NEW PARADIGMS OF INFORMATION SOCIETY

Summary syllabus

Study programme and level: Information society, third cycle (PhD)
Course type: Elective

The main purpose of the course is to familiarise students with and provide an in-depth understanding and opportunity for critical reflection on the ever-changing relationship between information technology and contemporary social change within the EU and abroad, which are facing new immense challenges. In addition, it aims to introduce the issues of Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals, which will permeate the European Union's strategic development and, in line with the principle of subsidiarity, those of macroregions, nations, regions, localities, and even individual organisations. In this process, technological innovations, also in the sphere of information technologies, can play a vital role.

The course consists of 30 teaching hours. They will be delivered as follows:

1. Information technology and innovations as a factor of change in contemporary European societies – from technology as a support to various processes to the factor of societal change and its contribution to Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals. *(Hours 1-8)*
2. The connectedness of information technology with the new forms of social and political participation in Europe, with a view to social movements advocating Sustainable Development Goals *(Hours 9-12)*
3. Information technologies as a factor of reproduction and a factor of overcoming of social inequalities in Europe: from the digital gap to the opening of new opportunities in the era of Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals. *(Hours 13-15)*
4. The connectedness between information technology and various processes of individualisation and the development of reflexivity *(Hours 16-21)*
5. The connectedness between information technology and different aspects of globalisation, with a view of the European Union public diplomacy toward third countries in implementation of Agenda 2030 *(Hours 22-25)*
6. Other recent and relevant topics related to the connectedness between ICT and the shifts in contemporary societies, as announced by the Agenda 2030; European Union and beyond. *(Hours 26-30)*

Intended learning outcomes:

The student will:

- Be familiar with the features of information technologies and their consequences for the development of modern society at the national, European and global level, and in this context to critically reflect on implementation and impact of Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals.

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- Be capable to analyse complex relationships between technology and different aspects of the society in implementation of European grand strategies in Europe, and also beyond by means of European Union public diplomacy.
- Be aware of some of the key dilemmas in the field of different applications of information technology in the society and will be capable of in-depth critical reflections.
- Be aware of the ethical problems of the application of information technology and the need to minimise its negative effects; as well as to use it as a tool of European Union public diplomacy
- Be able to write a scientific article on the topic of the connectedness between information technologies and contemporary European society, particularly reflecting on Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals.

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