Speaker Bios

Keynotes

**Stefan Schnorr**, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport

Since December 2021, Stefan Schnorr (59) has been a permanent state secretary at the German Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport. He is responsible for the Central Services, Budget and Shareholdings, Digital and Data Policy, Digital Connectivity as well as Aviation directorates-general. Stefan Schnorr is a legal professional and began his career as an administrative judge in Trier, Rhineland-Palatinate. From 1994 to 2001, he worked for the Ministry of Justice of Rhineland-Palatinate in Mainz, serving as Head of Public Relations and Press Officer. In 2001, he moved to Berlin, joining the Representation of Rhineland-Palatinate to the Federal Government and the European Union to become Deputy Director for Federal Affairs. From 2009 to 2010, he worked as the Head of the Representation of Lower Saxony to the Federal Government in Berlin. In 2010, he became Director for Information Society and Media at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Technology, where he later served as Director for Budget, Staff, Organization and Information Technology (CIO) and IT Commissioner. He was appointed Director-General for Political Staff and Policy Planning in 2011 before being appointed Director-General for IT, Communication and Postal Policies in 2013. In 2014, he became Director for Crafts, Commercial Law and Business Promotion, Education Policy and Liberal Professions at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, where he also served as Director-General for Digital and Innovation Policy from 2015 to 2021.
Alfred Spector, Visiting Scholar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Alfred Spector is presently a Visiting Scholar at MIT. For five years ending in mid-2020, he was Chief Technology Officer and Head of Engineering at Two Sigma, a firm dedicated to using information to optimize diverse economic challenges. Prior to joining Two Sigma, Dr. Spector spent nearly eight years as Vice President of Research and Special Initiatives, at Google, where his teams delivered a range of successful technologies including machine learning, speech recognition, and translation. Prior to Google, Dr. Spector held various senior-level positions at IBM, including Vice President of Strategy and Technology for IBM Software and Vice President of Services and Software research across the company. Alfred received a bachelor’s degree in Applied Mathematics from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in computer science from Stanford University, where he was a Hertz Fellow. He is a Fellow of both the Association for Computing Machinery and the IEEE.

Panel 1
Digital Sovereignty and Multilateral Collaboration

Moderator: Alexander Demling, Silicon Valley Correspondent, Der Spiegel

Alexander has been the Silicon Valley correspondent for German news magazine DER SPIEGEL since November 2021. Before that, he held the same position at business daily Handelsblatt since January 2020. Alexander started his career in journalism at German news site SPIEGEL ONLINE. In 2016, he moved to Handelsblatt, where he worked as team lead for features and profiles. Born in 1987, he studied political science and economics in Erlangen, Heidelberg, and at Duke University in Durham (USA) alongside training at the journalism school ifp in Munich.

Michael McKeon, Senior Manager of Government Affairs, ASML US

Michael McKeon is Senior Manager of Government Affairs at ASML US, based in Washington, DC. Headquartered in Veldhoven, the Netherlands, ASML is an innovative semiconductor industry leader specializing in lithography tools, software, and services. Prior to joining ASML, Michael held several positions in the field of transatlantic relations, including Trade Advisor at the Delegation of the European Union to the United States, Economic and Legislative Affairs Manager at the Bertelsmann Foundation, and, most recently, Senior Economic Policy Advisor and Congressional Liaison at the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Michael has a master’s degree in international relations from Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and a bachelor’s degree in Government and Italian from Cornell University.
**Hannah Bracken**, Policy Advisor- Privacy Shield, U.S. Department of Commerce

Hannah Bracken is a Policy Advisor on the Privacy Shield team (U.S. Department of Commerce – International Trade Administration) focused on data flows with Europe. Hannah previously worked on digital policy at the U.S. Mission to the European Union in Brussels and before that was part of the digital economy team at Cullen International, a regulatory consulting firm in Brussels that has government and industry clients in Europe and abroad. Before moving to Brussels, Hannah received her Master’s in law from Sciences Po in Paris and worked as a trainee lawyer in Paris for a year. During her legal studies, Hannah specialized in EU law and French intellectual property law. Hannah obtained her bachelor’s degree from the University of Chicago.

