Programme

5th Annual Symposium of the Oxford Berlin Research Partnership

"Global Challenges from a European Perspective"

10 November 2026

Aula, GLS Campus, Kastanienallee 82, 10435 Berlin

09:00–09:30	**Registration**
09:30–09:45	**Opening** **Alex Betts**, Academic Director; Oxford Berlin Research Partnership and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement, Sport, and Community); University of Oxford **Beate Kampmann**, Scientific Director of the Centre for Global Health and Director of the Institute of International Health; Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin **Martin Mann**, Managing Director; Berlin University Alliance **Henry Marx**, State Secretary for Higher Education and Research; Senate Department for Higher Education and Research, Health and Long-Term Care, Berlin
09:45–10:30	**Keynote: Provincialising Europe? Rethinking Global Challenges from Where We Stand** **Meera Sabaratnam**, Associate Professor of International Relations and Tutorial Fellow in Politics at New College; University of Oxford **Introduction: Lucia Ruprecht**, Vice Academic Director of the Oxford Berlin Research Partnership (Humanities), Professor at the Institute for Theatre Studies and Director of the Master's programme in Critical Dance Studies; Freie Universität Berlin
10:30–11:00	**Coffee break**

11:00–12:00	**Session 1: (In)equality in Health and Data Science in Life-Course Transitions** **Carla Johanna Grindel,** Doctoral candidate at the Department of Sociology/ Nuffield College; University of Oxford **Daniel Juan Sivizaca Conde**, Postdoctoral researcher at Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin **Lynne Cox**, Professor at the Department of Biochemistry and George Moody Fellow at Oriel College; University of Oxford **Amelie Kolandt,** Doctoral candidate at the Institute for the History of Medicine and Ethics in Medicine; Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin **Chair**: **Beate Kampmann**, Scientific Director of the Centre for Global Health and Director of the Institute of International Health; Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
12:00 – 13:00	**Session 2: Governing the Externalities of AI** **Robert Gorwa**, Postdoctoral Research Fellow of the Research Group Globalization, Work, and Production; Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung – WZB **Katharina de la Durantaye**, Professor of Civil Law and Digital Law; Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin **Zoya Yasmine**, Doctoral researcher at the Faculty of Law; University of Oxford **Chair: Jeremias Adams-Prassl**, Vice Academic Director of the Oxford Berlin Partnership (Social Sciences), Professor of Law & Associate Dean (Research), University of Oxford
13:00 – 14:00	**Lunch** (provided)
14:00 – 15:00	**Session 3: Colonial Legacies, Repair and Institutional Responsibility** **Mariam Salehi**, Postdoctoral Researcher and Research Group Leader Transnational Conflicts; Freie Universität Berlin **Kalika Mehta**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre for Advanced Studies "Reflexive Globalisation and the Law" (RefLex); Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin **Maayan Ravid**, Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the Centre for Criminology; University of Oxford **Andrew Hurrell**, Montague Burton Professor of International Relations and Fellow of Balliol College; University of Oxford **Chair: Florian Jeßberger**, Vice Academic Director of the Oxford Berlin Research Partnership (Social Sciences), Co-Director of RefLex, and Professor of Law at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

15:00-15:20	**Presentation: Dropping In and Out – A Response to Uncertainty** **Mathilde ter Heijne,** Professor for Performance and Time Based Arts; Berlin University of the Arts
15:20–16:00	**Coffee break**
16:00-16:45	**Session 4: What Have We Been Up To? Early Career Researchers Present Their Projects** **Ayush Noori**, Rhodes Scholar and DPhil student in Engineering Science; University of Oxford **Audrey Au Yong**, DPhil student in Surgical Sciences at the Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences; University of Oxford **Hannah Strothmann**, Researcher at the Department of Theory of Architecture and Design; Universität Kassel **Valentin Niebler**, PhD student at the Institute for European Ethnology; Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin **Antonio Montañés Jiménez**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography at the University of Oxford **Moderation**: **Alex Betts,** Academic Director; Oxford Berlin Research Partnership and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement, Sport, and Community); University of Oxford
16:45–17:45	**Session 5: Data Research Infrastructures in Practice — Technical, Ethical and Participatory Challenges** **Jens Rittscher**, Vice Academic Director of the Oxford Berlin Partnership (Medical Sciences), Professor at the Institute of Biomedical Engineering and the Nuffield Department of Medicine; University of Oxford; Visiting professor (Stiftung Charité) **Joachim Weber**, Head of the Strategic Science Management Division, Scientific Officer for the Berlin Long-term Observation of Vascular Events (BeLOVE); Berlin Institute of Health at Charité **Carina Fresemann**, Postdoctoral researcher and chief engineer at the Chair of Industrial Information Technology; Technische Universität Berlin **David De Roure**, Academic Director of the Digital Scholarship @ Oxford initiative and the Laboratory for AI Security Research, and Professor at the Department of Engineering Science; University of Oxford **Chair: Peter Neubauer**, Vice Academic Director of the Oxford Berlin Research Partnership (STEM); head of the Department of Bioprocess Engineering and Dean of the Process Sciences Faculty; Technische Universität Berlin

17:45–18:00	**Closing bridge:** From partnership projects to durable research agendas **Beate Kampmann**, Scientific Director of the Centre for Global Health and Director of the Institute of International Health; Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
18:00–19:00	**Drinks reception**

Speakers and Session Chairs

Audrey Au Yong

As a DPhil student in the University of Oxford, Audrey's work explores how shaping regulatory T cell (Treg) identity can transform post-kidney transplant care. Her research focuses on developing diverse yet targeted approaches to reinforce and stabilise Treg identity, aiming to reduce long-term reliance on immunosuppressive drugs and ultimately improve long-term graft survival in kidney transplant recipients.

Jeremias Adams-Prassl

Jeremias' research focuses on technology, innovation policy, and the future of work in the European Union and beyond. He also writes on the law and economics of fragmenting labour markets and access to justice. Since April 2021 he has led a five-year, interdisciplinary project exploring the rise of Algorithms at Work, funded by the European Research Council and a 2020 Leverhulme Prize.

His book *Humans as a Service* explores the promise and perils of work in the gig economy across the world. Jeremias' research on innovation policy and labour market regulation is frequently drawn on by governments and international organisations, including the European Commission, the International Labour Organisation, and the OECD, and has been cited by courts, policy documents, and news organisations in multiple jurisdictions. He has served on the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on the New Agenda for Work, Wages, and Job Creation.

Alex Betts

Alexander Betts is Pro-Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement, Sport, and Community) and Professor of Forced Migration and International Affairs at the University of Oxford. His academic research focuses on refugee economies and socio-economic rights, particularly in East Africa, and his recent books include *The Wealth of Refugees* (2021). His forthcoming books include *Authoritarian Sanctuaries: How Dictators Use Refugee Policy* (with Julia Schweers, Oxford University Press, 2027).

Lynne Cox

Lynne is Professor of Geroscience at the University of Oxford where she leads the Lab of Ageing and Cell Senescence. Her team study the underlying biological drivers of ageing, to better understand and modify the underlying causes of human ageing that drive age-related diseases.

Lynne set up the Oxford Ageing Network, OxAgeN, with Katja Simon in 2015, and is now the academic theme lead on ageing for the OX-BER partnership. She has served as a Trustee of the British Society for Research on Ageing (BSRA), and on the Strategic Advisory Board of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Longevity, co-authoring the National Strategy for Longer Healthier Lives. She also co-chaired the European Geriatric Medicine Society (EuGMS) Biology of Ageing group, the BLAST network, and co-directed the UK Ageing Network. In 2023 she was appointed Program Director of Dynamic Resilience, a $60M global program jointly funded by Wellcome Leap and Temasek Trust to improve human healthspan. Lynne has been recognised for her work on ageing, including with the US Glenn Foundation award for research into the biological mechanisms of ageing and the Lord Cohen of Birkenhead Medal of the British Society for Research on Ageing.

Katharina de la Durantaye

Katharina de la Durantaye is Professor of Civil Law and Digital Law at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Her research centers on the legal regulation of digital technologies, with a focus on data protection, artificial intelligence, and the legal status of digital persons and algorithms. She explores how traditional legal concepts adapt to the challenges posed by digital transformation, particularly in the context of privacy, liability, and digital rights.

Her work bridges civil law theory with practical legal reform, contributing to national and European policy discussions on digital governance. She is actively involved in interdisciplinary research networks addressing the legal and ethical implications of emerging technologies.

Carina Fresemann

Carina Fresemann is a Postdoctoral Researcher and Chief Engineer at the Chair of Industrial Information Technology at Technische Universität Berlin. Her research centers on virtual product creation, with a focus on cyber-physical systems, Industry 4.0, and the integration of artificial intelligence in engineering and manufacturing applications.

She develops modelling approaches and data-driven optimization methods to enhance efficiency, sustainability, and resilience for industrial applications. Her work bridges engineering, computer science, and industrial management, contributing to the design of next-generation production systems.

Robert Gorwa

Dr Robert Gorwa is a political scientist and technology governance scholar at the Berlin Social Science Center (WZB). He obtained his DPhil from Oxford's Department of Politics and International Relations in 2021, and studies the politics of technology policymaking, with special interest paid to the institutions and socio-technical regulatory arrangements shaping governance in the digital economy. His first book, *The Politics of Platform Regulation*, a comparative empirical study of the development of new `online safety' frameworks in the transnational context, was published open access in 2024 by Oxford University Press. His second book, *Bad Computers*, coauthored with Michael Veale, is an investigation of the logics of governance in the AI stack, and is forthcoming with MIT Press. In 2026, he was awarded an ERC Starting Grant to pursue a new line of research on the politics of AI alignment.

Carla Grindel

Carla's research focuses on migrant health, social inequalities, and the life course. Using panel and administrative data, she is particularly interested in how migration background intersects with other dimensions of inequality to shape health trajectories.

Mathilde ter Heijne

Mathilde ter Heijne is Professor for Performance and Time-Based Arts at the Berlin University of the Arts in Berlin (UdK): klasse.terheijne.net. She creates work around the aesthetics of identity, co-creation, collaboration, and dialogue. Her projects explore and create communities that offer an alternative to hierarchy-based culture, looking to the historical and ancient past, lesser-known present, and still-possible futures for more active, equal, powerful notions of what visual art could be. Known for her feminist art in a wide range of media including installation, video, sculpture, and performance, many of ter Heijne's recent projects draw on gender studies, archeology, and sociology to probe and test the connection between materiality and spirit, with a focus on participatory art as a tool for communicating knowledge and re-distributing power.

Andrew Hurrell

Andrew Hurrell taught International Relations in Oxford for over thirty years first at Nuffield College and then as Montague Burton Professor of International Relations from 2008 to 2021. From 2020 to 2024 he held an Einstein Fellowship in Berlin and was a Senior Research Fellow in the Law Faculty at Humboldt University and one of the co-directors of the KFG international research group on 'The International Rule of Law: Rise or Decline?' He is currently co-director of the Oxford Matin School Programme on Changing Global Orders and co-chair of the British Academy Programme on Global (Dis)orders. His research interests cover theories of international relations; global governance, international law and global order; the history of thought on international relations; comparative regionalism; and the international relations of the Americas, with particular reference to Brazil. He is currently completing Global Political Order in the 21st Century.

Florian Jeßberger

Florian Jeßberger is Vice Academic Director of the Oxford Berlin Research Partnership (Social Sciences), Co-Director of RefLex, and Professor of Law at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, where he holds the Chair of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, International Criminal Law and Modern Legal History. The central theme of his work is international criminal law, and in particular the study of the basis and limits of liability for 'mass crimes' – war crimes and crimes against humanity, terrorism, colonial injustices – as well as the practices and modes of coordination and integration of normative systems. His methodological approach is characterised by the combination of perspectives from criminal law, international law and contemporary history. Florian Jeßberger's pioneering work relates to the foundations of transnational criminal law enforcement, economic international criminal law and the internationalisation of national criminal justice systems.

Beate Kampmann

Beate Kampmann, Academic Director of the Oxford Berlin Research Partnership, is a specialist for infectious diseases. She has been Head of the Institute for International Health at Charité since January 2023 and is also Scientific Director of the newly created Charité Center Global Health. Her central fields of research are tuberculosis in children, HIV co-infection and vaccinology. With her team, she has conducted laboratory and clinical studies to better understand age-related immune responses to infections and vaccinations. In recent years, she has led a number of studies in both England and West Africa to address the scientific and practical challenges of maternal immunization.

Amelie Kolandt

Amelie Kolandt is a physician and MD/PhD candidate at the Institute for the History of Medicine and Ethics in Medicine, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, where she has worked since 2022. Her empirical research examines access to abortion in Germany, including the structural barriers that shape it and the opportunities for improvement.

She employs qualitative interview methods, combining expert interviews with gynecologists and abortion counselors with interviews with people who have had an abortion. Her research contributes to broader debates on reproductive rights, health policy, and stigma in medicine.

Kalika Mehta

Kalika Mehta is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre for Advanced Studies "Reflexive Globalisation and the Law" (RefLex) at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

She specialises in international criminal law and international human rights law. Her research interests include critical engagement with these two frameworks, particularly through the lens of Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL) and postcolonial theory. She is co-editing a Cambridge Handbook on Intersectionality and International Criminal Justice.

Antonio Montañés Jiménez

Antonio is a Ramón y Cajal postdoctoral fellow affiliated with the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography at the University of Oxford and a member of Wolfson's College, Oxford. Previously, Antonio held an Economic and Social Research Council postdoctoral fellowship at the University of St. Andrews. Antonio´s postdoctoral project aims to investigate the diffusion of the Prosperity Gospel among Latin American immigrants in Spain and the USA. The project will contribute to advancing studies on migration, borders, and the social dynamics of money.

Ayush Noori

Ayush develops artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to advance the understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of neurological disorders and other complex medical conditions. His research integrates multimodal data including -omics, imaging, and health records to uncover the mechanisms underlying neurological disease. He develops knowledge-grounded AI systems, including foundation models and AI agents, that reason across biological scales; then, he evaluates these systems at million-patient scale and conducts prospective clinical pilots of deployed AI models. His goal is to establish self-improving, closed-loop discovery engines that pair AI-driven hypothesis generation with deep experimental and clinical evaluation, accelerating the translation of computational discoveries into biomedical advances.

Peter Neubauer

Peter Neubauer is Vice Academic Director of the Oxford Berlin Research Partnership (STEM), Head of the Department of Bioprocess Engineering, and Dean of the Process Sciences Faculty at Technische Universität Berlin.

Peter Neubauer combines microbial biotechnology, process engineering and artificial intelligence to develop efficient, scalable and reproducible bioprocesses. His research focuses on Bioprocess scale-up and scale-down, difficult-to-express proteins, intelligent self-driving laboratories and digital research infrastructures.

Valentin Niebler

Valentin Niebler is a doctoral candidate at the Institute for European Ethnology at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. His research explores the dynamics of labour conflicts in the tech industry. His PhD project investigates class-making practices of migrant tech professionals in Berlin and Germany.

He employs ethnographic methods to show how workers relate to each other collectively in the workplace and beyond. He has done research on this among delivery workers, taxi drivers and social media content creators. His work contributes to debates in the anthropology and sociology of labour.

Maayan Ravid

Maayan is a critical social scientist who uses interdisciplinary approaches to study borders, inequality, racism, state violence, and their connections to colonialism. She is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at Oxford's Faculty of Law, at the Centre for Criminology. Her research project is entitled: *The Making of Differentiated Beings in Israel: how and why the state excludes*. It examines structural racism and group differentiation in Israel's law enforcement and criminal justice systems. Her research interests include ethnonationalism, borders and citizenship, inequality, criminalisation, asylum, detention, racism, and colonialism. She is a co-convener of the Global Crime and Justice Hub at Oxford's Centre for Criminology.

Jens Rittscher

Jens's research interests lie in enabling biomedical imaging through the development of new analysis algorithms and novel computational platforms, with a current focus to improve mechanistic understanding of cancer and patient care through quantitative analysis of image data. In his work Jens develops algorithms and methods that enable the quantification of a broad range of phenotypical alterations, the precise localisation of signalling events, and the ability to correlate such events in the context of the biological specimen.

In addition to his research in the field of biomedical imaging, Jens has worked extensively in the area of video surveillance, the automatic annotation of video, and the understanding of volumetric seismic data.

Since 2018 Jens has been a group leader in the Oxford Big Data Institute where his research group is now based.

David de Roure

David's research is distinctively interdisciplinary. From an early background in electronics, computer science and artificial intelligence, David became closely involved in the Hypertext, Web, and computational research communities, in pervasive computing, digital social research and digital scholarship. He has engaged closely and collaboratively with humanities (digital humanities, digital musicology, computational creativity), engineering (Internet of Things, cybersecurity, physical computing), social sciences (Social Machines, Web Science, citizen science), information science (knowledge infrastructure, computational archival science), and computer science (large scale distributed systems, AI).

David's personal research is at the intersection of music, maths, machines and AI, empowering the creative human in a complex digital world.

Lucia Ruprecht

Lucia Ruprecht is Vice Academic Director of the Oxford Berlin Research Partnership (Humanities), Professor of Theatre Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin, and Director of the Master's programme in Critical Dance Studies. She is Director of the Master's programme in Critical Dance Studies at the Institute for Theatre Studies, Freie Universität Berlin. Her research and teaching focus on dance and movement studies, with particular emphasis on theories and aesthetics of Western theatre dance since 1800, the theory and ethics of gesture, dance historiography, the interrelations between dance and literature from the 19th century onward, dance and film, and broader questions of critical theory in relation to the body.

She leads Project B02, *Interventional Choreographies: Formats and Practices of Decolonization and Ecology*, within the Collaborative Research Centre (CRC) 1512 *Intervening Arts*. She is also International Co-Investigator on the AHRC-funded project *Kafka's Transformative Communities* at the University of Oxford (2024–2026).

Meera Sabaratnam

Meera's research explores the colonial and postcolonial dimensions of world politics in their various manifestations. She is interested in the ways in which imperial historical structures, institutions, social relations and forms of knowledge shape the present, as well as the ways in which they are evolving. Meera has explored these questions in relation to international statebuilding, peacebuilding and development assistance, the understanding of war in the international system, International Relations theory and its research methods. Her current book project *Complex Indebtedness* explores debt as a foundational form of power in the international system.

Mariam Salehi

Mariam Salehi is a political scientist, working at the intersection of International Relations and Peace and Conflict Research. She leads the junior research group “Transnational Conflicts” at the INTERACT Center for Interdisciplinary Peace and Conflict Research at Freie Universität Berlin, which focuses on struggles for change and justice, as well as knowledge politics with a focus on violence, conflict and security. She works with interpretive research approaches, drawing on original data collected through qualitative methods, such as interviews and (participant) observation Currently, her work focuses on politics of repair and the role of technical work in emancipatory struggles.

Daniel Juan Sivizaca Conde

Daniel Juan Sivizaca Conde is a postdoctoral researcher at Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, where he serves as Data Privacy and Data Security Coordinator for NFDI4Immuno, a project building shared infrastructure for immunological research data. He holds a doctorate in Information Systems from Freie Universität Berlin. His doctoral research examined how transparency operates in practice on open repositories and other AI data platforms, how the data underlying AI systems is documented there, and how far those practices meet the requirements now set out in the EU AI Act.

His current work takes the same question into health-related AI. Supported by a Berlin Oxford Partnership Scholarship, he spent a research stay at the Ethox Centre, Oxford Population Health, University of Oxford, working with Associate Professor Angeliki Kerasidou. Their shared interest is the relationship between trust and reliance in health care settings, and what transparency would have to deliver before reliance on a health AI system can be considered justified.

Hannah Strothmann

Hannah Strothmann is a researcher at the Department of Architectural Theory and Design at Universität Kassel, where she is involved in developing the Research Center for the History of Ecological Building. Her research focuses on the social implications of architecture and planning, particularly in relation to ideas of designing for different futures, urban spaces, and waterscapes.

Her work combines architectural history and theory, curatorial research, and architectural journalism. She is involved in several collaborative projects such as the interdisciplinary project “Building Visions: Theology and Architecture in Deep Time,” which was supported by the Seedfunding for Creative Collaborations programme of Universität der Künste Berlin and the University of Oxford.

Joachim Weber

Joachim Weber is Head of the Strategic Science Management Division and Scientific Officer for the Berlin Long-term Observation of Vascular Events (BeLOVE), a deeply phenotyped cardiovascular cohort, at the Berlin Institute of Health (BIH) at Charité. Trained in physics and neurology, he works at the interface of clinical research, research strategy and research infrastructures. He leads institutional initiatives on health data and computing platforms, including MediCoRE, a secure processing environment for sensitive health data aligned with the European Health Data Space. His aim is to make large-scale, multimodal health data usable for trustworthy AI, prevention and precision medicine.

Zoya Yasmine

Zoya is a DPhil student in the Faculty of Law, where her thesis explores trade secrets vis-à-vis patent law, data protection, and whistleblowing protections in medical technology development.

Zoya's research interests and publications span the secondary uses of health data, privacy-enhancing technologies (e.g., synthetic data), automated decision-making and human-in-the-loop systems,

alongside discriminatory access to healthcare technologies. She is Director at We and AI (a critical AI literacy non-profit organisation behind projects such as the AI Resist List), where she runs the internationally recognised Better Images of AI library.