



# First General Partner Meeting

5-7 April, 2022

**AI FORA**  
artificial intelligence for assessment

<https://www.ai-fora.de>

 Volkswagen **Stiftung**

JG|U

AI FORA  
for  
Ukraine

Pre-announcement of new AI FORA workshop  
at central project Safe Space in Assisi, Italy

# The role of AI for global social goods provision in times of crisis:

## How the world deals with the war in Ukraine



AI FORA partner **Oleksandr Khzhniak**, Department of Social Sciences, V.N.Karazin Kharkiv National University, Ukraine



# Funders and sponsors



# Dipping into the agenda



## AI FORA artificial intelligence for assessment

### 1<sup>st</sup> General Partner Meeting 5-7 April 2022

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (JGU), Germany

Venue: Philosophicum I, Lecture Theatre P1, Main Campus, Jakob-Weider-Weg 18

#### Tuesday, 05/04/2022: AI FORA project overview

- 12:00 Registration [Foyer P1]
- 14:00 Welcome address by Vice-President of Research, Johannes Gutenberg University [P1]  
Prof. Dr. Stefan Müller-Stach
- 14:15 Introduction to conference and general project info [P1]  
Petra Ahnweiler, JGU; project coordinator
- 14:45 Empirical social research (WP1); Lead: JGU, Germany [P1]  
Petra Ahnweiler, Frederick Herget, Elisabeth Späth
- 15:15 Social Simulation (WP2); Lead: University of Surrey, UK [P1]  
Nigel Gilbert, Martha Bickert
- 15:45 Better AI Lab (WP3); Lead: University of Augsburg, Germany [P1]  
Elisabeth André, Katharina Weltz, Ruben Schlagowski
- 16:35 Coffee break [Foyer P1]
- 16:45 Ethics ForA and Showroom: Simulation in Interaction [GFG, Room 01 - 721 & 01 - 511\*]
- 18:15 Reception [Foyer P1]

#### Wednesday, 06/04/2022: AI FORA case studies

- 09:00 AI FORA cultural comparison approach (JGU team) [P1]
- 09:45 Safe Spaces and Ethical Observatory (Dr. Johannes Tebbe, Kloster Nütschau, Germany and Elisabeth Späth, JGU, Germany) [P1]
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#### Thursday, 07/04/2022: AI FORA technological landscape

- 09:00 Keynote [P1]  
Elisabeth André, University of Augsburg, Germany
- 10:00 Overview: AI FORA technological landscape (Frederick Herget, JGU and Ruben Schlagowski, University of Augsburg, Germany) [P1]
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\* Georg-Förster Building, Jakob-Weider-Weg 16, Green Building, First Floor

Some partners still had issues with travelling due to the pandemics: **Hybrid elements**





About (and who-is-who)

# Artificial Intelligence and the Society of the Future

Usually, technology production is strongly expert-driven and disconnected from society in many ways



Gap between technology production and society  
Technology production is challenged to improve “bad AI”

Explainable?  
Transparent?  
Ownership?

**Required:**  
**An eye-level cooperation of  
Social science and computer science**



### Social science



- **Petra Ahrweiler**, TISSS Lab, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany
- **Nigel Gilbert**, CRESS, University of Surrey, UK

### Computer science



- **Elisabeth André**, Human-Centered AI, University of Augsburg, Germany
- **George Kampis**, German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence DFKI



