

Short report on ELF event at Fores in Stockholm 8 October 2018

The one-day workshop at Fores in Stockholm gathered researchers and experts in the field to collaboratively pinpoint and address the most pressing aspects of data-driven platform economies, all within the ongoing ELF-project on *Developing Platform Economies*¹

The event took place between 09:30 and 15:15 with about 16 participants from Fores, member organizations in ELF, project collaborator NEOS lab, as well as researchers and policy-experts from Stockholm, Malmö and Warsaw as well as representatives from a major platform company.

The first half-day held presentations of ongoing work with the report that will be published late November, moderated by Stefan Larsson and with questions from the audience. We utilized a service called Menti during the talk, to collect questions for later.

Stefan made an introductory presentation on the platform “society”, that is, the larger dependencies and trends with regards to new technologies, data-driven markets, automation and their implications for innovation, politics and policy-challenges.

This was followed by a presentation and discussion by Dr Joakim Wernberg, Research Director of the Megatrends program at the Swedish Entrepreneurship Forum: *Digital economies and multi-sided platforms*.

Before lunch Kristóf Gyódi, Analyst and PhD Candidate at DELab University of Warsaw, presented his chapter on *Empirical studies of the sharing economy: AirBnB and the accommodation industry in four European cities*.

After lunch we returned to the questions posted in Menti, divided the attendees into three groups that were addressed to formulate and discuss more questions, regarding both **the possibilities** of the digital platform economies and **what potential downsides** are most pressing, primarily in relation to

- *geographies and jurisdictions*, e.g. US centric origins v. EU and/or member states;
- *size*, e.g. large infrastructural v. small and dependent; antitrust and innovation;
- *consumers*, e.g. data collection and individual relevancy; data protection etc.

Much debate circled around regulatory issues, the role of law at national a European level when it comes to platform economies. In conclusions, the intellectual contributions from workshop will highly contribute to the report and included policy-recommendations.

/Stefan Larsson and Robin Vetter
Fores

¹ For more, see <http://fores.se/platforms/>