From Berlin to Los Angeles: Launch of a New Interdisciplinary Networking Format

Europe's leading conference on the digital society makes its debut in California.

Berlin, October 15, 2026 – From **November 8–10, 2026**, re:publica will take place in Los Angeles for the very first time. **re:publica Los Angeles** introduces an innovative networking format designed to foster dialogue among creatives, businesses, institutions, and civil society actors from Europe and the United States. The three-day program features panel discussions, keynote speeches, roundtables, and networking events. Three iconic venues will serve as the stages for this first edition: **Thomas Mann House**, **Annenberg Community Beach House**, and **Villa Aurora**.

re:publica Los Angeles asks who shapes the cultural and political imagination of the digital age. Drawing on twenty years of Berlin's festival for the digital society, it brings together two cities with distinct traditions: Berlin's culture of civic debate and Los Angeles' command of the global image. At the intersection of technology, film, democracy, and culture, the festival creates a space where artists, technologists, scholars, and policymakers can test ideas, challenge assumptions, and develop shared visions for a digital public sphere.

Andreas Gebhard, co-founder & CEO re:publica:

> *"re:publica Los Angeles 2026 marks the kickoff of a new event format that enables unique encounters in deeply inspiring locations. We are establishing a place of hope amid the digital transformation: a platform that advances topics and visions across national borders, bringing together people who otherwise rarely have the opportunity to engage in direct dialogue."*

The Program

How are AI and emerging technologies reshaping democracy, social cohesion, and our everyday lives? What impact do they have on creativity and the film industry? And how can we actively guide this transformation? Experts from Europe and the U.S. will gather at re:publica Los Angeles to address these pressing questions.

November 8, 2026 | Welcome Reception | Thomas Mann House | 5:00 PM
The three-day program of the first re:publica Los Angeles kicks off with a welcome reception featuring a conversation with **Miriam Meckel**, professor and entrepreneur, and **Safiya U. Noble**, author and professor at UCLA , followed by an informal get-together.

November 9, 2026 | Conference Day | Annenberg Community Beach House | 10:30 AM – 6:00 PM
The Conference Day of re:publica Los Angeles will focus on interdisciplinary dialogue about the future of our digital society. Through panel discussions, keynotes, and roundtables, experts from business, the film industry, culture, politics, academia, and media will explore three key topics shaping our digital present: "**Democracy & Innovation**," "**Film & Creativity**," and "**Science & Technology**".

Featured **Speakers** include:

- **Taylor Lorenz**, tech journalist and author, presenting on "**the future of online anonymity**."
- **Paris Marx**, host of the *Tech Won't Save Us* podcast, is pulling back the curtain on massive hyperscale data centers to examine "**the real price of the AI boom**."
- **Anisa Abeytia** (Founder & CEO, *FourthSpace Solutions*) and **Nan Collymore** (author and curator), discussing how **digital infrastructures and AI systems** must be designed to reflect a diverse, globally interconnected world.
- **Eli Lipmen** (Executive Director, *Move LA*), addressing **current challenges facing the transportation sector in Los Angeles**, followed by an industry roundtable on the future of mobility.
- **Byrke Lou** , leading the **XR Lab**, which connects creatives, scientists, and students from Berlin and Los Angeles.
- *Mozilla Foundation's* Vice President **Ziyaad Bhorat** hosts a conversation with **Jillian Arnold**, Hollywood union leader; **Ryat Yezbick**, artist-anthropologist; and **Liz Barry**, head of the democracy lab *Metagov*. Together they discuss who gets to imagine the future and why the odds of things going right depend on who's allowed to try.

The Conference Day is co-hosted with the support of the German Center for Research and Innovation (DWIH) San Francisco.

November 10, 2026 | Sundowner | Villa Aurora | 7:00 PM
After two days of talks and new encounters, we invite speakers, partners, and guests to join us as we conclude the first re:publica Los Angeles, reflect on what we've learned, and strengthen the connections we've made.

Place of Hope: re:publica Los Angeles

Berlin and Los Angeles share a deep bond that goes beyond their official sister-city partnership, which celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2027. Both metropolises are defined by a unique interplay of subculture, technology, and artistic diversity. They are shaped by international, diverse, and civically engaged populations, and both boast highly progressive film and media landscapes.

For two decades, **re:publica** has been a cornerstone of the European digital landscape. Held annually in Berlin, it stands as Germany's leading event for open dialogue, critical discourse, and forward-looking optimism. As a festival for the digital society, it annually connects thousands of participants from civil society, academia, business, politics, media, and the arts. Over the years, re:publica has evolved into a premier platform for ideas, inspiration, knowledge transfer, and cross-sector collaboration, cultivating a rapidly growing, interdisciplinary community.

The inaugural 2026 Los Angeles edition represents the foundational step toward building a sustainable, long-term network and establishing the event as a permanent fixture in the years to come. A growing ecosystem of partners supports re:publica Los Angeles, contributing expertise, contacts, and their own networks. Key partners include the Villa Aurora & Thomas Mann House e. V., the Heinrich Böll Foundation, the German Center for Research and Innovation (DWIH) San Francisco, Deutsche Welle, and the Aspen Institute Germany.

Further information, program & tickets here.
Media accreditation & inquiries: can be submitted via email to presse@re-publica.com.
Press kit & media assets are available for download here.

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About re:publica
Since 2007, republica GmbH has been organizing re:publica Berlin, the festival for the digital society and the largest conference of its kind in Europe. Renowned speakers discuss the most important issues of our time. The program includes lectures, discussions, workshops, performances, and much more, covering topics related to the internet, its communities, and the opportunities and challenges posed by the digitization of society. re:publica attendees represent a cross-section of our (digital) society. At re:publica, bloggers meet politicians, scientists meet entrepreneurs, and artists meet activists. From May 10–12, 2027, re:publica will take place in Berlin for the 20th time. For more information, visit: re-publica.com

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