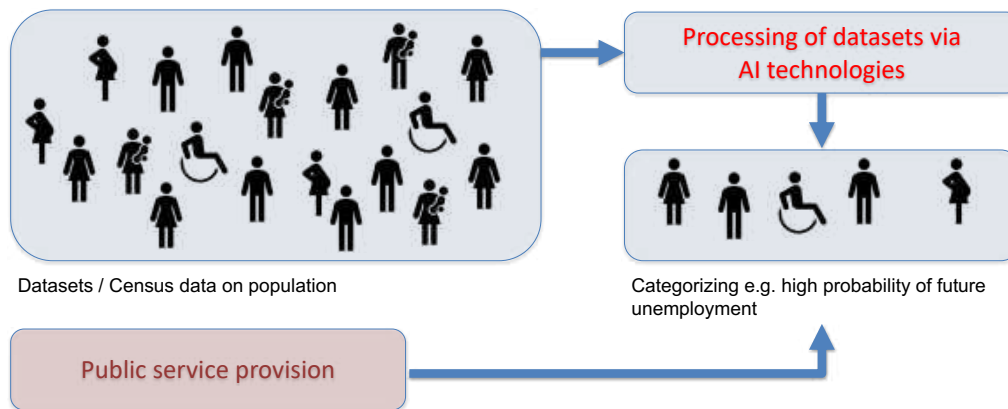
AI FORA approach

## Workpackage 4

Lead: TISSS Lab, JGU

# AI technologies used for social assessment in public service provision of national welfare systems

- In more and more countries, public administrations increasingly use Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms to decide on social service provisions and state benefits among their citizens.
- In our research context, AI means machine learning techniques for the profiling and scoring of individuals, accompanied by automated decision-making.
- Decisionmaking is highly value-laden: Present and future human behaviour needs to be categorised on scales such as legal recipients/fraudulent recipients, deserving/non-deserving, needy/non-needy, high-performing/low-performing, desirable/non-desirable, or acceptable/not-acceptable.



Values are key



# Values are a feature of society

Values are context-bound: What is **perceived as „social justice“** in a national welfare system largely **depends on cultural context**

- What is considered as „fair“ in one country, might be considered as severe discrimination practice in another
- Also, **acceptance of AI use** for public policy vary between countries

Attitudes not only vary between countries but also within countries between societal groups

Context is key



# Who can improve current systems?

Improve issues around bias and discrimination  
trying to make AI systems more fair

Develop AI in relation to cultural context closing the  
gap between technology production and societal  
value propositions

## Develop better AI in co-design

- cannot be done by one individual or one societal subsystem, but requires expertise and perspectives of all parts of society
- Multiple Stakeholders, including vulnerable populations who need empowerment

Participation is key



# Safe Spaces at Intermediary Partners

**Main risk of failure in AI FORA:** Successfully engaging societal stakeholders on all levels

To develop ethically and societally responsible AI requires interaction between heterogeneous stakeholders from all kinds of backgrounds, who need “voice” to communicate on eye-level without being preconfigured and constrained by the environment where these encounters take place.

This needs to happen in a “safe space”, that is a neutral but supportive place of non-violent communication, where equal opportunities for confidentially speaking up and for participatory decision making are provided.

**Mitigation of risk in AI FORA:** The “Safe Spaces” concept

You will hear more about the **Safe Spaces concept**

**Tomorrow, 09.45 CET: Safe Spaces and Ethical Observatory (here)**



**Br. Johannes Tebbe OSB**  
International Safe Spaces Coordinator



Ahrweiler, P. Tebbe, J., Hickey, M., Marseille, J., Gasch, M., Consiglio, C., Yator, M., Dorathick, R. (2022, im Erscheinen): Benedictine Monasteries as "Safe Spaces". A cooperation with social science to meet the great social challenges of the future. Erbe und Auftrag Heft 2/2022 (in German, English translation available)

## Scientific Advisory Board



- **Veronika Cummings**, Professor for Human Geography, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany



- **Simone Fischer-Hübner**, Professor of Computer Science, Karlstad University, Sweden



- **Aoibheann Gibbons**, SMARTlab, University College Dublin, Ireland



- **Gert Jan Hofstede**, Professor of Artificial Sociality, Wageningen University, The Netherlands



- **Gerhard Kruip**, Professor for Christian Anthropology and Social Ethics, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany



- **Iris Lorscheid**, Digital Business and Data Science, University of Applied Sciences Europe, Germany



- **Gianluca Misuraca**, Senior Scientist in Digital Government Transformation, European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Seville, Spain



- **Tome Sandevski**, Mercator Policy Fellowship Programme, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

# Bringing AI and societies together

- All country contexts contain issues of bias and discrimination of and against diverse populations - these are transported/enforced in AI systems
- To identify critical issues and improve AI systems, the dynamic value system of societies needs to be brought close to technology production
- AI FORA analyses value/context dependency in AI-based social assessment comparing **eleven countries** as case studies,
- identifies technology/society gaps and
- develops chances for improving policies for **contextualized AI systems that are responsive to value dynamics in societies**

