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How refugees become computer scientists, evaluations influence our work and how to create a new medium

## **TEDxZurich 2017 : A stage for 15 ideas that Open Doors**

The conference that promotes 'Ideas worth spreading', TEDxZurich takes place today at the SRF studios in Zurich. 15 speakers present their ideas for a better future in dynamic and inspiring talks with a maximum of 18 minutes. Topics will range from unconventional corporate and wage structures to new opportunities outside of established systems.

Livestream, Friday 9.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.: <http://tedxzurich.com/openingdoors/>

TEDxZurich 2017 takes place at the SRF studios, today. Based on the model of TED conferences - visionaries, scientists and lateral thinkers present new solutions for current problems, based on the theme «Opening Doors».

### **Cyborgs, new ways of thinking and overcoming boundaries**

The speakers come from different countries and disciplines. All of them want to open doors with their ideas. Among other things, they talk about how ownership models and wage systems influence our work, how we can help refugees efficiently and how we can integrate them into our society.

### **Among others, the following speakers will take the stage at TEDxZurich 2017:**

- Technology entrepreneur **Christian Hirsig** uses his expertise to train refugees to become computer scientists.
- **Judith Safford** has climbed 16 mountain peaks in five days - despite an incurable autoimmune disease. True to the motto: «Dream big, smile and take a step».
- **Robert Riener** is a professor of sensorimotor systems at ETH Zurich and the initiator of the Cybathlon. He gives an insight into the digitization of humans and demonstrates that there is no reason to be afraid of cyborgs.
- **Nadja Schnetzler** co-founded the online magazine Republik and is convinced that true innovation is only possible if existing concepts are thrown overboard. Her recipe for success is to "Hack the System".
- **Rima Alaifari** is a mathematician and deals professionally and privately with 'labels'. She takes the audience into her personal life and explains how important it is for people to define themselves.
- **Stephan Hostettler**, founder of HCM International Ltd. highlights that by separating wages from feedback systems in companies is the only way to motivate employees to be creative and able to work collaboratively in the long term.
- **Armin Steuernagel** explains how companies can be successful over the long term with new ownership structures.
- **Liska Bernet** is in the thick of the Do it yourself (DIY) grassroots movement that emerged from the 2015 refugee crisis. She talks about what established humanitarian organizations and the state can learn from private initiatives.

The tickets for TEDxZurich are in high demand. More than 900 people applied for 500 seats this year. The livestream at TEDxZurich.com reaches around 2,000 additional people. The talks are professionally recorded and later available on the Web.

Pictures will be available from 10.00 am on <https://eveni.to/tedxzurich17/gallery>

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### **About TEDx, x = independently organized event**

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TED Talks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)

### **About TED**

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. Started as a four-day conference in California 30 years ago, TED has grown to support its mission with multiple initiatives. The two annual TED Conferences invite the world's leading thinkers and doers to speak for 18 minutes or less. Many of these talks are then made available, free, at TED.com. TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Nandan Nilekani, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Sal Khan and Daniel Kahneman.

The annual TED Conference takes place each spring in Vancouver, British Columbia. TED's media initiatives include TED.com, where new TED Talks are posted daily; the Open Translation Project, which provides subtitles and interactive transcripts as well as translations from volunteers worldwide; the educational initiative TED-Ed. TED has established the annual TED Prize, where exceptional individuals with a wish to change the world get help translating their wishes into action; TEDx, which supports individuals or groups in hosting local, self-organized TED-style events around the world, and the TED Fellows program, helping world-changing innovators from around the globe to amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities.

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