



Rethinking Regulation for Sociotechnical Futures

Smart Regulation Symposium in the Skyroom

Overlooking the rooftops of Graz, the Smart Regulation Symposium 2025 brings together experts from academia, business and civil society to explore the future of regulation in times of technological, environmental and social change. Under the title “Rethinking Regulation for Sociotechnical Futures”, the symposium focuses on the role of regulation to respond to and shape social transformation. A key theme is the relationship between regulatory practice, regulatory frameworks and anticipations about sociotechnical futures: How can smart regulation contribute to sustainable and inclusive futures? How can it reflect shared values while maintaining flexibility and relevance in a rapidly changing world? The symposium offers space for critical discussion, interdisciplinary exchange, and the development of approaches that view regulation as a strategic tool and practice for creating long-term, value-driven impact.

Contributors

Dr. Doris Allhutter, Dr. Maria Bertel, Sebastian Cleemann, Dr. Katja Corcoran, Dr. Ann-Kristin Cordes, Dr. Christoph Durt, Mag. Wolfgang Ebner, Dr. Michael Ehret, Dr. Markus Fallenböck, Dr. Barbara Gunacker Slawitsch, Dr. Juliane Jarke, Dr. Dominik Kowald, Dr. Bettina Kubicek, Dr. Brigitta Lurger, MMag. Hannes Meixner, Dr. Maik Schneider, Dr. Georg Schneider, Dr. David M. Schneeberger, Dr. Kerstin Schlögl-Flierl, Dr. Isabella Seeber, Dr. Stefan Storr, Dr. Stefan Thalmann, Dr. Marvin Walczok, Wolfgang Weingraber

Program

08:30 – Arrival, Registration & Coffee

09:00 – Welcome

Markus Fallenböck, Vice Rector, University of Graz

Stefan Thalmann & Barbara Gunacker-Slawitsch, Speaker Smart Regulation, University of Graz

09:20 – Keynote: Austria's AI Strategy – Perspectives on Governance and Implementation

Wolfgang Ebner, Chief Digital Officer of the Republic of Austria, Federal Chancellery (BKA)

10:20 – Coffee Break

10:40 – Keynote: The Rise of Low-Code / No-Code AI Development: Organizational Opportunities, Governance Implications, and Compliance Challenges

Ann-Kristin Cordes, Digital Innovation, Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel

11:20 – Panel Discussion: Regulating AI Transformation: Governance, Risks, and Societal Impact

Hannes Meixner, Raiffeisen-Landesbank STMK

Stefan Storr, University of Graz

Michael Ehret, University of Graz

Moderator: Bettina Kubicek, University of Graz

11:50 – Keynote: Smart Regulation for Sustainability: Pathways Towards Real-World Impact

Sebastian Cleemann, Author

12:30 – Lunch

13:30 – Panel Discussion: Green Technologies and Smart Growth: Balancing Innovation and Regulatory Frameworks

Wolfgang Weingraber, byeagain GmbH

Brigitta Lurger, University of Graz

Georg Schneider, University of Graz

Moderator: Katja Corcoran, University of Graz

14:00 – Keynote: The Use of AI for Increasing Human Authorship - An Opinion of the German Ethics Council

Kerstin Schlögl-Flierl, Moral Theology, University of Augsburg

14:40 – Panel Discussion: Digital Inclusion and Social Resilience: Defining the Scope of Regulation in the Digital Age

Maria Bertel, University of Graz

Dominik Kowald, Technical University of Graz

Doris Allhutter, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Moderator: Juliane Jarke, University of Graz

15:10 – Expert Roundtable - AI & Society 360°: An Interdisciplinary Outlook on the Sociotechnical Futures

David M. Schneeberger, Legal advisor for AI/ digital law and data protection law

Isabella Seeber, Grenoble Ecole de Management

Marvin Walczok, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Christoph Durt, Technical University of Munich

Moderator: Maik Schneider, University of Graz

16:00 Closing Remarks & Networking