Guidance for Selecting Your Panel

Given the wide variety of topics, choosing the right panel is not always easy. For the IPK 2026, we do not use traditional academic disciplines for orientation, but rather the thematic tracks of ChallengeEU. On one hand, this ensures that all international doctoral candidates from our partner universities can find a suitable panel; on the other hand, it accommodates interdisciplinary research projects.

Depending on the focus of your research project, you will assign yourself to one of the following panels during registration:

- **Smart Digitalisation**: This panel focuses on technological advancements and their interfaces with society.
- **Sustainable Futures:** The central focus here is on the long-term sustainability and viability of the economy and society.
- **Health and Well-Being:** This panel centers on questions regarding quality of life, healthcare, and a healthy environment.

Example topics for each panel are listed below.

Smart Digitalisation

Digital Transition Challenges

- Deep tech applications in digital manufacturing
- Industry 4.0. Big data, Internet of Things (IoT) and AI for optimising smart manufacturing processes and other fields of application
- IT literacy for all, ensuring a digitally skilled workforce
- Ensuring compatibility of digital technologies with the Triple Transition
- Business development & AI
- Integration of AI in education: Creating room for critical thinking

Green Transition Challenges

- Digital solutions for environmental monitoring and conservation
- Sustainable practices in smart manufacturing
- Green data centres and energy-efficient IT solutions

Social Transition Challenges

- Inclusive access to digital education and training
- Socially responsible use of digital technologies in manufacturing
- Empowering communities through digital literacy initiatives
- Data sharing: Openness Vs abuse

Sustainable Futures

Digital Transition Challenges

- Integration of digital solutions in sustainable business practices
- Circular economy implementation across diverse Sectors
- Social and environmental impact assessments in sustainable innovations

Green Transition Challenges

- Sustainable practices in various sectors promoting environmental conservation/regeneration
- Development and implementation of green and circular technologies

Social Transition

- Socially responsible business models and practices
- Community-driven sustainability initiatives

Health and Well-Being

Digital Transition Challenges

- Health treatment and prevention through digital healthcare solutions
- Gender-sensitive medicine leveraging digital diagnostics and personalised treatments
- Sustainable food production and healthy food distribution using digital supply chain technologies
- Bio-economy innovations incorporating digital tools for efficient resource management
- Sustainable living environment through smart health infrastructures

Green Transition Challenges

- Eco-friendly healthcare practices and facilities
- Sustainable agriculture for improved health outcomes
- Integration of nature-based solutions for well-being

Social Transition Challenges

- Inclusive health policies and treatments accessible to all
- Gender-sensitive and culturally informed healthcare practices promoting equity
- Smart health and assistive technologies for the elderly
- Community-driven sustainable food initiatives
- Socially inclusive and sustainable living environments
- Socially inclusive and sustainable health care organisations, including organisational transformations
- Well-being on the Campuses through health and safety promotions, including mental health prevention