

Prof. Dr. Ingrid Schneider, University of Hamburg, “Big Data, digital platforms, and geostrategic politics”

Big Data and AI are part of a larger digital transformation. Large digital platforms (Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft) have gained dominance and enormous market value which has created power asymmetries. Is Europe in danger of being squeezed between the US and China, as some people perceive it? However, the European Union defends the European social welfare state, democracy, the market system and liberal values, and has emerged as a regulatory superpower in the digital terrain. Examples given for strong regulations are the GDPR, anti-trust law, and the fight against tax evasion.