**John Zysman**, Professor Emeritus, UC Berkeley

John Zysman is Professor Emeritus at UC Berkeley and co-founder/co-director of the Berkeley Roundtable on the International Economy. He received his B.A at Harvard and his Ph.D. at MIT. Zysman’s ongoing work covers the implications of platforms and intelligent tools for work, entrepreneurship, and international competition, and the economic challenges and opportunities of climate change and the green economy. From these positions, Zysman has made contributions to the policy and intellectual debates, building a record of thought leadership on the global economy going back five decades. His earlier work was influential in US-Japan trade policy debates in the 1980s. Zysman is currently exploring how the development, deployment, and consequences of technologies can be shaped by business and policy choices. In addition to his academic research, Zysman is engaged as a consultant, advisor, and board member for governments, corporations, and NGOs.

**Adriana Groh**, Co-Founder, Sovereign Tech Fund

Adriana Groh is currently leading the Sovereign Tech Fund, a new program with the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate to invest in open digital infrastructures. Previously, she built a project on digital sovereignty, participation and data commons at The New Institute in Hamburg and was the director of the Prototype Fund, an innovation fund of the Open Knowledge Foundation and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Her interests are focused on applying democratic principles to the field of innovation and digitalization. Adriana holds a master's degree in public policy and governance from Maastricht University in the Netherlands and a bachelor's degree in sociology and political science from Goethe University in Frankfurt. During her studies, she focused on democratic innovations and spent time abroad in Barcelona and Brussels.

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**Ana Radić**, San Francisco based Journalist

Ana Radić is a San Francisco based freelance correspondent and works for Deutschlandfunk, Handelsblatt and other publications. Her previous assignments include several years as news reporter for German TV- and Radiostation Norddeutscher Rundfunk. Ana Radić holds a Master’s degree in International Business, Culture and Languages from the Oxford Brookes University. She attended journalism school and has a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Cologne in Social Anthropology and History.

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**Graham Webster**, Editor-in-Chief / DigiChina, Stanford Cyber Policy Center

Graham Webster is a research scholar and editor in chief of the DigiChina Project at the Stanford University Cyber Policy Center and a China digital economy fellow at New America. Based at Stanford, he leads an inter-organization network of specialists to produce analysis and translation on China’s digital policy developments. From 2012 to 2017, Webster worked for Yale Law School as a senior fellow and lecturer responsible for the Paul Tsai China Center’s Track 2 dialogues between the United States and China. He was previously an adjunct instructor teaching East Asian politics at New York University, a public policy and communications officer at the EastWest Institute, a Beijing-based journalist writing on technology in China for CNET News and other outlets, and an editor at the Center for American Progress. Webster holds a B.S. in journalism and international studies from Northwestern University and an M.A. in East Asian studies from Harvard University. He took Ph.D. coursework in political science at the University of Washington and language training at Tsinghua University, Peking University, Stanford University, and Kanda University of International Studies.
Panel 2

Critical Infrastructure and Technologies

Moderator: Andrew Grotto, Director, Program on Geopolitics, Technology and Governance, Stanford Cyber Policy Center

Andrew J. Grotto is a William J. Perry International Security Fellow at the Cyber Policy Center and a Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution, both at Stanford University. Grotto’s research interests center on the national security and international economic dimensions of America’s global leadership in information technology innovation, and its growing reliance on this innovation for its economic and social life. Before coming to Stanford in 2017, Grotto served in a variety of senior roles in the U.S. government, most recently as the Senior Director for Cyber Policy on the National Security Council at the White House.

