

Gießener Abendgespräche Kognition und Gehirn

Mittwoch, 18.00 bis 20.00 Uhr im Philosophikum I, Raum F5

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Co-Designing Social Simulation Models with Stakeholders – a Participatory Approach

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This talk develops a participatory approach to co-designing social simulation models with policymakers using an example from modelling European Commission policy as an illustration. The example shows that even the very first negotiations and discussions to identify policy questions are highly user-driven, interactive, and iterative. It requires communicative skills, patience, willingness to compromise on both sides, and motivation to make the formal world of modellers and the narrative world of practical policymaking meet. Often, policy people are involved in providing data for calibrating the model. It is not an easy issue to confirm the existence, quality and availability of such data. As the quality of the simulation in the eyes of the stakeholders will very much depend on the quality of the informing data and the quality of the model calibration, much time and effort need to be spent in coordinating with the policy world. Last but not least, the stakeholders have to check the validity of simulation results and have to believe in their quality. Policymakers have to be enabled to understand the model, to agree with the processes that produce its results, to judge similarity between empirical and simulated data etc. Such a participative approach is work-intensive, but promises to establish the quality and utility of a simulation for policy advice. Summarising, to trust the quality of a simulation means to trust the processes that produced its results. This includes not only the participative design and co-construction of the simulation model itself, but also the whole interaction between stakeholders from policy, study team, model, and findings for policy recommendations.

Alle Interessierten sind herzlich willkommen!