# Work of WP 4 on the agenda of this meeting

- Now (here)
- Today, 16.45 CET: Showroom - Ethics Fora (GFG, Room 01 – 721 & 01 – 511)
- Tomorrow, 09.00 CET: AI FORA cultural comparison approach (here)
- Tomorrow, 09.45 CET: Safe Spaces and Ethical Observatory (here)
- Thursday, 10.00 CET: Overview: AI FORA technological landscape (here)
- Thursday, 15.00 CET: Next steps in project (here)

## AI FORA

artificial intelligence for assessment

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# Empirical social research

## Workpackage 1



Lead: TISSS Lab, JGU



# 11 case studies to investigate how cultural values affect AI-based social assessment for public service provision

- Fairness concept of public welfare policy in a case study country based on a current categorisation system for social assessment
- Current implementation of fairness concept in administrative practices
- Welfare gaps and scenarios of desired system as identified by social context (assessment of welfare indices, dealing with vulnerable groups, addressing bias and discrimination, addressing corruption and fraud, what back-up systems in place, what says public discourse/acceptance, are there policy reforms, what is the space of leeway etc.)
- (Policy advise on) Future implementation of fairness concept based on a desired categorisation system for assessment
- **Value-sensitive AI - Contextualised AI - Participatory AI – Dynamic AI**



## 6 case study teams funded within AI FORA



India

Social science



Computer science

- **Sumathi Srinivasalu**, Anthropology, University of Madras, India
- **Ebin Raj**, Indian Institute of Information Technology Kottayam, India



Estonia



- **Triin Vihalemm**, Communication Sociology, University of Tartu, Estonia
- **Mikhel Solvak**, Political Studies, University of Tartu, Estonia

## 6 case study teams funded within AI FORA



**Spain**

Social science

Computer science



**China**

- **Albert Sabater Coll**, OEIAC, University of Girona, Spain
- **Beatriz López**, Computer Science, University of Girona, Spain
- **Hui Li**, Shanghai Institute for the Sciences of Science, China
- **Liang Xiaoyao**, Computer Science, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

## 6 case study teams funded within AI FORA

### Team California



USA



- **Steven Popper**, RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, USA
- **Elina Treyger**, RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, USA

### Team Arizona



USA



- **Erik Johnston**, Arizona State University, USA
- **Margaret Hinrichs**, Arizona State University, USA
- **Chelsea Dickson**, Arizona State University, USA

