



Michael Nentwich

Doz. Dr., Director ITA

Michael Nentwich, originally a lawyer, is a science and technology scholar, a passionate technology assessor and, since 2006, the director of the ITA. His main research field in technology assessment is the Internet and its influence on society and science.

Education

Born in 1964 and raised in Vienna, he studied economics at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, and political science and law at the University of Vienna, where he graduated with an LL.M. in 1988, acquiring his Ph.D in 1995 with a thesis on European food law. In 1989/90 he pursued post-graduate studies at the College of Europe, Bruges (Belgium). In 2004 he received his venia docendi ("habilitation") in Science and Technology Studies (STS) from the University of Vienna on the basis of his book on the impact of the Internet on academia.

Experience

Michael Nentwich started his career as junior scientist at the Technology Assessment Unit (TAU, the predecessor of the ITA) in 1990 with projects on environmental impact assessment, loyalty cards, and telecommunication law. Between 1991 and 1996 he worked as a lecturer at the Research Institute for European Affairs of the Vienna University of Economics; in 1994/95 he spent a year abroad as a Human Capital Mobility Fellow at the Universities of Warwick and Essex (England), where he wrote a book on European constitutional development. From 1996 to 2005 he did research as a junior, later senior scientist at the ITA, mainly in the field of information society. A further year abroad in 1998/99 as a guest scientist at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne, was devoted to his research on cyberscience. Since 2006 he has been the director of ITA, and, from 2011, also the deputy chairman of the Conference of the heads of research institutes of the OeAW.

Selected Publications

His publication list includes a number of books, among them the two volumes "Cyberscience. Research in the Age of the Internet" (2003) and "Cyberscience 2.0 – Research in the Age of Digital Social Networks" (2012), as well as numerous articles in scientific journals and edited volumes.

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