

## UU Symposium and network meeting December 14 2023

### Platforms and Pedagogies

### Digital technologies and new perspectives for Youth and Education



**Time: 13.30-17.00/18.00**

**Location: Academy Building, Belle van Zuylen Room, Domplein, Utrecht**

This **UU afternoon symposium and network meeting** hosted by the focus area Governing the Digital Society and the Dynamics of Youth' community Youth Education and Life Skills bring together an interdisciplinary group of researchers from Utrecht University around the topic of digitalization and platformization and how these processes impact upon youth and their possibilities for development, learning and education.

Besides critically discussing potential shortcomings and unintended consequences of digital technologies, educational platforms or social media platforms in education, we aim to address possibilities for designing socially responsible technologies or other possibilities for positive critical engagement with educational technologies or technologies that impact the live sphere of youth more generally.

**Questions** we may address include: how do digitization and platformization affect core values of educational practices and institutions? How are boundaries between formal education and informal learning blurred by platform technologies driven by commercial business models and what are the consequences? How are youth challenging and resisting the pedagogies of social media platforms? How does digitalization and AI impact upon the accessibility and assessment of (what is) 'reliable' information for young people? What are opportunities and threats of AI such for education? What does platformization mean for how we approach and develop digital literacy, both for students and teachers? How can we make youth conscious, knowledgeable and critical about their relationship with the digital systems in which they are interacting?

**Key notes** The afternoon is organized around three keynotes (Julian Sefton-Green, Deakin University, Australia; José van Dijck, Utrecht University; and Liesbeth Kester, Utrecht University). Each keynote will introduce a research theme at the intersection of digitization/education/learning/youth and present an urgent research question/problem which requires attention from an interdisciplinary perspective. After the keynotes participants will break up in roundtables to engage in a discussion on these themes.

**Dialogue, collaboration and a research agenda** In order to fulfill Utrecht University's scientific and societal mission, interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration on these themes and questions is crucial. To foster collaboration and a common UU research agenda on this theme, we have invited UU colleagues to hand in challenging and pressing research questions which will be shared in several thematic round tables. We organize network time to explore possibilities for collaboration and together we put together a UU research agenda for Digital technologies and Youth and Education.



Program 13.30-17.00/18.00

13.30 - 13.45

Welcome

13.45 - 14.15

Keynote José van Dijck

14.15 - 14.45

Keynote Julian Sefton Green

14.45 - 15.15

Keynote Liesbeth Kester

15.15 - 15.30

Short break

15.30 - 16.30

Round tables

16.30 - 17.00

Panel to set a research agenda

17.00 - 18.00

Snacks and drinks & networking opportunity

For more information contact the organizers: Niels Kerssens, Department of Media & Culture Studies, [n.kerssens@uu.nl](mailto:n.kerssens@uu.nl) & Maria de Haan, Department of Education & Pedagogy, [m.dehaan@uu.nl](mailto:m.dehaan@uu.nl)