Social science

Computer science



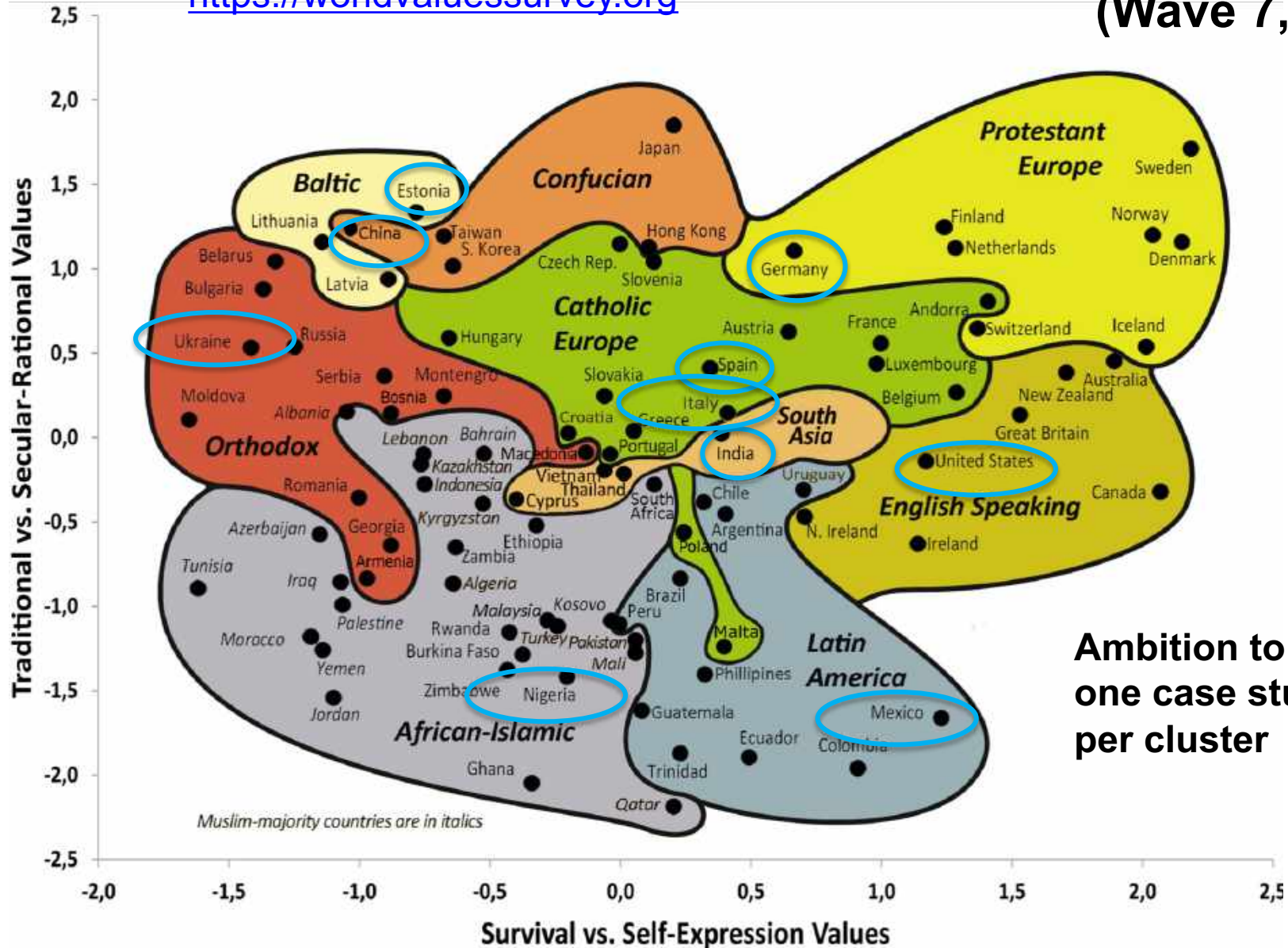
Germany

- **Petra Ahrweiler**, TISSS Lab, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany
- **Elisabeth André**, Human-Centered AI, University of Augsburg, Germany

# Rationale for choosing case study countries

## Inglehart-Welzel Cultural Map (Wave 7, 2017-2021)

<https://worldvaluessurvey.org>



**Ambition to have at least one case study country per cluster**

## 5 further case studies funded outside AI FORA budget

## Recently added

- **Nigeria:** Emmanuel Ejim-Eze (Department of Science Policy and Innovation Studies, National Centre for Technology Management Head Quarters, Obafemi Awolowo University)
- **Mexico:** Jesús M. Siqueiros-Garcia (IIMAS Unidad Mérida, UNAM), Cristina Galíndez (Public Policy Laboratory in Mexico City), Blanca Luque Capellas
- **Iran:** Hassan Bashiri (Department of Computer Science, Hamedan University of Technology)
- **Italy:** Paola Mattei, Ginevra Prella (University of Milan, Department of Social and Political Sciences)
- **Ukraine:** Oleksandr Khzhniak (Department of Social Sciences, V.N.Karazin Kharkiv National University)



