

decode

PROGRAMME

BEYOND SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM

# Reclaiming Digital Sovereignty

DECODE Symposium, 16-17 October 2018

CCCB, Carrer de Montalegre, 5,  
08001 Barcelona, Spain

  
Biennial de pensament  
CIUTAT  
OBERTA



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Biennal de pensament



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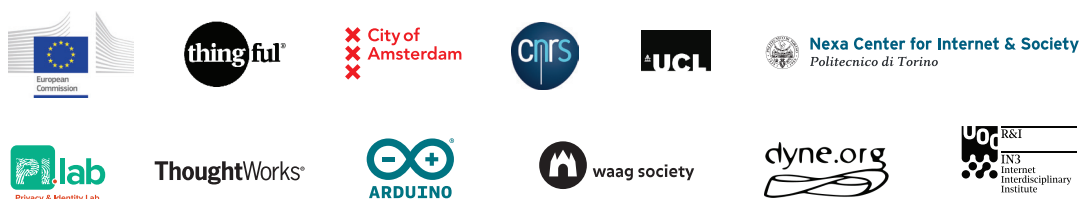
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# Welcome to the 2018 DECODE Symposium

## BEYOND SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM

# Reclaiming Digital Sovereignty

We believe that people should have full control over their digital identity and their online data.

DECODE is a multidisciplinary EU project that aims to emphasize the centrality of data sovereignty to a fully democratic digital society and to provide a privacy-enhancing, decentralised and rights-preserving data ecosystem. The project was born as a response to people's concerns about a loss of control over their personal information on the internet.

The theme of 2018's DECODE Symposium is **Beyond Surveillance Capitalism: Reclaiming Digital Sovereignty**. It seeks to articulate a strategic vision of how digital technologies can facilitate the transition from today's digital economy of surveillance capitalism and data extractivism - whereby a handful of US- and China-based corporations battle for global digital supremacy - to an alternative political and economic project. That project, we hope, will include more democratic, egalitarian, and public alternatives to today's highly hierarchical and privatized platform consensus.

We envisioned the Symposium to be a meeting point for two groups: those with a strong interest in economics and geopolitics of technology; and those with a good grasp of current technological developments, especially big data, AI, industrial automation, decentralized trust protocols and so on. We believe that it's at the intersection of these two worlds that many of the emerging techno-

political issues - from global trade to economic national development to the future of welfare - are to be tackled.

The DECODE Symposium has been made possible thanks to the funding received from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. We would like to thank the European Commission, DECODE partners, advisory board and everyone involved in this experimental project.

We hope that you will leave the DECODE Symposium with new ideas and practical alternatives to the current model of data extractivism. It is our mission to explore novel notions of digital sovereignty and data commons that create solutions and services for public benefit and enhance trust between citizens, public institutions, and companies, which is essential for a stable, sustainable and collaborative economy.

Thank you for joining us here today.



Francesca Bria and Evgeny Morozov



European  
Commission

DECODE is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 Programme, under grant agreement number 732546



# Programme



Day One: 16 October

## GEOPOLITICS OF TECHNOLOGY AND DATA

10:00-10:15 **WELCOME**

Francesca Bria, Digital Commissioner, Barcelona City Hall

10:15-11:30 **KEYNOTE: Digital Capitalism: Where We Are Today?**

Evgeny Morozov, writer

Q&A

11:30-13:30 **SESSION 1: Taming the Tech Giants: Responses to Digital Trade Wars and Monopoly Power**

*Moderator:* Renata Avila, Human Rights and Tech Lawyer

*Speakers:*

Tulio Rosembuj, Lawyer LUISS University

Sanya Reid Smith, Expert International trade

Alexey Ivanov, Higher School of Economics, Moscow

Maria Ptashkina, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development

Wendy Liu, Tech Journalist

Lunch break

14:30-16:30 **SESSION 2: Big Tech and Global Finance**

*Moderator:* Caroline Nevejan, Chief Science Officer, Amsterdam City Hall

*Speakers:*

Andres Arauz, Former Minister of Talent and Knowledge, Ecuador

Tony Norfield, author of *The City*

Vijay Prashad, Director of Tricontinental

Yu Hong, author of *Networking China: The Digital Transformation of the Chinese Economy*

Coffee break

17:00-18:00 **KEYNOTE: The Battle for Digital Supremacy: Chinese Technological Politics and the New Global Order**

Yuezhi Zhao, author of *Communication in China: Political Economy, Power and Conflict*

Q&A





Day Two: 17 October

## BEYOND SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM



10:00-10:15 **WELCOME REMARKS: Decentralized, Inclusive and Sustainable Next Generation Digital Platforms: What's the Role of Europe?**  
Fabrizio Sestini, European Commission

