

Platformization of Society
Power, Participation, and
Social Transformation

17 | 18
SEPT | 2026



Platform ization

Call for Papers International PhD Conference



INSTITUTE FOR
ADVANCED STUDIES
VIENNA



ABOUT

The two-day PhD Conference explores the growing influence of digital platforms on social, economic, cultural, and political life. From mobility and communication to intimate relationships and cultural production, platforms are deeply embedded in everyday life, reshaping infrastructures, power relations, and social practices.

Doctoral researchers from all disciplines are invited to submit abstracts of 300-500 words examining the interplay between platform governance, evolving norms and expectations, identities, labor relations, and their impact on inequalities.

PARTICIPATION

Submission due date **April 8, 2026**
Conference fee **€150**

TOPICS

- Platform governance and regulation
- Labor relations in the gig economy
- Disinformation and democratic erosion
- Dating platforms and digital intimacy
- Digital activism and resistance

KEY INFO

 **September 17-18, 2026**
 **Institute for Advanced Studies
Vienna, Austria**

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Taina Bucher

Prof. of Media & Communication
University of Oslo



Anne Helmond

Assoc. Prof. of Media, Data & Society
Utrecht University



Fernando van der Vlist

Asst. Prof. of Critical Data & AI
University of Amsterdam

ORGANIZERS

Junior Research Group **Digitalization and Social Transformation**; Laura Wiesböck, Nuoyi Wang, Pauline Reitzer, Irina Bănoiu

- Algorithmic systems, interface logics
- Community and identity formations
- Social media and mental health
- Influencer culture, creator economy
- Digital futures of online participation

CONTACT

 **platformization@ihs.ac.at**
 **@digitranslab**

