Smart City & Beyond

How Technology & Urbanism Will Shape The Future

18 – 25 April 2021

Online Version

Abstract

Using Apps for finding a shop or restaurant or looking for some friends nearby is already a reality and millions of people all around the world are using those conveniences every day. By using "big data" and digitalization our cities can turn from mere clusters of people to smart cities—and help us to manage today's and future challenges of growing cities in fields such as administration, urban planning, environment, economic development and others. And in fact, many cities all around the world have implemented smart traffic systems or social media platforms to enhance communications in building blocks and whole neighborhoods. Besides mobility, transportation, and communication, social topics such as transparency, participation and better decision-making will be among the further developments of smarter cities.

While there is much debate about the technological future of smart cities, the political perspective is often absent. This leads to the fact that Smart City workshops tend to rather be showcases of individual case studies rather than discussion platforms about the future of cities. Yet, these debates are necessary. Because especially in times of a pandemic density and therefore the very concept of urbanization came into questions. This workshop will provide a unique space to approach and discuss the topic of smart cities from a holistic perspective. Based on a first principles approach, this seminar will bring together technology, urbanization, and governance—and allow participants to dive into a variety a topics, ranging from urban planning and urban design, to the meaning and economics of cities, innovation, institutional competition and governance, entrepreneurship and progress, as well as the ethics of privacy.

Daily Themes:
- **Urbanism:** "Stadtluft Macht Frei!"
- **The Pandemic City:** Density in a post-COVID-19 World
- **Order Without Design:** Urban Planning vs. Neighborhood Control
- **Roadshow:** Smart Cities All Around the World

- **Killer App:** How Software Eats the World
- **Big Tech & Control:** Democracy, Control & Grassroots Participation

Duration: 9 days, 6 full content days + 2 onboarding/logistics etc. + 1 final hackathon

Logistics/ Needs:
- Zoom (for daily check-in, online lecturers and expert sessions)
- Discord (platform to connect)
- YouTube Videos (for task explanations and context)
- Notion (for resources and eLearning components)
- GSuite (for cooperative group work)
- Participants are expected to have smartphones or other cameras/recording devices

Participation Requirements

Participants successfully qualify if they fulfill the following requirements:
- 80% of the Video Tasks fulfilled (8 out of 10)
- 80% of the Expert Sessions attended (4 out of 5)
- 70% of the Daily-Check-in Session attended (5 out of 7)

All successful participants will be awarded an official certificate by the International Academy for Leadership for completing this course and enter into the IAF Alumni network.

Facilitators

Sven Gerst
Sven Gerst is a PhD Student in Political Philosophy at the Department of Political Economy at King's College London His research mainly focuses on matters of global justice, democratic responsibility, and individual accountability. At King's College London, Sven also teaches courses on political and economic philosophy, environmental economics, meta-ethics, and contemporary issues in applied ethics. He holds a M.Sc. in Philosophy from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) as well as a M.Sc. in Management from the University of Mannheim. Previously, he also studied at Harvard University, St. Petersburg State University, and National Taiwan University.

Armin Reinartz

Armin Reinartz is the Project Director of FNF based in Hong Kong. Armin's interest and work focus on projects related to digital societies and freedom, as well as startups and how they push innovation and progress today's economies and societies. He also coordinates the foundations analytical work in the region, promoting exchange among partners of our global network both inside and outside the foundation. Armin holds a Master of Arts in Contemporary East Asian Studies from Duisburg-Essen University, Germany, and a Master of Public Policy from Peking University, China.

The Foundation

We, the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, promote individual liberty, free and open societies and free markets in Germany and throughout the world. To us freedom is the guiding principle in policy making. We believe that free and open societies are the only societies that allow human beings to decide for themselves what is best, to develop their full potential and to pursue their dreams. This is what we mean when we claim to value human dignity. And it is freedom that produces prosperity. Together with our counterparts – who all share a similar set of values – we support initiatives in Germany and abroad that serve to enhance respect for the rule of law, private property and human rights, that foster tolerance and that strengthen economic freedom rights and democracy.

The programmes of the Foundation's International Academy for Leadership (IAF) form an integral part of our international work and offer Liberals from all parts of the world opportunities to engage in dialogue, an exchange of ideas, networking and mutual cooperation. We aim to inspire.

Venue: Online

Language: English

Registration: 19 March 2021

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