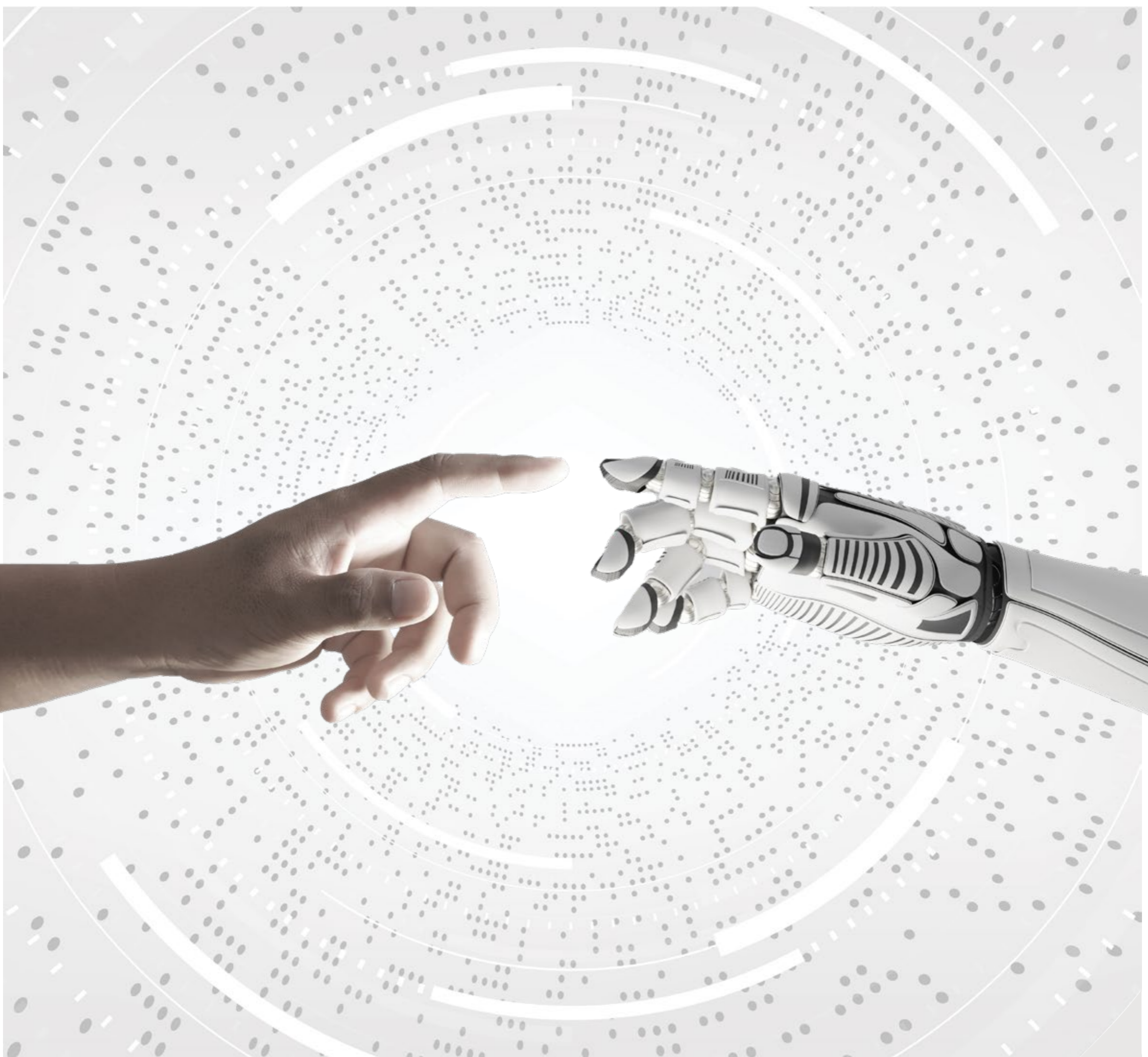


RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

Spotlight on European Social Survey and Artificial Intelligence

February 1, 2024

Palace of Serbia
Bulevar Mihajla Pupina 2, Belgrade



17:00 Arrival of participants; early check-in is possible in case you arrive earlier

18:30 **Networking DINNER at Restaurant Le Teniza, Resavska 23, Belgrade**

Welcome speech by a representative of the Institute of Social Sciences and the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia

THURSDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2024

Palace of Serbia, Hall 368, Bulevar Mihajla Pupina 2, Belgrade

9:30-10:00 Registration

10:00-10:30 Opening Speeches

- **Vukašin GROZDIĆ**, State Secretary in the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia
- **Goran BAŠIĆ**, Director of the Institute of Social Sciences, representative of the Republic of Serbia in the ESS ERIC General Assembly
- **Dubravko ĆULIBRK**, Director of the Institute of Artificial Intelligence
- **Blagovesta CHOLOVA**, Research Programme Administrator, European Research Executive Agency
- **Rory FITZGERALD**, Director of the ESS ERIC