10:15-10:45 **OPENING ADDRESS**  
Giovanni Buttarelli, European Data Protection Supervisor, introduced by  
Marleen Stikker, founder of Waag

10:45-11:30 **PRESENTATION: AI Nationalism**  
Ian Hogarth, co-founder and ex-CEO Songkick, angel investor

11:30-13:30 **SESSION 3: Automation, AI and New Industrial Strategies**  
Moderator: Denis Jaromil Roio, Chief Technology Officer, Dyne.org  
Speakers:  
Philip Staab, Institute for the History and Future of Work  
Yun Wen, Simon Fraser University  
Paul Mason, journalist and author of *Postcapitalism*

Lunch break

14:30-16:30 **SESSION 4: Movements and Democratic Alternatives to Digital Capitalism**  
Moderator: Arnau Monterde, Barcelona City Hall  
Speakers:  
Nick Srnicek, author of *Platform Capitalism*  
Dan Hill, Visiting Professor UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose  
Oliver Nachtwey, Associate Professor, University of Basel  
Francesca Bria, Digital Commissioner, Barcelona City Hall

Coffee break

16:30-18:30 **KEYNOTE: The Perils of Surveillance Capitalism**  
Shoshana Zuboff, Author of *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism*

Open debate

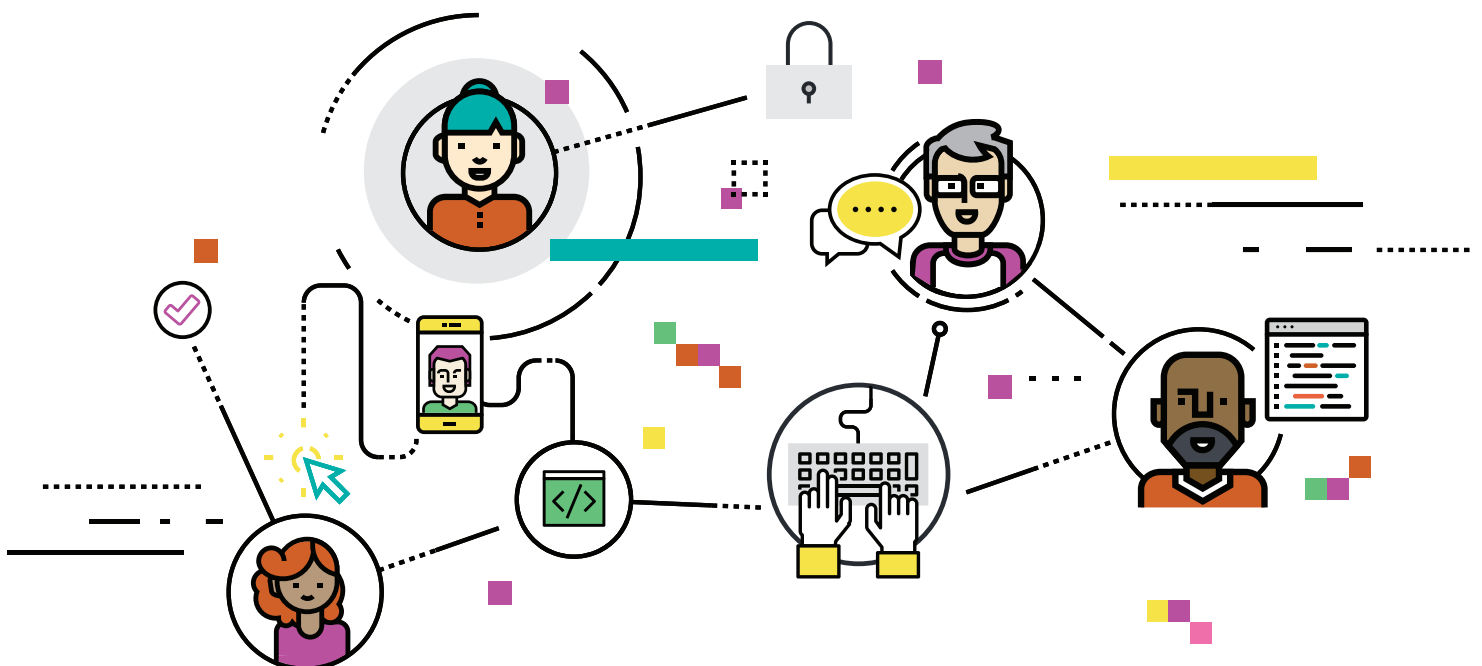


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DECODE is a multidisciplinary EU project that responds to people's concerns about a loss of control over their personal information on the internet. The ability to access, control and use personal data has become a means by which internet companies can drive profits. The people who create much of this data have lost control over how it is used. This is a problem.

