

Call for papers for the conference:

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Neuroenhancement: Current Developments and Impact on the Individual and Society

Conference Date: December 10-12, 2024
Location: Bielefeld University, Center for Interdisciplinary Research, ZiF), Bielefeld, Germany
Submission deadline: April 15th, 2024

Organizers:

- Dr. Sebastian Sattler (Faculty of Sociology, Bielefeld University, GER)
- Prof. Dr. Saskia Nagel (Department for Society, Technology, and Human Factors, RWTH Aachen University, GER)
- Dr. Dimitris Repantis (Department of Psychiatry and Neurosciences, Charité Berlin, GER)
- Prof. Dr. Guido Mehlkop (Faculty of Economics, Law and Social Sciences; Institute for Planetary Health Behaviour, University of Erfurt, GER)

Keynote speakers:

- Dr. Caterina Cinel (School of Computer Science and Electronic Engineering (CSEE), University of Essex, UK)
- Prof. Dr. Marcello Ienca (School of Medicine and Health, Technical University of Munich, GER)
- Prof. Dr. Ty Schepis (Department of Psychology, Texas State University, USA)
- Prof. Dr. Anna Wexler (Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy, University of Pennsylvania, USA)

We are on the verge of many pioneering activities and scientific breakthroughs concerning brain-computer interfaces, brain stimulation, and neurochemicals, that have the potential to go beyond the treatment of diseases to enhance cognitive performance in work, education, and leisure. At the same time, societal processes such as the quest for self-optimization or transformations in and outside of the labor market (e.g., digitalization, increasing stress, and cognitive demands) may create the desire, but also the pressure, to use such neuroenhancement. These developments require the attention of an interdisciplinary dialog. The conference aims to unravel the inherent complexity of neuroenhancement by bringing together ethicists, sociologists, psychologists, engineers, pharmacologists, neuroscientists, political scientists, and legal scholars. By fostering interdisciplinary exchange, we aim to illuminate the multifaceted dimensions of neuroenhancement and facilitate future collaborations.

This interdisciplinary conference aims at discussing the following questions:

1. What is currently possible with neurotechnology concerning cognitive enhancement (CE) purposes and which developments can be expected in the (near) future?
2. What are the associated ethical, legal, and social issues of using/refusing neurotechnology for cognitive enhancement?
3. Which empirical evidence underlines the extent of these issues (e.g., studies on prevalence, causes and consequences of cognitions and emotions on such neurotechnology, and of the respective use/non-use on the individual and society)?

4. How should a possible prevention of detrimental individual and societal consequences of neurotechnology use/non-use or regulations and legal norms reflect this (e.g., how to deal with the uncertainties of neurotechnology, including counselling users, training people [building literacy], advertising techs, and media representation)?

We invite scholars from a variety of disciplines, including sociology, psychology, psychiatry, neuroscience, philosophy, bioethics, medicine, law, and the political science. The three-day program will include keynote lectures by renowned scholars on the current possibilities and limits of neuroenhancement, its ethical dimension, the etiology of use, and prevention.

We plan to offer travel support (depending on further external funding for the conference) and a best poster award.

Information about abstract submission and further details:

Please **submit your abstract** via e-mail to: enhance.conference@uni-bielefeld.de

Please use the **abstract style sheet** on the conference homepage ([LINK](#)). Deadline: **April 15th, 2024**

Conference homepage: Please click on this [LINK](#).

Travel support: We will provide travel support. This includes meals at the conference, accommodation (organized by the conference), and transport (approximately 100€ for presenters from Germany, 300€ for presenters from Europe, and 1,200€ for presenters from outside Europe). Further details will be provided after an abstract has been accepted.

Conference fee: None.

For any **questions** do not hesitate to contact us via e-mail enhance.conference@uni-bielefeld.de

We are looking forward to your abstracts and to an informative conference!

The ENHANCE-team

The conference is supported by:



Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Forschung
Center for Interdisciplinary Research

