

# Das digitale Europa. Digital Europe.

No borders, no limits?

5. – 7. Juni 2019 | Schloss Seggau, Leibnitz 5 – 7 June 2019 | Seggau Castle, Leibnitz





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# The Whitsun Dialogues

The "Geist & Gegenwart" ("The spirit & the present") Whitsun Dialogues have been taking place at Seggau Castle biennially since 2005. The aim is to reflect on the challenges and problems facing Europe and produce statements and publications to contribute to an ongoing dialogue about the future. It is also always an opportunity to assess the current state of "Project Europe": its progress, hopes and opportunities but also the risks and problems.

With seven events held so far, the Whitsun Dialogue has become established as a formal platform for fruitful interdisciplinary and international debate about fundamental principles, set in the context of the southern Styrian border region, where four European cultures meet.

"Geist & Gegenwart" is a series of events in the Austrian state of Styria which take place under the auspices of the Department of Science for the state of Styria, led by Regional Minister MMag.a Barbara Eibinger-Miedl, who is responsible for the Department of Business, Tourism, Europe, Science and Research. Organised in cooperation with Club Alpbach Styria, Styrian universities and the diocese of Graz-Seckau, the biennial Whitsun Dialogues and the quarterly "Geist & Gegenwart – Dialogue Events" held in the Main Hall of the Old University in Graz make a serious intellectual contribution to Styria's development.





# Digital Europe.

The growing momentum behind digitalisation is bringing about undreamtof change in our lives. Disruptive technologies such as 3D printing with its many applications, autonomous vehicles, robotics and mobile Internet, and their seemingly limitless possibilities, will all play their part in giving Europe a new look very quickly.

This brings great opportunities, but, as discussions in recent months have shown, also complex challenges. In many regards, Europe is currently at an important crossroads. What will a digital Europe look like?

What kind of developments are possible and which are unavoidable? And how can we (still) control these developments? How should Europe position itself in global competition? How will digitalisation change our economy, the world of work and our society? What, in turn, does that mean for communication and (political) decision-making processes? What ethical and social challenges does digitalisation bring?

Which boundaries are being crossed, what kind of restrictions are required? Can Europe's cultural diversity be a strength in this situation? And what role is played by Europe's regions and cross-border areas such as the Alpe-Adria region?

# Procedure & programme

Presentations, debates by experts and small workshop-style groups – the Whitsun Dialogue offers a range of formats and ways of entering into dialogue, exchanging ideas and gaining a new perspective.

The approximately 75 speakers at the 2019 Whitsun Dialogue include:

Markus BEYRER, BusinessEurope, Ingrid BRODNIG, journalist, Wolfgang BURTSCHER, DG RESEARCH, Tim COLE, journalist & IT pioneer, Judith DENKMAYR, Addendum, Heinz FASSMANN, Federal Minister, Andreas GERSTENMAYER, AT&S, Ralf HERBRICH, Amazon Head of Machine Learning, Matthias KARMASIN, communication scientist, Gerhard KRACHLER, Magna Steyr, Archbishop Franz LACKNER, Katharina LADEWIG, European Institute of Innovation & Technology, Stefanie LINDSTAEDT, Know-Center, Markus MAIR, Styria Media AG, Stefan MANGARD, Graz University of Technology, Heinz MAYER, JR-DIGITAL, Antonella MEI-POCHTLER, Think Austria, Paul NEMITZ, DG JUST, Bernhard PÖRKSEN, media scientist. Jeremias PRASSL, Oxford University, Franz ROTTER, voestalpine, Friedrich SANTNER, Anton Paar, Eberhard SCHOCKENHOFF, moral theologist, Peter SLOTERDIJK, philosopher, Sarah SPIEKERMANN-HOFF, WU Wien, Charlotte STIX, Cambridge University, Gerfried STOCKER, Ars Electronica Center, Sandra THIER, Diego5, Stefan THURNER, Complexity Science Hub Vienna, Peter UMUNDUM, Post AG, Christiane WENDEHORST, German Data Ethics Commission, Loize WIESER, publisher, Stefan WINKLER, Artificial Intelligence Singapore, Siegfried WOLF, manager, Alexander WRABETZ, ORF, Werner WUTSCHER, New Venture Scouting.