# Work of WP 1 on the agenda of this meeting

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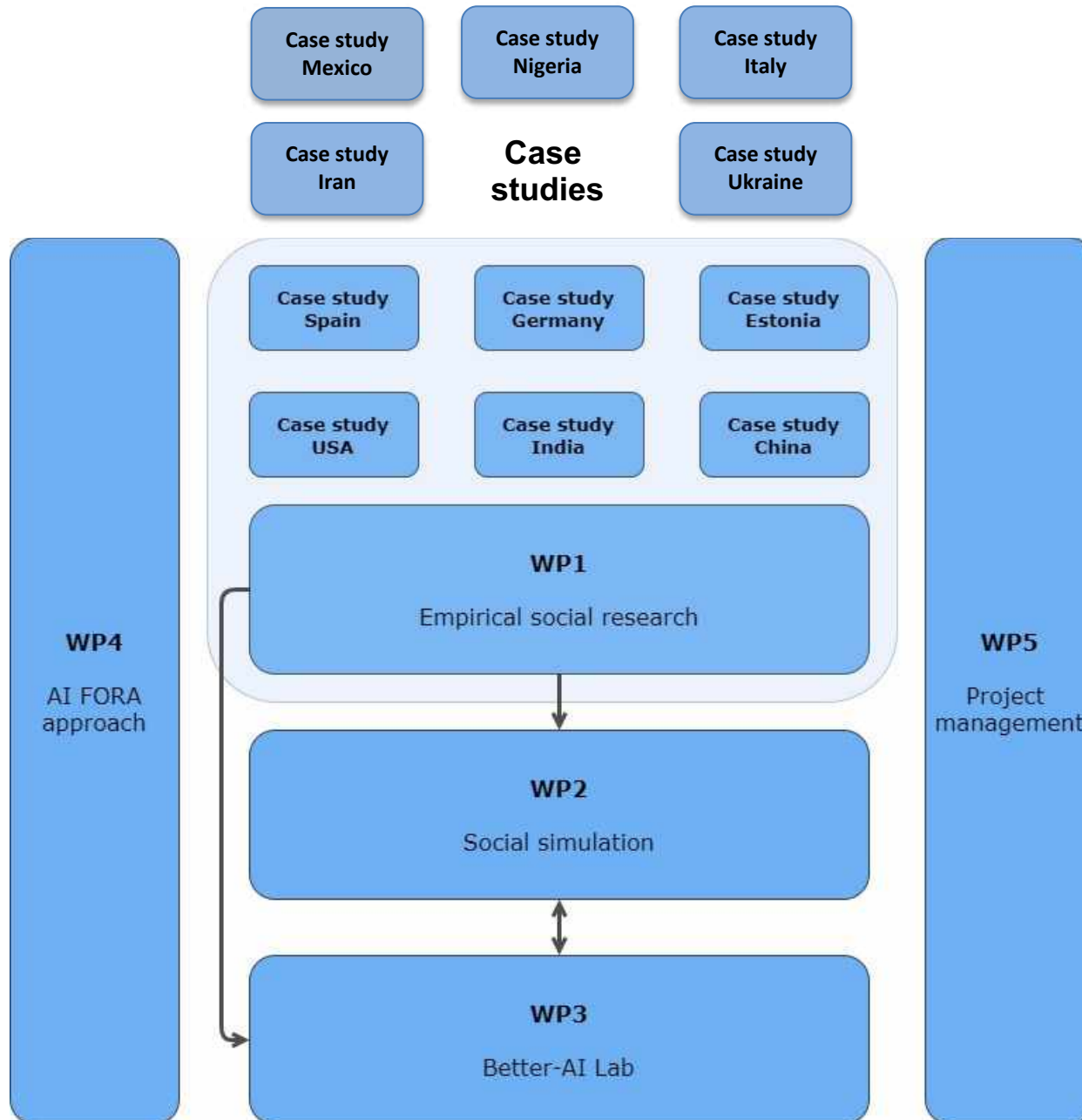
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# The workpackages





## Social simulation

## Workpackage 2



Lead: CRESS, University of Surrey



# Work of WP 2 on the agenda of this meeting

- Today, 15.15 CET: WP 2 update (here)
- Today, 16.45 CET: Showroom - Simulation in interaction (GFG, Room 01 – 721 & 01 – 511)



