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KEYNOTE LECTURE



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ROOM 05



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Knowing, thinking and beeing with Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence is ubiquitous and permeates many aspects of our personal and professional lives. The widespread use of generative AI in particular – such as chatbots or image generators – has, in a very short time, led to established social practices being reevaluated: in education and academia, but also in regards to interpersonal relationships as well as democratic practices and institutions.

In regards to knowledge and learning, Generative AI forces us to ask fundamental question of what education can and should be when many cognitive skills can be delegated to machines. Interpersonal relationships are also being reevaluated when artificial intelligence acts as a mediator or even a substitute for human counterparts – as a simulated psychotherapist or friend.

In regards to politics and governance, AI may not only affect how we experience and handle different perspectives on societal issues within democratic systems, but is also considered by some as an alternative to democratic systems. Generative AI, I will argue, seduces us with the offer of frictionlessness. But this frictionlessness comes with epistemic, ethical and political costs which we should not be willing to pay.

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