

Panel discussion as part of the Swiss Cyber Security Days 2025, February 19, 2025

Dear members

In 2024, the discussion about the major influence of social media on young people and society has intensified once again. Recent studies show that platforms such as TikTok and Instagram use algorithms and targeted design strategies to maximize the time their users spend on them. In doing so, they use psychological mechanisms that can have both positive and negative effects on young people.

The targeted promotion of addictions through the creation of feelings of pleasure or the evocation of fear is particularly concerning. The strategies used raise urgent social and political questions: How can the protection of young people be strengthened without compromising the positive aspects of social media - such as access to education and social interaction?

The concerns of both teachers and parents are reflected in the increasing calls for preventative measures. At the same time, it is becoming clear that autocratic countries are deliberately using social media as a tool to create social instability in the West and undermine democratic values.

Various players are needed to effectively counter the situation:

- Parents, schools and society must raise young people's awareness of the dangers and at the same time train them to use social media responsibly.
- Politicians should create a clear regulatory framework that both requires transparency in algorithms and restricts harmful practices.
- Platform operators have a responsibility not only to disclose their algorithms, but also to implement measures against the promotion of an addictive environment.

As part of an FSS panel discussion, we will shed light on the opportunities and risks of social media for the state and society and the associated challenges, especially for young people.

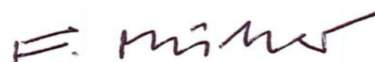
We would like to invite you to discuss these important topics and challenges with experts at the 20th FSS Security Talk as part of the Swiss Cyber Security Days.

We look forward to your participation!

With kind regards



Hans-Jürg Käser
President
SWISS SECURITY FORUM (SSF)



Fredy Müller
Managing Director
SWISS SECURITY FORUM (SSF)

Program

15:00 Panel discussion and Q&A session

Panel guests:

Prof. Dr. Lutz Jäncke, Professor of Neuropsychology at the University of Zurich

Niklaus-Samuel Gugger, EVP, Member of the Swiss National Council, Zurich

Stefan Wittwer, Director, Bildung Bern

Panel Guest 4, tbc

Moderation:

Fredy Müller, Managing Director SSF

Register now!

Registration at: www.forum-sicherheit-schweiz.ch/kommende-talks | +41 (0)44 533 04 00 | or: sekretariat@forum-sicherheit-schweiz.ch

Thanks to our **partnership**, you can benefit from an **exclusive offer** for **FSS members** and purchase a **day ticket for February 19** at the greatly reduced price of **just CHF 153** instead of **CHF 510!**

We would like to thank our event partners and annual partnerships!



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