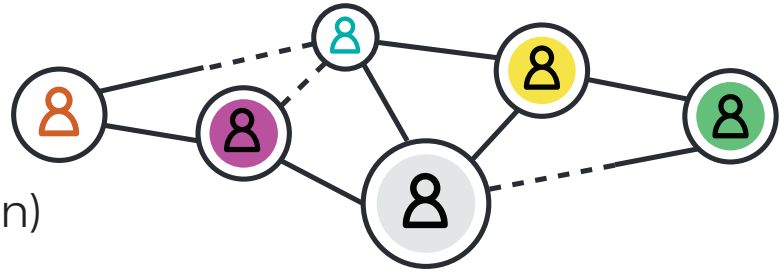
DECODE is an experimental initiative that aims to develop practical alternatives to how we use the internet today, building a data-centric digital economy where data that is generated and gathered by citizens, the Internet of Things (IoT), and sensor networks is available for broader communal use, with appropriate privacy protections.

To find out more about DECODE, visit [www.decodeproject.eu](http://www.decodeproject.eu)



# Speakers

(In order of participation)



## Francesca Bria

Commissioner of Technology and Digital Innovation, Barcelona City Hall

DECODE Project Lead

🐦@francesca\_bria



Francesca Bria is the Commissioner of Digital Technology and Innovation for the city of Barcelona and the leader of the DECODE project, the biggest European effort on data sovereignty. She is a Senior Researcher and Expert on technology and digital policy and an adviser for the European Commission on Future Internet and Innovation Policy. She has a PhD in Innovation Economics from Imperial College, London and MSc on Digital Economy from University of London, Birbeck.

## Renata Avila

Executive Director, Smart Citizenship Foundation

🐦@avilarenata



Renata Avila is the current Director of Smart Citizenship Foundation, with offices in Rio and Sao Paulo. International human rights lawyer and digital rights advocate, in her practice she represented indigenous victims of genocide and other human rights abuses, including the prominent indigenous leader and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Rigoberta Menchu Tum. She also represented awarded journalist Julian Assange and Wikileaks since 2009. Avila sits on the Board of Creative Commons and a Coordinating Collective member of Diem25, a movement to democratise Europe launched by Yanis Varoufakis.

## Evgeny Morozov

Writer, Technology Commentator

🐦@evgenymorozov



Evgeny Morozov is the author of *The Net Delusion* and *To Save Everything, Click Here*. Morozov's monthly column on technology and politics appears in *The Observer* (UK), *Süddeutsche Zeitung* (Germany), *Internazionale* (Italy), *Le monde diplomatique* (France) and several other newspapers. Previously a senior editor at *The New Republic*, he has been a fellow at Georgetown University, Stanford University, Open Society Foundations, New America Foundation, and the American Academy in Berlin.

## Tulio Rosembuj

Università LUISS, Rome



Tulio Rosembuj is a former Professor of Financial and Tax Law at the University of Barcelona, currently guest professor at the Università LUISS, Rome, where he directs the course *Diritto Fiscale Europeo*. His most recent published book is *Inteligencia Artificial e Impuesto* (2018). He is the author of several publications in his field of study. Among them: *Intangibles. La fiscalidad del capital intelectual* (2003); *El impuesto ambiental* (2009); *El arbitraje fiscal internacional* (2010); *El impuesto digital* (2015), *Digital Tax* (2015), *Bitcoin* (2015), *Tax Morale* (2016), *Tax Governance. Los principios de la Unión Europea y del G20* (2017).





### Alexey Ivanov

HSE-Skolkovo Institute for Law and Development



Alexey Ivanov leads the HSE-Skolkovo Institute for Law and Development in its academic and strategic pursuits. Ivanov has guided the HSE-Skolkovo joint venture since its inception, directs the Institute's research and progress, and engages the findings of the Institute at the forefront of leading domestic Russian and international legal and policy arenas. Ivanov also researches at the Centre for Law, Economics and Society at University College London, with particular contribution to their Social Media Unit. He is co-founder of the boutique law firm Nadmitov, Ivanov and Partners.

### Maria Ptashkina

International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development

🐦@maria\_ptashkina



Associate Fellow at International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), contributor to research group on services and digital economy. Economics PhD candidate at University Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Barcelona, Spain. Former delegate and member of inter-government policy research groups on issues related to international trade and investment (APEC, G-20, BRICS, OBOR).

### Sanya Reid Smith

Third World Network



Sanya Reid Smith is a Legal Advisor and Senior Researcher at the Third World Network, an international coalition specializing in development issues and North-South affairs. Sanya travels the world in tireless advocacy for poor people in developing nations, on topics including access to medicine, women's rights and environmental sustainability.

