

re:publica

2-4 MAY 2016

STATION BERLIN

TEN

+++ Happy Anniversary – the 10th re:publica opens today +++

Berlin, 2 May 2016 – After months of planning, the 10th re:publica kicks off today at STATION Berlin. The conference, in all its diversity, is a reflection of our digital society. In nearly 400 hours of programme content, with over 700 speakers from 60 countries on 17 stages, re:publica will cover a huge range of themes and topics. From Hate Speech ([Hate It](#)), net politics, [Immersive Arts](#), to new approaches in health care ([re:health](#)), [Virtual Reality](#), the [Global Innovation Gathering](#) to [FinTech](#) and much more – the programme offers a wide content selection to both internet experts and newcomers. This range of topics also reflects the diversity of re:publica participants: the conference brings together bloggers and scientists, politicians and hackers, managers, activists and artists.

Founders Andreas Gebhard, Tanja Häusler, Markus Bechedahl and Johnny Häusler together opened this year's anniversary edition of the conference.

“For the past 10 re:publicas we've been celebrating the openness of the internet – but today we're seeing more and more barriers going up in the web. Our communications are increasingly subject to surveillance and we're becoming more and more dependent on fewer and fewer platforms, with their own built-in limits. At re:publica, we'll discuss strategies on how to keep the internet open. An open society demands an open internet”, states Markus Bechedahl, editor-in-chief at netzpolitik.org.

Tanja Häusler: “re:publica has grown and developed alongside the digital society and has become increasingly broader in its thematic scope. But we can't and won't showcase or representing the entirety of the web: small-mindedness and intolerance has no place in our 400 hours of content.”

re:publica's opening was directly followed by the Media Convention's own opening ceremony, hosted by Dr. Anja Zimmer, director at Medienanstalt Berlin-Brandenburg and Helge Jürgens, CEO of Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg. The Media Convention is taking place for the third successive iteration and in cooperation with re:publica.

In its 10th edition, re:publica 2016 TEN is NET is seeking self-reflection but is also looking to the future. How will the web and our digital society develop in the coming ten years? What can we learn from it and what challenges do we face? What must and can we all do to ensure that the internet remains free and open?

Some of the main speakers this year include sociologist Richard Sennett, publisher Carlin Emcke, German federal judge Thomas Fischer, economist and sociologist Saskia Sassen, “creative scientist” Kate Stone, blogger and journalist Sascha Lobo, Mozilla CEO Mark Surman, scientist Kate Crawford and data journalist Aric Toler.

More re:publica events in the labore:tory

As in last year, re:publica 2016 will feature another Musicday starting on today's opening day. Tuesday will be dedicated to Immersive Arts and Wednesday features the established #FASHIONTECH conference. These three focus areas will, for the first time, take place in the labore:tory which as the name suggests will be a space for experimenting and hand-on testing. Along with a stage on the second floor, the third and fourth floors will be home to the interactive and participatory elements of the labore:tory. Here you can try out various technologies, including VR recording equipment. The labore:tory's programme was carefully curated with the support of the Erste Deutsche Dachverband für Virtual Reality (EdfVR).

Deutsche Telekom's new #gameforfood initiative is also at re:publica this year. Together with international research and science partners, Telekom has developed an innovative solution in using gaming to further medical advances. Partners include University College London, the University of East Anglia, the non-profit organisation Alzheimers Research, as well as independent game developer Glitchers. If you want to know more, head over to gameforgood@s-plus-s.com for accreditation and gain an insight into the initiative on the last re:publica day at 09:30.

On the rocky road: re:publica goes Dublin!

re:publica TEN has one more new announcement up its sleeve: re:publica is not only growing throughout the entire STATION Berlin, its also going international. The re:publica organisers are planning a first excursion to Dublin. On 20 October 2016 a one day re:publica conference will take place in the Irish capital. The programme will of course be diverse and will be curated by the Berlin team as well as a small group in Dublin.

“Dublin is one of the most important cities for IT and technology in Europe. English speaking and easily accessible within Europe – Dublin has a solid basis for re:publica's first steps outside of Germany. The digital society is and is continually becoming more and more global and interconnected. This means that we need to show a stronger international presence. We're excited to meet Dublin's digital scene and its networks and are looking forward to making the first step across the Irish sea. We're very excited for our first field trip in October” explains Andeas Gebhard, CEO and founder of re:publica.

“Each and every re:publica has shown how important the debates on the digitisation of work and private life are. With re:publica in Dublin, we're looking forward to seeing how these debates are conducted in other countries and cities. One thing is clear: re:publica is on the move because standing

still is boring”, comments Johnny Häusler.

Interested parties can come to the #rpTEN cube, located in the courtyard, today at 16:00 to meet the re:publica management and ask some first questions. More information on re:publica Dublin will be available during the course of the next three days.

Participants in Focus: reflection at the 10th re:publica

Participants at re:publica are never simply passive guests. They actively participate and create re:publica. This is visually conveyed at its 10th anniversary. Mirror elements and reflective materials are key to the design of the main halls and stages. You are re:publica, you are the digital society. A highlight of this year's programme is the new MeetUp format, which bring small groups of like-minded people together to network and exchange about their interests and projects. re:publica offers more than simply an excellent speaker programme. An exciting range of activities outside of the session programme creates a unique, festival-like atmosphere. From boat trips to the FIREFIT sauna, this year features numerous opportunities to relax and enjoy. The re:publica DOME, situated in the re:lax outside area, displays 360 degree projections throughout the day. An overview of our side-programme can be found [here](#).

Find more information at:

<http://re-publica.de/presse>

<http://www.facebook.com/republica>

<http://twitter.com/republica>

<http://mediaconventionberlin.com/en>

Press images:

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