**Food and nutrition as topic for the 2022 NKL series of webinars: Oct 20, Nov 10, Dec 1 2022.**

As with former NKL webinars – facial masks in 2020, vaccination hesitancy in 2021 – we intend our NKL webinars to be timely. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the presents of climate change consequences, the ongoing war in Ukraine that has also entailed an energy crisis in Europe – food has become an urgent matter, involving individuals, local and national production, as well as EU and UN concerns (see links below). This years’ webinar series is therefore focusing on food (for example production, nutrition, health, frameworks, law, discourses, trends, transformations, distribution, misinformation etc. in the intersection of on-line-off-line environments in the digital society).

Everybody needs to eat. However, the way how we are dealing with food and nutrition has changed a lot in the recent years. The lockdowns during the Covid-19 pandemic, for instance, have had an impact on how many people perceive the once permanent availability of food. Many have turned to more healthy, local or seasonal foods, started cooking themselves, stocking up on food and maybe even started to grow their own vegetables and fruits. The way how food is consumed has many functions, starting from just maintaining the physiology and staying healthy to expressing particular identities and worldviews. The way how we are dealing with food and nutrition is tied up with many of the current global challenges with climate change just being the most obvious example. The violent attack of Russia on Ukraine also has consequences on the world food situation and because of global interdependencies famines in other parts of the world might be another result of this war. Thinking about food also leads us to think about matters of personal and planetary health, overproduction and food waste, monopolies in the food industry and regulatory issues, that are tied up with ethics, politics and many social, cultural, technical and political issues. Last but not least thinking about food and nutrition also opens up important questions of knowledge, education and communication, also mis- and disinformation, for instance about what is healthy or sustainable food. Food and its consumption always had been a highly relevant political, biological, cultural and social topic. However, the lack of food for all that are concerned these days is an existential threat.

Below are some weblinks meant to exemplify present concerns on EU and UN level, examples of urgency put forward by key news platforms, as well as examples of Special Issues and individual articles analysing aspects concerning food and the digital society, as well as some examples of ongoing research projects as well as examples on how this issue has become important in education (programs and MA thesis in economy). These are just examples, as a back drop for brain storming at our firs webinar October 20th 2022.

**Present situation**

* Financial Times September 7th 2022 *Farmers warn of winter food shortages in Europe*

<https://www.ft.com/content/8016d3a2-a8b4-4f43-820f-678d5f2aea22>

* European Council September 2022 *Food security and affordability*

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/food-security-and-affordability/>

* UN News September 21th 2022 *Famine looms in Somalia, but many ‘hunger hotspots’ are in deep trouble* <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1127291>
* UN News September 19th 2022 *UN spotlights transformational potential of family farming for world food supply* <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1126951>
* UN News September 15th 2022 *‘Tsumani of hunger’ could trigger multiple famines, Security Council warned* <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1126771>
* News The Guardian August 1th 2022 : Anti-vax Twitter accounts pushing food crisis misinformation, study finds <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/aug/01/anti-vax-qanon-twitter-russia-food-crisis>
* The New York Times September 19th 2022 *Food Supply Disruption is another front for Russian falsehoods* <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/09/19/business/media/russia-war-food-supply-chain-disinformation.html>

**Examples of academic texts and involvement**

* From **Special Issue** of the *European Journal of Cultural Studies* November 2021: *Digital food culture, power and everyday life* <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/13675494211055501>
* **Special Issue** 2018 European Food and Feed Law Review (several relevant articles)

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/e90026215>

* + Includes article by Vaqué *Fake News in the Food Sector* [*https://www.jstor.org/stable/90026222*](https://www.jstor.org/stable/90026222)
* **Special Issue** 2021 *Community nutrition and food behavior*

<https://www.mdpi.com/journal/nutrients/special_issues/community_nutrition_food>

* Article 2022 Jagtap et al *The Russia-Ukraine Conflict: Its Implications for the Global Food Supply Chain* <https://www.mdpi.com/2304-8158/11/14/2098>
* Article 2022 Hassen, Bilali *Impacts of the Russian-Ukraine War on the Global Food Security: Towards more sustainable and resiitent food systems?*

<https://www.mdpi.com/2304-8158/11/15/2301/htm>

* Article: 2020 Demestichas et al *Food for Thought: Flighting Fake News and Onlie Disinformation* <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9049290>
* Article: Granheim et al 2021 *Mapping the digital food environment: A systematic scoping review* <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/obr.13356>
* Article: Andersen et al 2021 *How digital Food Affects Our Analog Lives: The Impact of Food Photography on Healthy Eating Behaviour*

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.634261/full>

* Article: Spence et al 2019 *Digital Commensiality: Eating and Drinking in the Company of Technology* <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6794350/>
* Article: Wei et al 2021 *Digital Technology, Knowledge level, and food safety governance. Implications for national healthcare system*

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2021.753950/full>

* EU project 2021 *Digital technologies rescue food from landfill*

<https://ec.europa.eu/research-and-innovation/en/horizon-magazine/digital-technologies-rescue-food-landfill>

* University of Borås, Sweden, research project *Digital platforms and new food practices: food consumption in times of crisis*

<https://www.hb.se/en/research/research-portal/projects/digital-platforms-and-new-food-practices-food-consumption-in-times-of-crisis/>

* From course at Manchester University – Food delivery, a battleground of profitability, opportunities and corporate responsibility

<https://medium.com/digital-society/food-delivery-a-battleground-of-profitability-opportunities-and-corporate-responsibility-4233aa0084a7>

* Jönköping University, Case study Sweden 2019 MA thesis department of Business Administration: *Digitalization in the food industry. An exploratory study of how the digitalization affects the food industry in Sweden*

[*https://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1321009/FULLTEXT01.pdf*](https://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1321009/FULLTEXT01.pdf)

* Uppsala University, MA thesis 2017 department of business studies*Food for thought – A study on the digitalization of restarutant interactions*

<http://www.diva-portal.se/smash/get/diva2:1152667/FULLTEXT01.pdf>