

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS  
International Online Conference

# DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN THE COVID-19- PANDEMIC

## A Transnational Dialogue between Germany and Japan

14 – 18 March 2022

Digital technologies such as health-related mobile apps, digital contact tracing, vaccination certificates or quarantine surveillance measures are playing a major role in the COVID-19-Pandemic.

The interdisciplinary online conference **TechCo** draws on the current situation as an opportunity to initiate a transnational and interdisciplinary exchange on the relevance of digital technologies in this situation. Aim is to involve young scholars from Germany and Japan in a culturally sensitive dialogue to discuss social challenges regarding the use of technologies in the COVID-19-Pandemic and to develop ethical recommendations and solutions.

The online conference is focussing on the following questions: **How is the use of digital technologies socio-culturally situated and what are the moral boundaries of acceptable technologies?**

Goal is to shed light on the possibilities and limits of the social and ethical permissibility of digital technologies in the pandemic and to identify practically relevant fields of conflict. There will be four workshops as part of the conference. The main topics are:

- Social Relevance and Ethical Challenges of Digital Technologies
- Interdisciplinary Approaches to Technology Critique
- National Discourses and Transnational Dialogue on Digital Technologies
- Ways towards a Post-Corona-Society?

The online conference addresses early-stage researchers (advanced PhD Students/Postdocs) from Germany and Japan from different fields of science such as social science, philosophy, ethics, computer sciences and medicine to discuss the relevance of digital technologies in the COVID-19-Pandemic.

Applicants are asked to submit an abstract in English on the topics mentioned above (250-450 words) along with a short CV via e-mail (as a single pdf) to [techco-project@rub.de](mailto:techco-project@rub.de) by the **15<sup>th</sup> of January 2022**.

Accepted participants will be asked to give an oral presentation. Furthermore, all participants are invited to prepare a manuscript for a peer reviewed publication in a conference volume. Submitted manuscripts are provided with an honorarium of 300€ (~¥ 39'000). The conference language is English. The conference will take place over Zoom.

### CONTACT

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