10:30-12:00 Enabling Regional Research Excellence

The first **session of our event** will set the stage for discussions on regional cooperation in the Western Balkans, Greece, Romania, Croatia, and Bulgaria by bringing together key representatives. This session aims to explore the current state of research infrastructures, policies, and collaborative initiatives that foster regional cooperation, with a particular focus on the fields of social sciences, European Social Survey, and Artificial Intelligence. This session will also serve us to create bridges of understanding between state/policy representatives and the research community in the field of social sciences.

Moderator: **Helena HIRŠENBERGER**, SAIGE Project

Speakers:

- **Bernhard FABIANEK**, European Commission
- **Rory FITZGERALD**, Director of ESS ERIC
- **Miroslav VESKOVIĆ**, University of Novi Sad
- **Miroslav TRAJANOVIĆ**, State Secretary in the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia
- **Nenad ČELAREVIĆ**, WBESS
- **Jovana ZAFIROVIĆ**, Institute of Social Sciences

12:00-12:30 COFFEE BREAK

12:30-14:00 **Empowering Change: Harnessing ESS Data for Evidence-Based Policy Making and Advocacy in the Western Balkans, Greece, Croatia, Romania, and Bulgaria**

This session brings together national coordinators of the European Social Survey (ESS) and representatives from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) for a dynamic discussion on leveraging ESS data to drive evidence-based policy making and advocacy initiatives. The session also explores first hand insights into ongoing regional projects utilizing ESS data and witness collaborative efforts between national coordinators and CSOs to foster informed decision-making. In the session, the transformative potential of ESS data in shaping policies and advocating for change will be uncovered, highlighting the intersection of research, data-driven strategies, and societal impact in the Western Balkans, Croatia, Greece, Romania, and Bulgaria. Join the conversation and discover how data can be a catalyst for positive transformation on a regional scale.

Moderator: **Vladimir MENTUS**, Institute of Social Sciences

Speakers:

- **Erjon CURRAJ**, SCIDEV, Albania
 - **Jadranka KALUĐEROVIĆ**, National Coordinator, ESS Montenegro
 - **Venelin BOSHNAKOV**, National Coordinator, ESS Bulgaria
 - **Manina KAKEPAKI**, Institute of Political Research, Greece (tbc)
 - **Adrian DUŠA**, National Coordinator, ESS Romania
 - **Aneta CEKIKJ**, National Coordinator, ESS North Macedonia
 - **Siniša MARČIĆ**, Regional Cooperation Council
 - **Bojana SELAKOVIĆ**, National Convention on the EU, Serbia
 - **Vera BACKOVIĆ**, National Coordinator, ESS Serbia
 - **Vladimir MENTUS**, National Coordinator, ESS Serbia
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14:00-15:30 LUNCH

15:30-17:00 **Harmony in Innovation: AI and the Synergy with Social Sciences in the Pursuit of EU Integration, Transformation, and Reforms**

This session explores the transformative nexus of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Social Sciences within the context of EU integration, regional transformation, and other ongoing reforms. This session explores the intersection of cutting-edge AI technologies and the social sciences, emphasizing their collaborative potential in shaping the future of the Western Balkans, Greece, Croatia, Romania, and Bulgaria. The session uncovers how advancements in AI can complement and enhance social science research methodologies, fostering a harmonious approach towards necessary reforms. Join experts, policymakers, and innovators as they discuss strategies for leveraging AI as a catalyst for positive change and progress in the pursuit of regional development and alignment with EU standards. Engage in thought-provoking discussions on the ethical considerations, challenges, and opportunities at the confluence of AI, social sciences, and the path towards a reformed and integrated future.

Moderator: **Dubravko ĆULIBRK**, Institute for Artificial Intelligence of Serbia

Speakers:

- **Dubravko ĆULIBRK**, Institute for Artificial Intelligence of Serbia
- **Jovan BLIZNAKOVSKI**, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje
- **Bojana BAŠARAGIN**, Institute for Artificial Intelligence of Serbia
- **Bojan TODOSIJEVIĆ**, Institute of Social Sciences
- **Dragan STANOJEVIĆ**, Institute for Sociological Research, Faculty of Philosophy
- **Vujo ILIĆ**, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory
- **Rory FITZGERALD**, ESS Director

17:00

Closing remarks: Vladimir MENTUS, IDN and Rory FITZGERALD, ESS ERIC



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Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION