



## The Future of Work

Rapid technological advancements, demographic changes, societal shifts in values, and other forces are dramatically re-shaping the world of work. But what will the future of work hold? Join us for the Digital Society Initiative Lecture Series “The Future of Work”, in which academics and policymakers explore different aspects of how the world of work will look in the future. We will discuss how increased gig work is shaping the labor market, and how digitalization is changing humanitarian work at organizations like the Red Cross. We will see evidence as to why doomsday pictures of the future of work are wrong, and how fundamentally human skills such as humor and time use shape success for leaders and employees in the future of work.

### Location

DSI event room SOC-E-010  
Rämistrasse 69, Zurich

Wednesday, 5.45 to 7.15 pm  
Exception: Tuesday 22 March

On-site child-care is available  
on prior demand: [work@dsi.uzh.ch](mailto:work@dsi.uzh.ch)

Entrance open to the public  
and free of charge

All information subject to change.

For current information see:  
[work.dsi.uzh.ch](http://work.dsi.uzh.ch)



2 March, 2022

### **Why the future of work is funny**

**Prof. Dr. Jamie Gloor**

*Assistant Professor for Diversity and  
Leadership Science, University of St. Gallen*



9 March, 2022

### **The precarious future(s) of gig work: Migration, datafication & financialization**

**Prof. Dr. Niels van Doorn**

*Assistant Professor of New Media and  
Digital Culture, University of Amsterdam*



22 March, 2022

### **The future of humanitarian work in light of digitalisation**

**Philippe Stoll**

*Head of Digital Transformation and  
Partnership, International Committee of  
the Red Cross*



18 May, 2022

### **The end of work: why it won't happen**

**Prof. Dr. Daniel Oesch**

*Professor in Economic Sociology,  
University of Lausanne*



1 June, 2022

### **Time and well-being in the future of work**

**Prof. Dr. Laura M. Giurge**

*Assistant Professor at London School of  
Economics and Political Science*



## The Future of Work

Rapid technological advancements, demographic changes, societal shifts in values, and other forces are dramatically re-shaping the world of work. But what will the future of work hold? Join us for the Digital Society Initiative Lecture Series “The Future of Work”, in which academics and policymakers explore different aspects of how the world of work will look in the future. We will discuss how increased gig work is shaping the labor market, and how digitalization is changing humanitarian work at organizations like the Red Cross. We will see evidence as to why doomsday pictures of the future of work are wrong, and how fundamentally human skills such as humor and time use shape success for leaders and employees in the future of work.

### Location

DSI event room SOC-E-010  
Rämistrasse 69, Zurich

Wednesday, 5.45 to 7.15 pm  
Exception: Tuesday 22 March

On-site child-care is available  
on prior demand: [work@dsi.uzh.ch](mailto:work@dsi.uzh.ch)

Entrance open to the public  
and free of charge

All information subject to change.  
For current information see:  
[work.dsi.uzh.ch](http://work.dsi.uzh.ch)



2 March, 2022

**Why the future of work is funny**

**Prof. Dr. Jamie Gloor**

*Assistant Professor for Diversity and  
Leadership Science, University of St. Gallen*

### Bio

Jamie Gloor is an Assistant Professor in the School of Management at the University of St. Gallen and a former DSI fellow. Her research focuses on leadership, diversity, humor, and the future of work/leadership.

### Abstract

We may all feel a sense of relief after a good joke and a laugh, whether it's at work, at home, or with friends. And it's easy to take workplace humor lightly—something that just makes work a little more fun. But, given the power of humor—particularly in tricky situations (and after these tricky years we've had)—I'll highlight 3 evidence-based ideas about why humor has evolved from a “nice to have” into a “need to have” skill for the future of work and leadership. Despite the rise of AI and AI-powered robots—or perhaps even because of this—“human” skills such as communication, collaboration, and humor are more important than ever. So, while honesty may (still) be the best policy, I'll explain why when the truth is tricky to acknowledge, define, or discuss, a little humor can go a long way.

### Chair

Lauren Howe, Assistant Professor in Management, University of Zurich



## The Future of Work

Rapid technological advancements, demographic changes, societal shifts in values, and other forces are dramatically re-shaping the world of work. But what will the future of work hold? Join us for the Digital Society Initiative Lecture Series “The Future of Work”, in which academics and policymakers explore different aspects of how the world of work will look in the future. We will discuss how increased gig work is shaping the labor market, and how digitalization is changing humanitarian work at organizations like the Red Cross. We will see evidence as to why doomsday pictures of the future of work are wrong, and how fundamentally human skills such as humor and time use shape success for leaders and employees in the future of work.

### Location

DSI event room SOC-E-010  
Rämistrasse 69, Zurich

Wednesday, 5.45 to 7.15 pm  
Exception: Tuesday 22 March

On-site child-care is available  
on prior demand: [work@dsi.uzh.ch](mailto:work@dsi.uzh.ch)

Entrance open to the public  
and free of charge

All information subject to change.  
For current information see:  
[work.dsi.uzh.ch](http://work.dsi.uzh.ch)



9 March, 2022

**The precarious future(s) of gig work:  
Migration, datafication & financialization**  
**Prof. Dr. Niels van Doorn**

*Assistant Professor of New Media and  
Digital Culture, University of Amsterdam*

### Bio

Niels van Doorn is an Assistant Professor of New Media and Digital Culture in the Department of Media Studies at the University of Amsterdam. His research focuses on how digital platforms are transforming the organisation of labour.

### Abstract

This talk will examine the three pillars of the gig economy – migration, datafication and financialization – in order to elucidate its turbulent history, ambivalent present, and precarious future(s). Part one starts by recounting the gig economy’s “golden days”, marked by rapid capital-induced growth, high pay incentives and regulatory voids/arbitrage. Part two then explains how increased public scrutiny and investor demands for a road to profitability put dual pressure on gig companies to adjust their operations, spurring labor cost-cutting and gamification, on the one hand, and regulatory entrepreneurship on the other. During this period, workers with access to better alternatives left the gig economy behind and urban gig work increasingly became migrant work. Part three reflects further on the convergence of migration, datafication and financialization in the gig economy, particularly in light of recent court decisions across European member states as well as national and EU-wide regulatory initiatives. It concludes by outlining the potential and fiercely contested futures of platform-based gig work, all of which signal the end of platform exceptionalism and the increased institutional integration of gig work into the low-wage services sector. This integration, it is suggested, may entail the end of the gig economy as we know it today.

### Chair

Karin Schwiter, Assistant Professor in Labour Geography,  
University of Zurich



## The Future of Work

Rapid technological advancements, demographic changes, societal shifts in values, and other forces are dramatically re-shaping the world of work. But what will the future of work hold? Join us for the Digital Society Initiative Lecture Series “The Future of Work”, in which academics and policymakers explore different aspects of how the world of work will look in the future. We will discuss how increased gig work is shaping the labor market, and how digitalization is changing humanitarian work at organizations like the Red Cross. We will see evidence as to why doomsday pictures of the future of work are wrong, and how fundamentally human skills such as humor and time use shape success for leaders and employees in the future of work.

### Location

DSI event room SOC-E-010  
Rämistrasse 69, Zurich

Wednesday, 5.45 to 7.15 pm  
Exception: Tuesday 22 March

On-site child-care is available  
on prior demand: [work@dsi.uzh.ch](mailto:work@dsi.uzh.ch)

Entrance open to the public  
and free of charge

All information subject to change.  
For current information see:  
[work.dsi.uzh.ch](http://work.dsi.uzh.ch)



22 March, 2022

### The future of humanitarian work in light of digitalisation

**Philippe Stoll**

*Head of the Digital Transformation and Partnership, International Committee of the Red Cross*

### Bio

Philippe Stoll heads the Digital Transformation and Partnership Engagement at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). He has previously led the Research for the Humanitarian Communication’s team at the ICRC, working on strategies and issues linked to acceptance, trust, anthropology and art. In his 16 years of humanitarian experience, Philippe has managed Public Relations for Asia and has undertaken field missions in India, Sierra Leone, Israel and the Occupied Territories. He holds Masters’ degrees in both Economics (University of Geneva) and Journalism (University of Lausanne). He spent six years working as a journalist for print media and television in Switzerland. He is also active in the local cultural scene having collaborated with Poor Records, Pascal Greco, HEAD Genève and Festival Antigél. He is a member of the jury for the Art Humanité award.

### Abstract

Similar to what we witness here in Switzerland, the growing use of new and digital technologies is impacting conflicts around the world. Not only people affected by these armed conflicts, but they also change the way the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and humanitarian organisations conduct their work. While staff and volunteers continue to distribute food, build shelters, give health assistance or visit hundreds of thousands of people in prisons, the ICRC uses digital cash transfer, AI, drones, blockchain, NFT, etc.

In his presentation, Philippe Stoll will speak about how these tools present both opportunities and risks. How they can improve the quality, the speed and the relevance of humanitarian work, but also how they can lead to new problems for people in war zones (cyber-attacks, surveillance, data protection...).

