

PREGOV IV (PREdictive GOVernance)

Algorithmic prediction and governance of human wellbeing and social care

13-14th November 2025, Helmut-Schmidt-University

Location: Pop-up-Horst, Winterhuder Weg 112, Hamburg (www.pop-up-horst.de)

The datafication of the future will have increasingly significant consequences for areas of human well-being and social care. The proliferation of artificial intelligence has made complex analytics and predictive technologies broadly accessible and has accelerated this development. The integration of predictive governance into social care and to better control human wellbeing is changing the way people and societies anticipate vulnerability, allocate resources, and design interventions. While artificial intelligence and other algorithmic systems promise to improve efficiency – for example, by enabling early identification of at-risk populations and personalised care pathways – they also raise critical questions about equity, accountability, and the ethical boundaries of data-driven decision-making. For example, predictive tools in adult social care, such as predictive models for hospital admissions or case prioritizations, have the potential to reduce systemic bottlenecks. However, these technologies risk entrenching biases if they are trained on historically skewed datasets and deployed without mechanisms for human oversight.

The tension between innovation and ethics requires interdisciplinary dialogue. How do predictive systems reconfigure power dynamics between caregivers, policy makers, technology providers, and vulnerable communities? What methodological approaches can capture both the technical processes and artefacts of predictive governance and their lived social impacts? And how might participatory design principles ensure that these tools enhance – rather than undermine – human agency and expertise in social care?

Against this background, this year's PREGOV-workshop will focus on organizational and methodological issues in the practice of predictive governance for human wellbeing and social care. Building on our previous meetings, our aim is to explore what insights scholars and practitioners from organization studies, public administration, social work, ethics, management accounting, and AI providers can contribute to reflect the current dynamics in predictive governance developments, with a particular focus on:

- 1.) Ethical-operational tensions: balancing efficiency gains and service delivery (e.g. predictive patient admission tools against risks of surveillance and erosion of autonomy).
- 2.) Empirical insights: lessons from deployed systems using artificial intelligence, algorithms and other non-human actants to predict future developments and support decision making.
- 3.) Participatory futures: Co-designing governance frameworks that include marginalized voices in the development of predictive systems.

Schedule

Thursday, November 13th, 2025

12.00 am light Lunch at the Pop-up-Horst

13:00 pm Welcome by the organizers

13:15-2:45 pm: Session 1 – Predictive Governance & Prevention I

Ingmar Mundt (Weizenbaum Institute, Berlin): Governing possible futures: socio-material arrangements of predictive knowledge production in humanitarian crisis forecasting

Alexander Karam (Journalist, The What If), Anna-Sophie Weinstein (Bundeswehr University Munich): Risk-analysis of narratives and escalation predictions in complex information environments

Discussion

Coffee Break

3:15-4:45 pm: Session 2 – Predictive Governance & Social Care

Ida Schrøder (Aarhus): The (un)fair algorithm: Socio-technical ethics work for artificial intelligence in social work

Cemil Eren Firtin (Gothenburg): From Care to Control? Predictive Governance and the Centralization of Welfare Payments in Sweden

Discussion

Coffee Break

5:15-6:45 pm: Session 3 – Predictive Governance & Sustainability

Christian Huber (CBS), Elena Giovannoni (Royal Holloway) & Jan Mouritsen (CBS): Science, Accounting and Organizing for Carbon Emissions

Alexander Paulsson (University Lund): Ecology by numbers: money, prediction and the cost of climate change

Discussion

7:30 pm: Dinner Ristorante Farinelli da Franco, Hofweg 68, 22085 Hamburg,
www.ristorante-farinelli.de

Friday, November 14th, 2025

9.30-11 am: Session 4 – Predictive Governance & Prevention II

Nathalie Iloga Balep, Nadine Gerhardt-Huber (HSU Hamburg): Accounting for at-risk students: Violence prevention in schools

Suna Özdemir (HSU Hamburg): “We have nothing better for detecting explosives”: Dogs as a non-digital means of threat prevention

Discussion

Coffee break

11:30am-1pm: Session 5 – Predictive Governance & Failure

Helene Friis Ratner (Aarhus): A tale of how a drop-out algorithm lost its powers

Maximilian Heimstädt (Hamburg): Anticipatory governance at work: Traveling predictions and the fragility of futurity

Discussion

1 pm: Concluding discussion & Farewell

1:30 pm: End of conference

Registration is requested!

To register, please send an email to: pregov-contact@hsu-hh.de

Organization team:



Institut für Controlling und
Unternehmensrechnung

HSU – Department for Management Accounting and Control:
Dr. Nadine Gerhardt-Huber
Dr. Nathalie Iloga Balep
Dr. Jaromir Junne

HSU-Department für Digital Governance and Service Design:
Prof. Dr. Maximilian Heimstädt
Suna Özdemir, M.A.

Find more information about the PreGov-workshop series here: www.hsu-hh.de/icu/pregov

This workshop is part of the OPAL research cluster at the Helmut-Schmidt-Universität:



<https://www.hsu-hh.de/opal/>

This workshop is funded by dtec.bw – Digitalization and Technology Research Center
of the Bundeswehr which we gratefully acknowledge.

dtec.bw is funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU

