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FEBRUARY 2021

# LIVING TOGETHER IN A DIGITAL SOCIETY

2021 is sure to be a defining year for politics. January already witnessed a turbulent transfer of power for incoming U.S. President Joe Biden, and Germany's upcoming federal and many state elections will determine the outlook for Europe for years to come.

In our February newsletter, we look for answers for healthy democracies, investigating extremism, filter bubbles and widening political divides with leading German researchers and entrepreneurs. The leading question: how do we live together in a digital society?

We feature a company digitally crowdsourcing ideas directly from citizens, one helping governments make better use of data and a company making opinion polling fully digital more transparent. In our interview we find out the surprising news about conspiracy theories from an opinion researcher, and in a special feature, DWIH Director Benedikt Brisch discusses what the Biden Presidency might mean for German-American scientific exchange. Scroll to explore our content and our brand new newsletter template!

#### SPOTLIGHT



#### The Biden Presidency and International Science

DWIH New York Director Benedikt Brisch reflects on the incoming Biden/Harris Administration and the outlook for German-American exchange in science and research.

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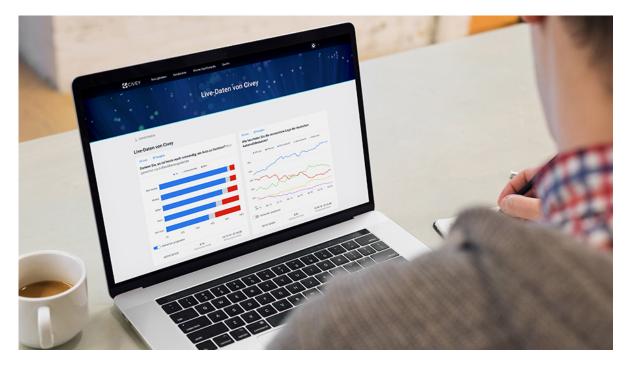
WHAT'S NEW



## Polling Is Not Predicting

Dr. Viola Neu studies opinions and elections at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. In an interview we chat about upcoming German elections, the shortcomings of polling and the good news about conspiracy theories.

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**Discovering What Germany Thinks** 

Inaccurate opinion polling is so 2016! Using machine learning, a Berlinbased company is modernizing polling by making it transparent, automated and fully digital.

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# From Civic Halls to the Internet

Berlin-based Civocracy is bringing democracy into the digital era by providing a space for digital collaboration between citizens, governments, businesses and other groups active in local communities.

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#### **Data-Informed Governance**

Polyteia is data for the people, by the people. The Berlin-based data analytics and visualization platform allows city leaders to bring together and analyze the data that represents the constituents they serve.

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS



# Feb. 1, 6 PM

**Shaken Not Stirred: James Bond in the Spotlight of Physics**. Join TU Dortmund physicist Dr. Metin Tolan to chat about the real physics in James Bond movies.

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# Feb. 9, 11 AM

**Sustainable Megacities: Health, Risks, Resources Part III**, Spotlight: University of Heidelberg. Dr. Rainer Sauerborn discusses his research on climate change and public health in sub-Saharan Africa.

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# THE LATEST FROM OUR SUPPORTERS



# Free Courses for the Digital Future

The Hasso Plattner Institute is offering a number of free online courses beginning in February and March on topics like malware, design thinking and process mining.



## Aging Research and Notes on Digital Education

Universitaet Hamburg shares new notes overviewing the state of aging research and a political science professor tells us what she's learned in the switch to remote education.

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