

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

# Beyond the precautionary principle?

Ethical, legal and societal aspects of genome editing in agriculture

2 October – 6 October 2017

CALL FOR PAPERS

Funded by



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research

# The Summer School

## BEYOND THE PRECAUTIONARY PRINCIPLE?

Recent advances in Genome Editing for agricultural purposes pose general questions in a new light: How should we regulate new breeding technologies for plants and livestock in a scientific way? What are the legal, societal and ethical backgrounds of the current food labelling practice in different countries? Is food labelling an appropriate strategy to cope with uncertainty in risk discussions? Which alternatives could be suitable to respond to the specific protection needs of people, animals and the environment? Do we have to re-interpret the way the precautionary principle is understood in current risk assessments?

The international summer school will analyse and discuss corresponding scientific, legal and ethical questions not least by comparing the ongoing debates in Germany and the United Kingdom. This comparison is of particular interest since the political discussions, ethical evaluations and the juridical frameworks in the two states can be considered as counterparts. In addition, contrasting the situation in Europe and in the USA will reveal the arguments offered in favour of and against the need for labelling.

The summer school will discuss current debates about the use of Genome Editing in agriculture through an international and multi-disciplinary dialogue. The aim is to develop recommendations for more consistent ethical evaluation and legal framing. For these purposes, the summer school invites young scientists from the fields of molecular biology and agricultural sciences as well as politics, law, sociology and philosophy/ethics.

For further information about the topic, organisation and programme of the summer school, visit

► [www.ttn-institut.de/summerschool](http://www.ttn-institut.de/summerschool)



# Call for Abstracts

## PARTICIPANTS

We invite up to **15 young researchers** from all areas of the field to present and discuss theses, views and arguments relevant to the topic within an interdisciplinary group of young scientists and a team of high profile experts from different disciplines.

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## APPLICATION

- ▶ Abstract (about 400 words)
- ▶ CV
- ▶ List of publications

Please send your application till **1 March 2017** to:  
Christian.Duernberger@elkb.de

## PROCEDURE AT A GLANCE

1. Submission of abstracts
2. Evaluation of abstracts by organizers  
+ external experts
3. Applicants will be informed of the success  
of their application
4. Invited participants develop a full paper
5. Summer School
6. Participants revise their papers for the  
planned anthology
7. Publication

**Travel** expenses will be reimbursed. **Accommodation and meals are provided by the summer school.** An **expense allowance** of 300,- Euro will be paid to each participant.

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## INSTITUT TTN

The Institute Technology · Theology · Natural Sciences is an affiliated institute for applied ethics at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich (LMU) founded in 1992. It aims to promote a constructive and interdisciplinary discussion on ethical issues in sciences and technology.

For further information:

▶ [www.ttn-institut.de](http://www.ttn-institut.de)

# Main topics



The programme includes talks of the participants and of a team of high profile experts from different disciplines in the field. During the five-day summer school, the main topics will be discussed in four distinct sessions offering the following scientific, legal and ethical/societal perspectives:

- I. Regulating new breeding technologies for plants and animals: A comparison between the debate in the United Kingdom and Germany**
- II. Legal aspects of Genome Editing: Differences between a process-based and an outcome-based regulation**
- III. Societal and ethical implications of the precautionary principle facing intended and off-target effects**
- IV. Using food labels to cope with uncertainty in risk discussions**

These main topics can be understood as the framework of the programme. Abstracts/Papers should address one or more of the mentioned issues. However, there is also the possibility to choose a different topic. In such a case (or in case of doubts), please contact the organizers.

# Experts

During the summer school, scientific experts will present and discuss fundamental aspects of the daily sessions. The following list of experts (requested or confirmed) corresponds to the main areas.

## Already confirmed speakers for key lectures:

### ► Prof. Dr. Joachim Schiemann

*former Head of the Institute for Biosafety in Plant Biotechnology, Julius-Kühn-Institut (Federal Research Center for Cultivated Plants)*

### ► Univ.-Prof. Dr. Angela Kallhoff

*Professor of Ethics with Special Emphasis on Applied Ethics, University of Vienna, Austria, Faculty of Philosophy and Education; Chair of Ethics*

The list of all participating experts will be updated on the website [www.ttn-institut.de/summerschool](http://www.ttn-institut.de/summerschool)



# Informations

## DATES

Submission of abstracts (deadline): 1 March 2017

Submission of papers (deadline): 1 September 2017

Summer School: 2 October (Monday) – 6 October (Friday) 2017

Arrival possible: 1 October (Sunday), after 7 pm

## CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

English

## LOCATION

Studienhaus-Stiftung Gut Schönwag,

Schönwag 4, 82405 Wessobrunn

[www.studienhaus-stiftung.de](http://www.studienhaus-stiftung.de)

(40 min from Munich)

## ORGANISERS

Stephan Schleissing, Christian Dürnberger,

Sebastian Pfeilmeier

## CONTACT

[Christian.Duernberger@elkb.de](mailto:Christian.Duernberger@elkb.de)

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German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung

## JOURNEY

By **train** from Munich central station to Weilheim station (hourly, journey time about 40 minutes). Taxis are waiting there.

By **car** from Munich in southern direction via A95 to Starnberg, from there via B2 to Weilheim. In Weilheim on ST2057 with direction to Landsberg, after 8 km in Zellsee you turn left in direction to Forst to Schönwag.