Olaf Groth, PhD; CEO - Cambrian.ai; Prof Faculty - UC Berkeley Haas School of Business

Olaf Groth is a Global Strategist with 25 years of experience as an executive and adviser building strategies, capabilities, programs and ventures across 35+ countries with multinationals consultancies, startups, VCs, foundations, governments and academia. Groth is founding CEO of advisory thinktank Cambrian Futures and concept development studio Cambrian Designs. Groth serves as professional faculty for strategy, policy, technology and futures at UC Berkeley’s Haas School of Business, and Professor of Practice for global strategy, innovation, economics & futures at Hult International Business School, teaching across the US, Europe, Middle East, Africa and China. He is a member of the Global Expert Network at the World Economic Forum and Visiting Scholar at UC Berkeley’s Roundtable on the International Economy. Groth has authored two books -- Solomon’s Code: Humanity in a World of Thinking Machines (Pegasus, 2018) and The Great Remobilization: Strategies & Designs for a Smarter Global Future (MIT Press, 2023). He comments frequently on global business and technology issues in international broadcast and print media and is represented by Washington Speakers Bureau. Author - The Great Remobilization (MIT Press, 2023)
Michael Sellitto, Head of Geopolitics and Security Policy, Anthropic

Michael Sellitto is the Head of Geopolitics and Security at Anthropic, an artificial intelligence (AI) safety and research company. In this role he examines the impact of AI technologies on issues related to national competitiveness, international relations, and international security. Prior to joining Anthropic, Michael was the founding Deputy Director of the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI), which is dedicated to advancing AI research, education, policy, and practice to improve the human condition. Michael served in the White House as Director for Cybersecurity Policy on the National Security Council staff from 2015-2018. He led international engagement on cybersecurity policy and strategy, promoted international adoption of a framework for strategic stability in cyberspace, and advanced U.S. interests on issues related to the digital economy and Internet governance.

Anna Makanju, Head of Public Policy, OpenAI

Anna Adeola Makanju is currently the Head of Public Policy at OpenAI, an AI research and deployment company seeking to build powerful artificial intelligence tools that benefit humanity. Previously, she was the Special Policy Advisor for Europe and Eurasia to Vice President Biden, and prior to that she was the Senior Policy Advisor to the Permanent Representative at the United States Mission to the United Nations. She also was the Director for Russia at the National Security Council and the Chief of Staff for European and NATO Policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. She received her law degree from Stanford University after getting her BA from the Western Washington University in linguistics and French. Her legal career was spent working at the International Criminal Court, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals as law clerk to Judge Theodore McKee, and in the international arbitration group of Cleary Gottlieb Steen and Hamilton LLP.
Interactive Format

Winning in Artificial Intelligence

Richard Socher, CEO / Founder, You.com

Richard Socher is CEO and Founder of You.com, a privacy and source focused search engine and an investor and mentor for Startups at AIX Ventures. Richard was Chief Scientist at Salesforce. He led the company’s research efforts, bringing state of the art artificial intelligence solutions into the platform and incubating new products. Prior to Salesforce, Richard was an adjunct professor at the Stanford Computer Science Department and the CEO and founder of MetaMind, a startup acquired by Salesforce in April 2016. MetaMind’s deep learning AI platform analyzes, labels and makes predictions on image and text data so businesses can make smarter, faster and more accurate decisions. Richard founded AIX Ventures to help other AI startups succeed.

Panel 3

Digital Platform Governance in the Age of Misinformation

Moderator: Aleksandra Kuczerawy, Postdoctoral Scholar, Program on Platform Regulation, Stanford Cyber Policy Center; Center for IT and IP at KU Leuven

Aleksandra Kuczerawy is a postdoctoral scholar at KU Leuven’s Centre for IT & IP Law, currently a visiting research fellow at Stanford Cyber Policy Center. Her research focus is on intermediary liability, content moderation, freedom of expression, AI and platform regulation. She has worked on the topics of privacy and data protection, media law, and the liability of Internet intermediaries since 2010. She participated in the works of several Expert Committees at the Council of Europe (on Internet Intermediaries, on Algorithms and Human Rights, on Freedom of Expression and Digital Technologies), responsible for drafting recommendations by the Committee of Ministers. Aleksandra is an author of a book Intermediary Liability and Freedom of Expression in the EU: from concepts to safeguards. Moreover, Aleksandra is a lecturer of Media Law at the KU Leuven Master of Intellectual Property and ICT Law, and she supervises CiTiP’s Media Law group conducting EU Horizon2020 projects on media and new technologies.
Rob Reich, Professor of Political Science, Stanford University

