

Artificial Intelligence, Disinformation and Digital Exclusion

The *Digital Age with a Human Face* project culminates with a presentation of the latest findings from research into the problem of digital exclusion in the Czech Republic. A half-day symposium, hosted by the Czech Academy of Sciences, will take place in Prague on Friday, December 1st, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Discussion at the symposium will focus primarily on the implications of digital exclusion for media, but members of the general public are also very welcome. The morning program is organised into three segments.

The opening panel, **Artificial Intelligence in Domestic Newsrooms and Codes (of Ethics/Conduct)**, features Editor-in-Chief of Czech news agency CTK Radka Marková, AI expert Alžběta Solarczyk Krausová, and other media representatives. Together they will explore the extent to which AI tools can or should be embraced by Czech media workers.

Disinformation as a Social Issue is the topic of the second panel featuring esteemed Czech sociologist Marie Heřmanová, who has long stressed the interconnection of misinformation with social inequality and the erosion of trust in the state and its institutions. She is joined in the discussion by Adam Růžička of the H21 Institute and Petr Gongala of Demagog.cz.

The concluding panel, **The Digital Age: IN or OUT?**, focuses on digital exclusion. This is a topic of global concern, especially in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. Barbora Hořavová from the OSF Foundation will present key findings from the latest Czech research into digital exclusion. Kateřina Pešková and Petr Vysuček of Deaf Friendly, an organisation dedicated to boosting accessibility for Czech sign language users, along with Jan Vobořil, an attorney from Czech legal support NGO Iuridicum Remedium, will demonstrate the practical implications of the study's data and what "falling out of the digital society" means in real life.

The symposium is just one of several outcomes of the **Digital Age with a Human Face** project, which has been underway since January 2022. The project has involved a collaboration between luRe, the Centre for Journalism and Artificial Intelligence at Charles University's Faculty of Social Sciences, the Czech Academy of Sciences' Institute of State and Law, and Oslo-based Elektronisk Forpost Norge. This project has already resulted in the development of a human rights and digital technologies course for journalism students at Charles University. Another noteworthy outcome is a comprehensive survey involving over six hundred Czech media workers of journalists' awareness of digital human rights.

Registration for participation at the event can be made at ddl.iure.org/symposium.

For this interested but unable to attend in person, there will be a live online webcast.

Project funded from Norway Funds (No. LP-HRMGSA-017).