

# iTrust: Building Trustworthy Social Media for Healthy Public Discourse

June 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Room A22 – Red Building – West Campus USI, Lugano

## Detailed Programme

Wednesday 24 June 2026

12:30-13:00	Registrations	Meeting point: room A22 Red Building	
13:00-13:15	Welcome words	Andrea Rocci	
13:15-14:00	Opening	Katarzyna Budzynska	Polarization, Trust and Digital Society
14:00-15:00	Research session	Nataly Pineda Castañeda	Argumentative Practices of Polarization in Public Discourse
		Andrea Rocci	Exploring Dichotomic Framings in Online Polarized Discussions
		Stephanie Malvicini	Towards a Principled Multi-Agent Approach to Simulating Social Platforms
		<b>Chair:</b> Giulia D'Agostino	
15:00	Break		
15:30-17:00	Round Table	Colin Porlezza, Sina Blassnig, Veronica Barassi, Matthew Hibberd	Platform Regulation at a Crossroads: Bans, accountability, and the future of democratic oversight
17:00-18:00	Keynote	Marie-Francine Moens	Machines that read between the lines
18:00	Aperitivo		

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## Thursday 25 June 2026

09:00-10:30	Keynote and Discussion	Luca Tagliaretti, discusses with Antonio Carzaniga and Colin Porlezza	Cybersecurity, Democracy and Public Institutions in the Digital Age. Closing the Gap: Building Digital Sovereignty in the EU One Piece at a Time.
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Break</b>		
11:00-12:30	Round Table	Bjørn Bedsted	Participatory Technology Assessment and democracy
		Antoine Vergne	The politics of presence: How Deliberative Politics could counter Polarization
		Andrea Brunello	Beyond the Deficit Model: How Storytelling and Theatre Help Scientists Earn Trust
		<b>Chair:</b> Katarzyna Budzynska	
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>		
14:00-15:30	Research session 2	Colin Porlezza	The Diacomet Project. At the Intersection of Civic Resilience, Accountability and Dialogue.
		Costanza Lucchini, Claudia Coppola, Sara Greco	Argumentation in conflict prevention as a depolarisation strategy in deliberative democracy
		Giulia Telari, Claudia Coppola, Andrea Rocci	Concession and Counterargument in the Polylogue on AI Therapy: A Case Study from the ReCOUNT Project
		Giulia D'Agostino	Confunde et impera: Sow reasonable doubt in social media discourse to exert power over non-polarized individuals.
		<b>Chair:</b> Daria Evangelista	
<b>15:30</b>	<b>Break + Poster session</b>		
16:30-18:00	Research session 3	Paolo Labinaz	Assertion and its normative commitments in online polarized discussions
		Marta Trutalli	#RanaPlazaNeverAgain: Emotional dynamics in digital activists' argumentation advocating for a more sustainable fashion system
		Chiara Mercuri	Reconstructing misalignments in public controversies: conflicting frames and argumentation in the debate surrounding fashion sustainability
		Daria Evangelista	Raising awareness on the climate crisis: from communication guidelines to practices in media and institutional discourse
		<b>Chair:</b> Claudia Coppola	

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## Friday 26 June 2026

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09:00-10:00	Round Table	Andrea Laus, Vanina Martínez, Jarosław Chudziak	Opportunities and risks of using simulated conversational agents for research, learning and professional training
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Break</b>		
10:30-12:00	Round Table	Eleonora Benecchi, discusses with the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (ISPCAN)	The Networked Child: Turning Research on Young People into Collective Action
12:00-13:00	Keynote	Mark Aakhus	Arguing Technology: AI - a puzzle of communication for argumentation
13:00	Closing		

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