

## Materials for the European Parliament Election 2024:

### Where Are We heading: Towards the Digital Stable Boy or Towards Artificially Intelligent-supported Art of Living?

#### European Election 2024



#### Go Vote! Freedom, Equality, Care and Co- operation

elderly people and the "punishment" for any unnecessary attention by deduction from working hours. Or in delivery services, the localization and movement profile when delivering goods.

Our movement in public outside of work is also increasingly monitored. In London, studies estimate that over 940,000 cameras are used for video surveillance daily (proportionally more than in Beijing). Londoners are filmed an average of 70 times a day - almost continuously in the London Underground. Together with facial recognition and mobile login data, this ensures our identification wherever we are filmed by a camera.

But servitude is also more subtle. Through registering every internet click and forming profiles to answer questions about what goods should be offered, what thoughts could be stimulated, which internet site should be linked, how to select the next songs suggested by the music provider, and so on. What we could think and discover is predetermined by what the artificial or not-so-artificial intelligence thinks about what should be thought and discovered.

Those working on this digitization find themselves in a glass cage. Seemingly free, one hundred percent home office with high income and colleagues in Eastern Europe, the USA, and India whom they never really get to know. But at the same time, with permanent availability and, above all, with a tremendous loss of learned skills. The way software is developed today will be obsolete in 10 years, and competition among them is global.

Our digital servitude is the origin of huge profits. Figure 1 shows the increase in Amazon's (black curve) and Facebook's (green curve) shares over 10 years, both by approximately 2000%. Berkeley professor Gabriel Zucman emphasized in 2021: "Amazon, Facebook, and Alphabet pay 12 to 15 percent taxes." And how much has our income increased since 2013 (see Figure 1) and how much tax do we pay?

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##### *Absurdities from the AfD*

Forty years ago, the announcement that an email had been sent elicited a surprised smile. Approximately 15 years later, there were the first village associations reachable only by email. Another 15 years later, the corded telephone was hardly purchasable anymore, and a paper encyclopedia became a rarity. Nowadays, paying with cash is almost outdated, and typing with a keyboard instead of voice input might be the next "victim" of development.

**Meanwhile, digital servitude lurks or already exists.** For example, at Amazon, through complete surveillance of all movements in the warehouse by individual scanners with movement profiles. And daily or weekly feedback on the kilometers walked. Or in care, monitoring every single care step for patients and elderly people and the "punishment" for any unnecessary attention by deduction from working hours. Or in delivery services, the localization and movement profile when delivering goods.





And the servers containing the data, as well as the artificial intelligence that organizes and restructures them, are somewhere in the world, owned by individual entrepreneurs or corporations, not subject to real control, and in their current form, hardly controllable anymore because the algorithms are no longer understood.

**The next wave of digitization is rolling.** It's called artificial intelligence and threatens up to 50% of jobs. And it collects even more data about us. The goal is to create individual artificial agents. They not only suggest the sequence of music but also what we could do during the day, draft our emails, pick out our possible vacation trips, show or read to us what we might like to read and hear. With them, we can simply talk so that we no longer need a keyboard. And they help us against boredom and loneliness - because they "know" us.

In companies, they replace supervisors, as long as it's not about very specific matters. They tell us in the afternoon when we go home how fast we worked and compare it with our colleagues. And they also immediately tell us what such a work pace means for our future in the company and in which position. Ruthlessly "fair" in terms of performance, regardless of age, gender, individual problems. Not only are employees constantly monitored and "guided" artificially. Profiling is also experienced in the police force and in lending practices. As absurd as it may sound: Soon we will need an artificial "agent" to help us build a streamlined artificial identity for this permanent data collection. Or just to find out if a photo depicts a real scene or was put together by artificial intelligence on a smartphone.

Even if we succeed: Sometimes the artificial "intelligence" makes mistakes, and then it has devastating consequences: Recently at Amazon, a number of people were simply fired by the company's software because their absence was registered by the system as a lack of work performance - even though they had officially reported sick beforehand. Consequently, sick notes have "disappeared" from the online giant's databases. Superiors are only reached in rare cases. Instead, employees have to navigate through a telephone jungle - usually without success. Amazon emphasizes that they are working on filtering out the wrong decisions, but this is difficult given the complexity of the artificial intelligence used.

### **What would be a leftist demand in view of this development?**

In general, a leftist demand would be the preservation of freedom: against any form of digital surveillance, whether at work or outside of work. And we need forms of public control or socialization for online storage and internet-based artificial intelligence.

And then *the demand for equality*: It is not acceptable that access to artificial intelligence is based on wealth and educational attainment (e.g., through monthly tiered payment amounts, with a premium tier accessible to only a few).

As well as *the demand for care*: This also includes a routine of forgetting in networks: Since everyone can change. And a physical form of segregation between networks. Not all information should be readable everywhere immediately. Without this protection, privacy is inconceivable. Just as house windows should have curtains (if desired), digital processes should also be shielded. Whenever one wants.

And of course, the demand for free cooperation: as jointly planned and implemented open-source projects and as the development of common-good-use software that is freely available and thus accessible to everyone (see, for example, open office, Linux, and similar software). Artificially intelligent-supported art of living instead of digital stable boyhood!

### **And what do the alternative losers for Germany and elsewhere for Europe demand?**

Actually not much, except:

Data parsimony: **wonderful**, the return to analog television programming is almost within reach again!

Return to national sovereignty: **rather cute in the face** of 4000 satellites that Elon Musk alone has in space, and the 3200 that Amazon is now sending after.

**And what are they not demanding?** Maximum effort for the "weaker ones" with improved education, e.g., through initial technical online translation of lessons for migration or targeted additional learning material for highly interested students.

Prohibition of digital motion tracking at work (whether as a meter run, keyboard stroke, or delivery quantity), in public spaces, and as police-political control.

And for all those working in the IT sector: permanent employment instead of pseudo self-employment, paid six months of intensive further training every 5 years on technical advancements. And finally, appropriate taxation for the internet giants.

**The AfD - just another party of the well-off and socially established.**