### Chair

Cristina Teleki, Research Associate at the Graduate Institute Geneva





## The Future of Work

Rapid technological advancements, demographic changes, societal shifts in values, and other forces are dramatically re-shaping the world of work. But what will the future of work hold? Join us for the Digital Society Initiative Lecture Series “The Future of Work”, in which academics and policymakers explore different aspects of how the world of work will look in the future. We will discuss how increased gig work is shaping the labor market, and how digitalization is changing humanitarian work at organizations like the Red Cross. We will see evidence as to why doomsday pictures of the future of work are wrong, and how fundamentally human skills such as humor and time use shape success for leaders and employees in the future of work.

### Location

DSI event room SOC-E-010  
Rämistrasse 69, Zurich

Wednesday, 5.45 to 7.15 pm  
Exception: Tuesday 22 March

On-site child-care is available  
on prior demand: [work@dsi.uzh.ch](mailto:work@dsi.uzh.ch)

Entrance open to the public  
and free of charge

All information subject to change.  
For current information see:  
[work.dsi.uzh.ch](http://work.dsi.uzh.ch)



18 May, 2022

**The end of work: why it won't happen**

**Prof. Dr. Daniel Oesch**

*Professor in Economic Sociology,  
University of Lausanne*

### Bio

Daniel Oesch is Professor of Economic Sociology at the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lausanne. He previously worked at the Universities of Geneva and Zurich as well as Carlos III in Madrid and Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona. For six years, he worked as national secretary for the Swiss Trade Union Confederation (SGB) in Bern. His research focuses on social inequality and the labour market. He is the author of two monographs: *Redrawing the Class Map* (Palgrave Macmillan 2006) and *Occupational Change in Europe* (Oxford University Press 2013).

### Abstract

Few days pass without media reports predicting the end of work. Ever more sophisticated robots and artificial intelligence are seen as inexorably replacing human labour. These predictions about technological unemployment are as old as the Industrial Revolutions – and so far labour force statistics have invariably proved them wrong. This talk explains where the predictions about the end of work went wrong and why technological does not per se reduce the demand for work. Based on labour market data, it then shows what instead has happened to the employment structure of Europe over the last decades. If we wish to anticipate the future of work, jobs and skills, the most promising strategy lies in clearly understanding the present changes in the job structure.

### Chair

Philipp Kerksieck, Postdoctoral Researcher in the Department of Public and Organizational Health, University of Zurich



## The Future of Work

Rapid technological advancements, demographic changes, societal shifts in values, and other forces are dramatically re-shaping the world of work. But what will the future of work hold? Join us for the Digital Society Initiative Lecture Series “The Future of Work”, in which academics and policymakers explore different aspects of how the world of work will look in the future. We will discuss how increased gig work is shaping the labor market, and how digitalization is changing humanitarian work at organizations like the Red Cross. We will see evidence as to why doomsday pictures of the future of work are wrong, and how fundamentally human skills such as humor and time use shape success for leaders and employees in the future of work.

### Location

DSI event room SOC-E-010  
Rämistrasse 69, Zurich

Wednesday, 5.45 to 7.15 pm  
Exception: Tuesday 22 March

On-site child-care is available  
on prior demand: [work@dsi.uzh.ch](mailto:work@dsi.uzh.ch)

Entrance open to the public  
and free of charge

All information subject to change.  
For current information see:  
[work.dsi.uzh.ch](http://work.dsi.uzh.ch)



1 June, 2022

**Time and well-being in the future of work**

**Prof. Dr. Laura M. Giurge**

*Assistant Professor at London School of  
Economics and Political Science*

### Bio

Laura M. Giurge is an award-winning organizational scholar and behavioral scientist, and an assistant professor at the London School of Economics. She holds a PhD in management from Erasmus University’s Rotterdam School of Management, and has been a postdoctoral research fellow at Cornell University and London Business School. Her research has been published in top academic journals in management and psychology as well as in leading media outlets such as the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, and Harvard Business Review.

### Abstract

Ongoing innovations such as ubiquitous communication technology, alternative work arrangements, and hyper-efficiency are revolutionizing our work experiences, making it easier to share information, collaborate with others, and achieve more with less effort. At the same time, it has become increasingly difficult to draw boundaries between work and other aspects of our life. On an individual level, working one extra hour one day might not seem hugely problematic, but when amplified across time, failure to disconnect from work carries enormous costs to individuals and society at large. In this talk, I will explore the unintended drivers of work connectivity and present solutions to mitigate them, to ensure that work innovations are assets rather than barriers for well-being and productivity.

### Chair

Lauren Howe, Assistant Professor in Management, University of Zurich