ORGANIZED SESSION

New digital technologies and inequalities: impacts for territories, communities, citizens

Elena Ragazzi[1] and Francesca Pozzi [2]

(1) *CNR-IRCrES* *elenamaria.ragazzi@cnr.it*
(2) *CNR-ITD* *francesca.pozzi@cnr.it*

Description

New technologies such as artificial intelligence or robotics increasingly permeate people's lives and daily social relationships. They can find application in all areas that concern individual and collective lives. There is great interest in the study of the social impact of a technological trajectory that is moving so quickly, and strong concerns arise while thinking about the most fragile social groups and less developed regions.

A lot of research is now on the ground, focusing on possible applications of AI and new technologies in different areas and paying attention to defining positive' applications, able to support people's well-being and inclusion. In view of this, it is essential to let the users' need be the main driver for the research and development of technologies and then to accompany the technological assessment (performance of the developed tool) with an evaluation of the impact on individuals' lives and on social inclusion. In the current FP

'Horizon Europe', the importance of favoring the development of human-centered technologies, including AI, is stressed in different domains, such as health, public administration, education, everyday life, cultural and creative sectors, etc., with the aim to contribute to the reduction of- socio-economic inequalities.

Call for papers

In this session we would like to gather empirical research works in different domains shedding light on the complex interaction between new technologies and inequalities. Two main (and interconnected) perspectives may be identified when addressing this:

- Are existing inequalities (territorial or social disparities) able to hamper the possibility to benefit from the positive impacts of new technologies? (**effect of inequalities on the access to innovation**)
- How can the application of new technologies impact fragile groups or weaker regions? (**effect of innovation on inequalities**).

We invite authors to present works exploring observed or potential impacts of digital technological applications on the reduction or exacerbation of inequalities, inside communities or among territories. Presentations may concern any technology (AI, big data, robotics and other pervasive digital technologies subject to a quick evolution), and their applications to the different areas of social life and economic development, such as (but not limited to) education, culture, public administration, health, industrial processes and local development, poverty and well-being, safety and security…

To get more information on the AISRe 2025 conference please consult the call for paper . To submit a proposal please go to https://www.aisre.it/proponi-un-contributo/ and follow the instructions available there. You will have to:

- Access to your personal area. If you don't have an account create one,it is immediate.
- Choose "invio abstract/send an abstract" in the righthand menu
- Fill the form. Please choose "New digital technologies and inequalities: impacts for territories, communities, citizens" in the menu, to fill the field "organized session".

The deadline for submitting an abstract is 28/02/2025-