More information can be found at: www.pfingstdialog-steiermark.at



## **Programme**

#### Wednesday, 5 June 2019

09.00 – 17.00 Workshops and seminars

18.00 Opening of the 2019 Whitsun Dialogue Keynote speeches and inputs on the general theme

20.30 Reception hosted by the Styrian government

#### Thursday, 6 June 2019

09.00 Forum "Europe in global competition"

11.00 Forum "Artificial Intelligence"

14.00 – 17.00 Insieme (workshop) groups

- Mobility in the future
- E-health: concepts for the future
- Digital infrastructure and security
- Information and manipulation in democratic debate
- Culture and media digital and analog worlds
- Transformation of business and careers
- Digitization in production killing jobs or securing employment?
- Trust in technology

17.30 Keynote speech Peter Sloterdijk

19.30 Literary-culinary evening

#### Friday, 7 June 2019

09.00 Keynote speech

"Digitalisation and the concept of humanity"

10.00 Forum "The ethics of the digital debate"

12.30 Conclusions and closing words

Last updated March 2019 - subject to change.

# Attending the conference

Join in a high-caliber interdisciplinary and international sharing of experience! Taking part in a "Geist & Gegenwart" Whitsun Dialogue offers new insights and perspectives, knowledge "from the horse's mouth", a sharing of experience and a networking opportunity. Take this chance to join in the debate in the inspiring atmosphere of Seggau Castle, talk to interesting people from all over Europe about the political, social, economic, cultural and technological challenges facing Europe in a digital future, and enter into an informal sharing of ideas.

# Young academics, young professionals

We hope that the "Geist & Gegenwart" Whitsun dialogues will particularly appeal to young academics and young managers from business and civil society. It is absolutely essential to involve the next generation of opinion-formers in the debate about burning social issues. A number of different partner organizations (including Styrian universities and universities of applied sciences) are offering attractive and flexible opportunities for them to attend the Whitsun Dialogue for one (or more) days.

All the details about participating via special schemes are available at www.pfingstdialog-steiermark.at

# Scholarship programme

This year once again we would like to enable interested young people from all over Europe to take part in the whole of the Whitsun Dialogue by offering a grants scheme. The offer is available to young, interested people under the age of 35. The grants cover the entry fee, meals and accommodation.

All the information about applying for a grant can be found at www.pfingstdialog-steiermark.at

## **Participation**

You can sign up for the whole event or for individual days.

3-day ticket (Wed – Fri)	€ 480,-
Day ticket for Wed, 5 June 2019	€ 150,–
Day ticket for Thu, 6 June 2019	€ 350,-
Day ticket for Fri, 7 June 2019	€ 180,–

Tickets include meals, but not any overnight accommodation if required.

For information about accommodation options, see www.pfingstdialog-steiermark.at

Discounted tickets are available for young people under the age of 30. Please also note the option of participating under the special schemes for young academics and young professionals, and the scholarship programme. Those schemes are particularly aimed at younger generations. All the details are at www.pfingstdialog-steiermark.at

# Become a sponsoring partner

Holding the Whitsun Dialogues would be impossible without the support of sponsors and other institutions. By supporting us, you are making a valuable contribution to meaningful interdisciplinary dialogue. Please contact us at: herwig.hoesele@clubalpbachsteiermark.at





Pfingstdialog Steiermark 2019 www.geistundgegenwart.at

#### Forum für politische, wissenschaftliche, kulturelle, wirtschaftliche und soziale Fragen eines neuen Europas

#### Contact

#### Pfingstdialog Geist & Gegenwart 2019

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#### Land Steiermark Manuel P. NEUBAUER

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Eine Veranstaltung des Landes Steiermark in Zusammenarbeit mit der Diözese Graz-Seckau und dem Club Alpbach Steiermark.

This event is hosted by the Styrian Government in cooperation with the









#### Programme partners:





















