

Session Program

7-9 Oct 2026

OSSYM 2026 - 8th International Open Search Symposium "Boosting Digital Sovereignty"

Social science session

CODE University of Applied Sciences, Berlin, Germany

Wednesday 7 October

14:15

Social science session: User behavior and preferences in search and AI

Session | **Location:** CODE University of Applied Sciences, Berlin, Germany | **Convener:** Session Chair: tbd

14:15-14:16

Social science session: User behavior and preferences in search and AI

Speaker

Session Chair: tbd

14:16-14:35

Privacy-Enhancing Digital Infrastructures - Understanding User Preferences Regarding Internet Search And Their Inclusion Into Systems Design

Speaker

Sarah Götz (University of Kassel)

14:35-14:55

Hybrid Search Ecosystems: An Empirical Analysis of Online Search Behavior of Generation Z and Alpha in Germany

Speaker

Alexander Decker; Marie Einsiedler (Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt, Germany)

14:55-15:15

Renegotiating the open web: Emerging AI Preferences standards

Speaker

Stefan Baack (Independent researcher)

15:15

Friday 9 October

09:45

Social science session: Ethics+Society

Session | **Location:** CODE University of Applied Sciences, Berlin, Germany | **Convener:** Session chair: tbd

09:45–09:46

Social science session: Ethics+Society

Speaker

Session chair: tbd

09:46–10:05

An Ethics-by-Design Approach for the Open Web Index

Speaker

Alexander Nussbaumer (TU Graz)

10:05–10:25

Co-Creating Inclusive AI Search Frontends: Findings from the KIsu-Project with children, young people, and older adults

Speaker

Melanie Platz; Kristin Altmeyer; Stephanie Heel; Sarah Malone; Kerstin Reese; Lisa Schick; Verena Wolf (Saarland University); Tanja Gottsmann; Maria Wiesner (fragFINN e.V.); Julius Gabelmann (DFKI); Ursula Gmelch; Christine Plote (OSF); Alessandra Rodrigues Eismann (Centigrade GmbH)

10:25–10:45

Open, to What End? A Capability-Theoretic Perspective on Open Search

Speaker

Nicola Neophytou; Bhaskar Mitra (Independent Researcher)

10:45