

# Topic for Bachelor's Thesis



**Title: Unite – against the algorithm**

**Supervisor: Dr. Dmitri Bershadskyy**

**Contact: [Dmitri.bershadskyy@wu.ac.at](mailto:Dmitri.bershadskyy@wu.ac.at)**

**Starting period: immediately**

## **Description:**

Algorithms have become an essential element of our daily lives. Yet the same algorithms that bring joy and utility to humans can also have severe downsides. The algorithms can violate current societal norms and/or exploit human weaknesses. In most cases, a single individual cannot do much about the disproportionately powerful algorithms. Thus, the goal of this thesis is to present possible collective actions for a specific case (to be chosen) and to investigate empirically (through a survey or experimental design) whether individuals can agree on collective action to counteract algorithms.

**Technology:** Python, HTML

## **Literature to start with:**

Fehr, E., & Gächter, S. (2000). Cooperation and punishment in public goods experiments. *American Economic Review*, 90(4), 980-994. <https://doi.org/10.1257/aer.90.4.980>

Hardt, M., Mazumdar, E., Mendler-Dünner, C., & Zrnic, T. (2023, July). Algorithmic collective action in machine learning. In *International Conference on Machine Learning* (pp. 12570-12586). PMLR. <https://proceedings.mlr.press/v202/hardt23a/hardt23a.pdf>

Cuganesan, S. (2025). Investigating how collective action mitigates the harm of algorithmic decision making through framing and frame transformation. *Information and Organization*, 35(3), 100585. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infoandorg.2025.100585>

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