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Nigel Gilbert, Marsha Bicket
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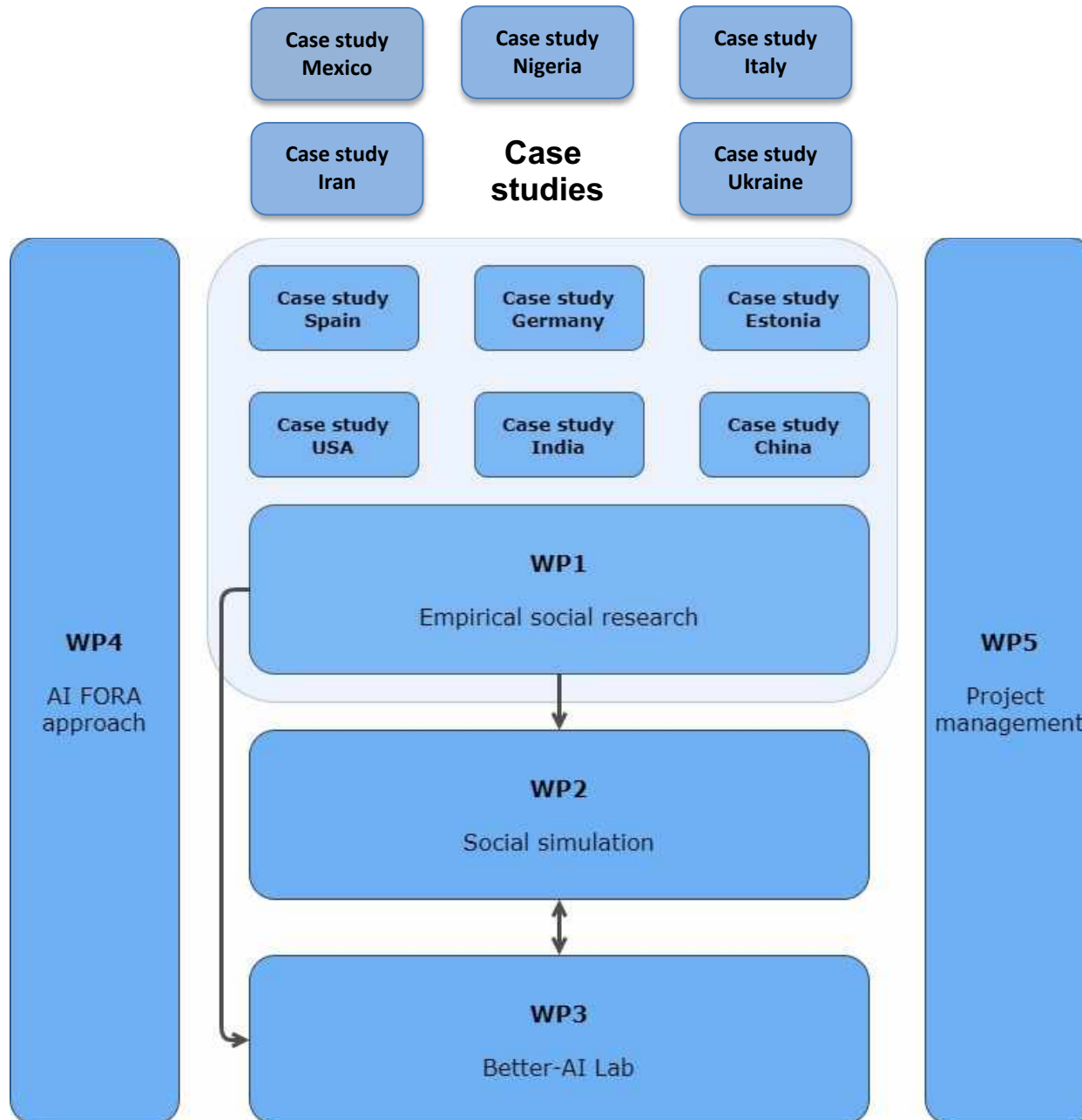
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# The workpackages





Better-AI Lab

## Workpackage 3



Lead: Human-centered AI, University of Augsburg

# Work of WP 3 on the agenda of this meeting

Today, 15.45 CET: WP 3 update (here)

Thursday, 9.00 CET: Keynote: AI-Based Decision-Making: Challenges and Pitfalls (here)

Thursday, 11.15 CET: Showroom - AI Demonstrator in interaction (GFG, Room 01 – 511)

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- **Coffee breaks** (in Foyer close to registration)
- **Lunch** on campus (vouchers in your bag)
- **Conference Reception** tonight (in Foyer)
  - Drinks
  - Snacks
- **Conference Dinner** tomorrow (in Restaurant Ba



**Food!  
and organisation**

## JGU conference team - here to help you!



**Elisabeth  
Späth**



**Jan  
Gruca**



**Claudia  
Herz**



**Frederick  
Herget**



**Dario  
Brockschmidt**



**Martin  
Neumann**



**Blanca  
Luque**



**Tobias  
Brinck**