

Viktor Mayer-Schönberger

Author of International Best-Sellers and Expert on AI, Data, and the Future of Humanity

Viktor Mayer-Schönberger is an expert on data and AI - from how companies best benefit from it to how it changes our economy and our society.

He is a prolific author and the professor of internet governance and regulation at the Internet Institute at Oxford University. He has been researching and writing about AI, the data economy, and privacy and was an early advocate of the importance of digital 'forgetting'. He was a personal adviser to German chancellor Angela Merkel on digital issues (2018-2021) as well as the EU; he also advises top executives around the world on data strategy.

In presentations, he shares compelling examples of organizations and industries putting AI and data to use and tells stories about how it has led to profoundly surprising insights and advances - as well as presenting new challenges. An upbeat and thought-provoking speaker, Mayer-Schönberger engages his audience by letting them experience data's potential.

AI and data author. Mayer-Schönberger has published more than a dozen books, including most recently the acclaimed *Framers: Human Advantage in an Age of Technology and Turmoil* (2021), the award-winning *Reinventing Capitalism* (2018), the international blockbuster bestseller (with over 2 million copies in over 20 languages *Big Data: A Revolution That Transforms How we Work, Live, and Think* (2013) and *Delete: The Virtue of Forgetting in the Digital Age* (2009), which began a debate that led to the EU's "right to be forgotten".

His most recent book *Framers* exposes a cognitive superpower for decision-making only humans possess - mental framing - and how this trumps both AI and gut-following intuition. With numerous, fresh examples *Framers* offers an inspiring message and a practical guide to harness this power for individuals, companies and societies to thrive in an age of data and AI. Selected as one of the best business books of 2021 by the *Financial Times*, *Framers* is the book of our moment.

Earlier, in *Reinventing Capitalism* Mayer-Schönberger wrote about how to rekindle innovation in the shadow of market-concentration among digital platforms - and how data-rich markets (if done right) will supersede the money-based markets we know. His international bestseller *Big Data*, tackles how the utilization of data through AI and advanced statistics will change lives, and what we can do to protect ourselves from its hazards. Mayer-Schönberger argues that data analytics are revolutionizing the way people see and process the world – and each other. Of the book, *Forbes* said, "What I'm certain about is that *Big Data* will be the defining text in the discussion for some time to come." His book, *Delete*, which has won several awards, looks at the surprising phenomenon of perfect remembering in the digital age and reveals the importance of humans' capacity to forget. While digital technology empowers people as never before, the perfect record it creates holds unforeseen consequences.

Vast Expertise. Viktor Mayer-Schönberger founded Ikarus Software and developed Virus Utilities, which became the best-selling Austrian software product. The recipient of numerous awards for innovation and entrepreneurship, he was voted "Top Five Software Entrepreneur in Austria" in 1991 and Salzburg's "Person of the Year" in 2000. In 1998, he joined Harvard University, where he taught at the John F. Kennedy School of Government for 10 years. After three years at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore, he joined the Oxford Internet Institute. Mayer-Schönberger has chaired the Rueschlikon Conference on Information Policy in the New Economy and is also the co-founder of the SubTech conference.

He is a sought-after expert for print and broadcast media worldwide, having been featured in publications and on networks like *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *The Economist*, *Science*, *WIRED*, *Le Monde*, *El Pais*, *Die Zeit*, *Der Spiegel*, *Ars Technica*, NPR, BBC, and more.