

Social research meets design

In crossing the boundaries of one's own field, one gains a new perspective on many subjects. The *Visual Society Program*, in which the WZB cooperates with the Berlin University of the Arts, deliberately seeks to bridge together disparate disciplines to create new ways of perceiving the world and the research done within it. Since 2014, design students and social scientists have been collaborating to learn from and create with one another. New perspectives have been opened on the findings, questions, and methods of social research. Below, we proudly present some of the works produced.



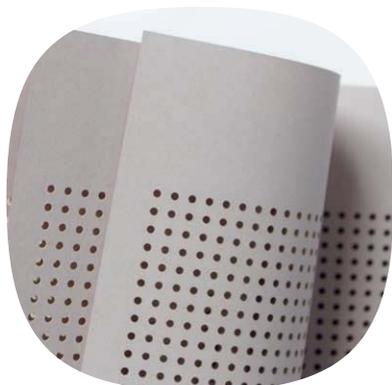
Digitization through rose colored glasses

Business has great expectations of digitization – work is expected to become easier, more flexible, and more accessible. That's how digitization looks through rose colored glasses, but what happens if we swap them for glasses of another color? Does introducing digital systems in enterprises bring risks that aren't apparent at first glance? An interactive poster takes viewers to the bright and dark sides of digitization. This work was developed by Kathleen Warnhoff and Esther Kroll (both from the WZB "Good Work" doctoral program) in collaboration with designers Alexandra Bespalova and Doreen Baldauf of the University of Arts (UdK Berlin).

Double shift

In the morning, Jordanian children are taught, while the afternoon belongs to the children of Syria. "Double shift" is the model used in the refugee camps established in Jordan to ensure children from the country's civil war-torn neighbor still get an education. How the small country shoulders the immense challenge is documented on the multimedia website *Double Shift*. Steffen Huck (WZB), Heike Harmgart (European Bank for Reconstruction and Development) and Philipp Albert (WZB) developed the site in collaboration with designers Paula Ellguth and Marjam Fels. Among the awards won by the website are the Red Dot Award and the German Design Award. www.double-shift.org





Non-being

Every suicide leaves a hole. Someone is missing. This is the thought pursued by designer Katharina Schwarz. She and WZB researcher Ellen von den Driesch have produced the book “Nichtsein” (“Non-being”), which translates suicide statistics into innovative infographics. In 2018, The work won the Stiftung Buchkunst Award.

Children have rights

“You’re so mean!” Children often feel they’re not treated fairly. Sometimes they don’t even really know what their rights are. The card game, GERAECHT, helps children learn their rights so they can hold their own against adults. It was developed by Michael Wrase, jurist at the WZB, and designer Ferdinand Weigel.



General setting

For over 20 months, designer Hendrik Wittemeier accompanied WZB researchers Janine Bernhardt and Lena Hipp. Together they questioned parents on how they divide the demands of their working life with the care needs of their families at home. From this, they produced an experimental video in which couples tell their story, and talk about the constraints and coping maneuvers used to maintain a healthy work-life balance.



In the “Good Work” doctoral program, too, visualization is kept in mind from the very outset of a research project. This is the subject of the film by Lisa Basten.

Negotiating work

Our working world is changing. Who works for whom and what on? Who decides the conditions under which all this happens? The film “Negotiating on Equal Terms” demonstrates how the present systems of co-determination, binding collective agreements, and social partnerships came into being, and why they now face major challenges.