Rob Reich is professor of political science and, by courtesy, professor of philosophy at Stanford University. He is the director of the Center for Ethics in Society and co-director of the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society (publisher of the Stanford Social Innovation Review), and associate director of the Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence. His scholarship in political theory engages with the work of social scientists and engineers. His newest work is on ethics and technology. His most recent books are System Error: Where Big Tech Went Wrong and How We Can Reboot (with Mehran Sahami and Jeremy M. Weinstein, HarperCollins 2021) and Digital Technology and Democratic Theory (edited with Lucy Bernholz and Hélène Landemore, University of Chicago Press 2021). He has also written widely about philanthropy, including Just Giving: Why Philanthropy is Failing Democracy and How It Can Do Better (Princeton University Press, 2018) and Philanthropy in Democratic Societies: History, Institutions, Values (edited with Chiara Cordelli and Lucy Bernholz, University of Chicago Press, 2016). His early work is focused on democracy and education, including Bridging Liberalism and Multiculturalism in American Education (University of Chicago Press, 2002) and Education, Justice, and Democracy (edited with Danielle Allen, University of Chicago Press, 2013). He has written for the New York Times, Washington Post, Wired, and the Stanford Social Innovation Review. Rob is the recipient of multiple teaching awards, including the Walter J. Gores award, Stanford’s highest honor for teaching. He was a sixth-grade teacher at Rusk Elementary School in Houston, Texas before attending graduate school. He is a board member of the magazine Boston Review, of Giving Tuesday, and at the Spencer Foundation. More details at his personal webpage: https://robreich.stanford.edu

India McKinney, Director of Federal Affairs, Electronic Frontier Foundation

Prior to joining EFF as the Director of Federal Affairs, India spent over 10 years in Washington, DC as a legislative staffer to three members of Congress from California. Her work there primarily focused on the appropriations process, specifically analyzing and funding programs in the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Homeland Security, and Justice. Her biggest legislative accomplishment was authorizing, funding and then naming a new outpatient VA/DoD clinic that will serve over 80,000 people. India’s passion has always been for good public policy, and she’s excited to be using skills developed during legislative battles to fight for consumer privacy and for robust surveillance oversight. She has a Degree in Political Science and Communication Studies from the Vanderbilt University.
Gerard de Graaf, Director Digital Transformation, DG CONNECT, European Commission, International Institute of Communications

Senior EU Envoy for Digital and Head of the new EU Office in San Francisco, Gerard de Graaf has worked for more than 30 years in the European Commission across a wide range of policy areas. Until his recent appointment, he was director in DG CNECT, responsible for the Digital Services and Digital Markets Acts (DSA/DMA), two landmark pieces of legislation which have been recently adopted in the European Union to keep the Internet safe, protect fundamental rights and enhance competition in digital markets. Previously, Gerard de Graaf was responsible, inter alia, for the EU’s telecommunications and audiovisual policy (including copyright), cyber security, ICT standardization, Startup Europe, ICT and green, and international relations. He has been co-chairing two of the Trade and Technology (TTC) Council Working Groups, on greentech, and on data governance and technology platforms. Before joining DG CNECT, he worked in the Secretariat-General of the European Commission, in DG Research and Innovation and in DG Internal Market. From 1997 to 2001, he was trade counsellor at the Commission’s Delegation to the United States in Washington DC. He joined the European Commission in 1991, having worked for the Benelux Economic Union and the Schengen secretariat on free movement within the EU. Gerard de Graaf is from the Netherlands. He studied Economic Geography and Regional Planning (cum laude) at the Free University in Amsterdam and European Economics and Law (magna cum laude) at the Catholic University Leuven (Belgium). Married with two children, he is an avid sports fan and distance runner.

David Agranovich, Director Global Thread Disruption, Meta

David Agranovich is Meta’s Director of Global Threat Disruption, where he coordinates the disruption of influence operations, cyber-espionage, and adversarial networks across Meta and develops policies to deter misuse of the platform. Prior to joining Facebook, David served as Director for Intelligence at the National Security Council (NSC) in the White House, where he led the United States Government’s efforts to address foreign interference in democratic systems and elections and in a variety of senior roles at the Department of Defense focused on Russian counterintelligence, organized crime and corruption. In his free time, he is a commercial pilot and flight instructor.