Launch event

Platform Economy - Opportunities and Risks for Good Work and the Common Good

When: 17 November 2021
14:30 – 16:30 CET

Where: Video conference with live stream

Languages: German and English

Whether it is the provision of food, media, and medicine or the placement of work, services, and mobility - digital platforms have become an essential part of our daily lives. It is not surprising that the topic of digitization plays a key role in the negotiations on a new German government coalition. Platforms give us new freedoms and at the same time restrict us. Online platforms penetrate more and more areas of life that involve social participation, democracy, and basic services. They effectively create new public infrastructures - but are in the hands of private corporations.

The kick-off of our new Online Talks series will raise and examine the following issues:

- How can governments’ responsibility to provide services of general interest be maintained in the context of the "platform society"? What new responsibilities and functions arise for the public sector?
- How can we counter platform monopolies and strengthen democratic governance?
- What steps must be taken to make these new basic infrastructures secure and resistant to abuse?
- How can the data generated on private platforms be made socially useful and at the same time guarantee data protection rights of citizens as well as employees?
- How can we avoid the expansion of precarious work and instead create good working conditions with legal and social protection? How can co-determination and freedom of association be achieved for platform work?

Presentations will be given by leading experts who will also be available for discussion in German as well as in English (see programme below).

Online Talks is designed for politicians, administrators, researchers, academics, network policy and technical experts, trade unionists, works and staff councils, employees and the self-employed as well as tech workers in various sectors in Germany and abroad.

The event is supported by the European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU) and INPUT Consulting GmbH.

Please note:

The online talk will be recorded (video conference and livestream) and made available online afterwards. In the event of participation with words and pictures, we assume that you agree to the recording and publication.

To register, please click here: Registration

Deadline for registration: 12.11.2021

Further information on the event and the livestream in German and English on the day of the event can be found here: https://www.verdi.de/themen/digitalisierung
ver.di Online Talk on the digital transformation of work and society

17 November 2021 from 2:30pm - 4:30pm CET on:

Platform Economy: Challenges for Good Work and the Common Good

Chaired by: Dr. Julia Kropf

Agenda:

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 2:30  | Opening                       | Michael Fischer and Annette Mühlberg  
Policy and Planning, ver.di National Office                                                          |
| 2:35  | Presentation                  | Trade union policy principles for the digitization of work and society  
Frank Werneke  
President, ver.di                                           |
| 2:45  | Presentation and discussion   | Digital platforms as infrastructures for services of general interest?  
Prof. Dr. Christoph Busch  
Maitre en Droit, Chair of German and European Private and  
Commercial Law; Private International Law University of Osnabrück                                           |
| 3:05  | Presentation and discussion   | Digital platforms - urgently needed: a security and data protection update  
Marit Hansen  
State Commissioner for Data Protection of Schleswig-Holstein                                             |
| 3:25  | Presentation and discussion   | Power Shifts of the Platform Economy: Challenge for Good Digital Work and the Common Good  
Prof. Dr. Philipp Staab  
Humboldt-University of Berlin and Einstein Center Digital Future                                            |
| 3:45  | Framing the issues for the open discussion | Trade union requirements for good work in the platform economy  
Dr. Nadine Müller  
Head of Innovation and Good Work, ver.di National Office                                                  |
| 3:50  | Open Discussion               | What's next? Concrete recommendations for action                                                   |
| 4:25  | Conclusion & Outlook          | Michael Fischer and Annette Mühlberg  
Policy and Planning, ver.di National Office                                                        |
| 4:30  | End of event                  |                                                                                                   |