



Human Dimensions Research Group - Social ICT

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In the environment we live the amount of information and communication technologies (ICT) is increasing all the time as well as its complexity. Being ubiquitous, ICT has become an essential component of almost all human activities, both at work and in private life. There is a strong interplay between technology and society: the availability of the former influences the latter, but also people influence the way technologies are domesticated.

Considering ICT as a part of human social environment, we observe two parallel and sometimes contradictory trends: on one hand, ICT breaks distances and offers opportunity for continuous interaction and information sharing with own social circle, through a wide number of communication channels.

On the other hand, it may also interrupt or become an obstacle to social interaction. For example, the average time spent in face-to-face meetings is decreasing all the time in favour of online communication (phone, Internet). Sharing of digital information with someone brings additional complexity, in terms of user time required to install, configure and update the system. In addition, the sharing action has also implications on personal privacy.

Social ICT Group's area of interest is to explore the social dimensions of ICT.

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