Property rights of personal data have been advocated for some time. From the perspective of economics of law some argued that they could lower transaction costs for contracts involving personal data. This may be the case, but new transaction costs are introduced by propertization and the issue has not been settled. In this presentation the speaker will focus on a different and potentially more important aspect. In the actual situation data collectors externalise costs and internalise benefits. An ownership regime that enables every citizen to hold a personal data account, like a bank account, and that gives people ownership rights over secondary use of personal data could correct these misallocations. The speaker hopes to shed new light on the normative implications of the issue by offering philosophical justifications for property rights of personal data. Secondly, he will present fundamental goals and building blocks of a property regime of personal data and, thirdly, he will illustrate how income from personal data ownership could for instance contribute to financing pensions under proper regulation. This is highly important in the context of a reform of the welfare state in a digital economy.

Alle Interessierten, insbesondere auch Studierende, sind herzlich eingeladen.

nächster Vortrag: 7.2.
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Crime, Punishment, and Statistical Evidence

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