L-Università ta' Malta

TECHNOLOGICALLY MEDIATED 2027:
Humanity, Technology, Entanglement.

19 April 2027
University of Malta, Valletta Campus

CALL FOR PAPERS

In our present era, the alleged division between humans and technology is becoming increasingly tenuous. Human beings are deeply entangled with technological systems that shape social relations, political institutions, economic life, ecosystems and the planet we share. Technology mediates our interactions with the world and with each other, and it increasingly participates in the constitution of subjectivity, agency, and collective life. As AI and other technological systems expand in scope and capability, long established understandings of responsibility, governance, and the human require renewed critical attention.

Recent national and European policy developments have emphasised the need for trustworthy, human centred, and socially beneficial AI – a framing that is itself notably anthropocentric. In this context, technological mediation must be examined in relation to public trust, democratic accountability, regulatory frameworks, social inclusion, sustainability, and the cultivation of digital literacy and skills. This in turn emphasises that the development of technology is inseparable from questions concerning legal oversight, data governance, bias, institutional design, economic transformation, and environmental responsibility – the last of which points to tensions within a policy discourse that centres human benefit while grappling with broader ecological consequences..

The objective of this one day multidisciplinary conference is to bring together academics to explore what it means to inhabit a technologically mediated, more than human world under conditions shaped by rapid advances in technology. Crucially, we seek to foster rigorous dialogue on the ethical, political, social, and ecological implications of technology within contemporary societies.

We welcome submissions from scholars across disciplines. Possible topics include but are not limited to:

- The creative possibilities and other opportunities of technology
- The dissolution of the human and technology divide
- Posthumanism and the redefinition of subjectivity
- Artificial intelligence, autonomy, and the limits of human agency
- Governance, regulation, ethics, and accountability in algorithmic systems
- Data governance, infrastructure, and digital sovereignty
- Public trust, democratic participation, and civic engagement in digital societies
- Education, skills development, and the future of work in AI driven economies
- Social inclusion, equality, and bias in automated decision making
- Ecology and technology: more-than-human perspectives
- Gender, race, technology, and algorithmic bias
- Feminist approaches to technology
- Migration, borders, and digital surveillance

Interested participants are invited to submit an abstract of 300 words, along with a short bio by **8 January 2027** using the following link: **um.edu.mt/l/p6jad**

Notifications of acceptance will be sent by **end January 2027**