDE (MODERATOR, CLUSTER D)

Maximilian is 28 years old and lives in the student city of Göttingen, where he studies geography.
He is very committed to climate change and is pursuing it with great motivation.
In addition to his involvement with Scientists for Future, he has been a participant in the DBJW for many years and has attended numerous events. At the DBK Digital in summer 2020, he was also a moderator for Cluster D and is now continuing this at the conference.

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MAX SCHMID (REPORTER, CLUSTER D)

Max is our reporter for Cluster D. He joined the DBJW-Team in the beginning of 2020. He studies sociology and is very active at Campus media, where he creates short films and funny records with his creativity.

Max also writes literature and music reviews and is a host of a radio show.
He complements the team of Cluster D with his joy to work and reliable humour ingeniously. His dedication and participation speak through his actions for sustaining a more open Europe.

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The "Ideas for Europe" papers developed at
this Vilnius conference will be discussed
with decision makers at our Tallinn2021
conference.

So stay tuned and join us next year!

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