JUNE 12-14, 2018
BERLIN-BRANDENBURG ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES (BBAW), BERLIN, GERMANY

TRANSPARENCY AND SOCIETY — BETWEEN PROMISE AND PERIL

For some decades now, “transparency” has become an omnipresent concept in public debates. However, at the same time it appears as both hope and danger, medium of democratization and of surveillance, as augmentation of freedom and a threat to privacy. In the face of this ambivalence, the study of transparency and its role in the development and transformation of modern societies becomes increasingly a field of research in the humanities and social sciences. The Herrenhausen Conference will debate discourses and practices as well as borders and ambiguities of transparency in the context of broader social and cultural change, in particular with regard to publicity, open government, institutional environments, the individual and the digital age. The conference aims to promote a deeper understanding about transparency and identify approaches to handle the different and diverging demands and expectations on transparency within society. Ultimately, it will contribute to the question how a socially accepted balance between security and freedom, between public interest and private sphere can be achieved. The conference will provide a forum for debate between researchers in the field of humanities and social sciences as well as experts from NGOs, civil society and the media. There is no fee for the attendance, but registration is essential. www.volkswagenstiftung.de/tktransparency18

PROGRAM

Tuesday, June 12th, 2018

10:00 A.M. PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP FOR TRAVEL GRANTEES

12:00 A.M. REGISTRATION

1:00 P.M. WORDS OF WELCOME
          Wilhelm Krull, Secretary General, Volkswagen Foundation, Germany

          INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
          Stefan Berger, Institute for Social Movements, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany

1:30 P.M. OPENING LECTURE

          Transparency and its Troubles
          Michael Schudson, Columbia Journalism School, Columbia University, New York, USA

2:30 P.M. COFFEE BREAK

3:00 P.M. SESSION I: TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC POLICY — HISTORICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES
          CHAIR: Stefan Berger

          Transparency in Public Affairs: The Doctrinal Roots of a Successful Political Metaphor
          Sandrine Baume, Centre de droit public, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
Varieties of Transparency as Analytical Tool
David Heald, Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow, UK

Christopher Hood, Government and Public Administration, All Souls College Oxford, UK

5:00 P.M.
YOUNG RESEARCHERS LIGHTNING TALKS I
CHAIR: Sabrina Zajak, Institute for Social Movements, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany

5:30 P.M.
COFFEE BREAK AND POSTER SESSION

6:30 P.M.
KEYNOTE
Has Privacy Become Unreasonable?
Patrick Bahners, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

8:00 P.M.
DINNER

Wednesday, June 13th, 2018

9:00 A.M.
SESSION II: TRANSPARENCY AND OPEN GOVERNMENT
CHAIR: Christoph Bieber, Institute of Political Science, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

Organizational Transparency, Public Communication and Trust
Günter Bentele, Institute of Communication and Media Studies, Leipzig University, Germany

The Other Side of Transparency
Ivan Krastev, Centre for Liberal Strategies, Sofia, Bulgaria

Transparency in Global Governance: the Role of Disclosure in the Governance of Complex Systems
Ann Florini, Public Policy, School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University, Singapore

11:00 A.M.
YOUNG RESEARCHERS LIGHTNING TALKS II
CHAIR: Sabrina Zajak

11:30 A.M.
POSTER SESSION

12:00 A.M.
LUNCH

1:30 P.M.
SESSION III: TRANSPARENCY AND INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT
CHAIR: Ute Schneider, Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, Essen, Germany

Transparency and Economic Development
Jens Forssbaek, Department of Economics, Lund University, Sweden

Transparency and its Limits
Padideh Ala’i, Washington College of Law, American University, Washington D. C., USA
The Two Faces of Transparency: How Much Transparency Is Beneficial? How Much Is Too Much?  
**Stefan Hornbostel**, German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies, Berlin, Germany

3:30 p.m.  
**Young Researchers Lightning Talks III**  
Chair: **Sabrina Zajak**

4:00 p.m.  
**Coffee Break and Poster Session**

5:00 p.m.  
**Session IV: Transparency in the Digital Age**  
Chair: **Susanne Fengler**, Erich Brost Institute for International Journalism, TU Dortmund University, Germany

The Transparency of Democracy: Climate Change, Knowledge and Democracy  
**Nico Stehr**, Karl Mannheim Chair of Cultural Studies, Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen, Germany

Whistleblowers, Media and Democracy  
**Rogério Christofoletti**, Department of Journalism, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil

6:00 p.m.  
**Dinner**

7:00 p.m.  
**Public Lecture**  
Anti-Social Media: How Facebook Divides the World and Undermines Democracy  
**Siva Vaidhyanathan**, Department of Media Studies, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA

8:00 p.m.  
**Reception**

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**Thursday, June 14th, 2018**

9:00 a.m.  
**Session V: Transparency and the Individual—the End of Privacy?**  
Chair: **Martin Butler**, Institute for English and American Studies, Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Germany

Targeted Advertising, Manipulation, and Autonomy  
**Beate Rössler**, Chair of Philosophy and Public Affairs, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Does Transparency Endanger Trust?  
**Martin Hartmann**, Department of Philosophy, University of Lucerne, Switzerland

Stainless Subjects: Transparency Imaginaries of the Avantgarde and Some other Authors  
**Vincent Kaufmann**, Institute for Media and Communications Management, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

11:00 a.m.  
**Coffee Break and Poster Session**
11:30 A.M. Session VI: Towards a “Transparent Society”?  
Chair: Barbara Buchenau, Department of Anglophone Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

Transparency and Populism  
Mark Fenster, Levin College of Law, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA

Transparency, the Public Sphere, and the Privatisation of Human Interests  
Thomas Docherty, English and Comparative Literary Studies, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK

12:45 P.M. Panel Discussion with International Representatives of Civil Society and NGOs  
Chair: Claus Leggewie, Center for Media and Interactivity, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Germany

Norbert Lammert (tbc)  
Anna-Maija Mertens, Transparency International Deutschland  
Thilo Bode, Foodwatch  
Eric Chinje, African Media Initiative

1:45 P.M. Closing Remarks

2:00 P.M. Lunch and End of Conference