### Wendy Liu

Journalist

🐦@dellsystem



Wendy Liu is a software developer and former startup founder who left the tech industry to study inequality at the London School of Economics. She now writes critically about the political economy of the tech industry for UK based publications like *Tribune*, *Novara Media* and *New Internationalist*. She is an editor for the economics section of *New Socialist*.





## Caroline Nevejan

Chief Science Officer,  
Amsterdam City Hall



Prof. dr. Caroline Nevejan is professor by special appointment with the Amsterdam School for Social Science Research, University of Amsterdam (2018-2023). Her research is focused on Designing Urban Experience and she supervises 5 PhD candidates in this context. As of 20th of March 2017 Caroline Nevejan has been appointed Chief Science Officer of the City of Amsterdam. Last year she was part of the editorial board of the conference Flying Money, on investigating illicit financial flows in the city.

## Tony Norfield

Author  
@StubbornFacts



Tony Norfield worked for nearly twenty years in dealing rooms in the City of London, and became Executive Director and Global Head of Foreign Exchange Strategy for a major European bank. He travelled widely in Europe, Asia and the US, visiting corporate, financial and government clients. He has a PhD in Economics from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University. His blog is Economics of Imperialism, and in 2016 Verso published his book, *The City: London and the Global Power of Finance*.

## Andres Arauz

Former Minister for  
Knowledge and Human  
Talent of Ecuador  
@ecuarauz



Andres Arauz is an Ecuadorian economist. He served as Minister of Knowledge, Deputy Minister for Planning and COO of the Central Bank in the Government of Ecuador. He is a member of the board of the Bank of the South. He has written extensively on geopolitics, procurement, money and technology. He is now pursuing a PhD at UNAM - Mexico.

## Vijay Prashad

Historian and journalist  
Director of Tricontinental:  
Institute for Social Research  
@vijayprashad



Vijay Prashad is an Indian historian and journalist. Prashad is the author of twenty-five books, including *The Darker Nations: A People's History of the Third World* and *The Poorer Nations: A Possible History of the Global South*, and ten edited volumes, including *Land of Blue Helmets: The United Nations in the Arab World*. As a journalist, he writes regularly for *The Hindu* (India), *Frontline* (India), *BirGün* (Turkey) and *Alternet* (USA) and appears regularly on *The Real News Network* and *Democracy Now*.

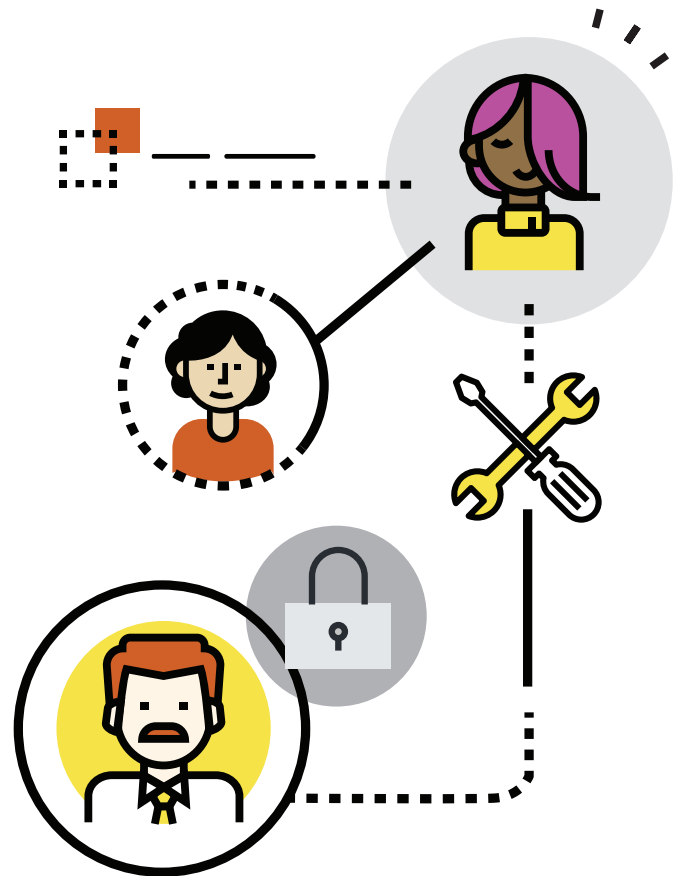


## Yu Hong

Zhejiang University



After having taught at the Annenberg School for Communication at University of Southern California for six plus years, Yu Hong joined Zhejiang University as a '100-Talents Program' Young Professor in Fall 2017 and is vice director of the ZJU Research Center on Public Diplomacy and Strategic Communication. Yu Hong got her Ph.D. in Communication from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research focuses on ICT development, Internet and media policy, and digital capitalism, with a regional focus on China. Yu Hong is the author of two books, including *Networking China: The Digital Transformation of the Chinese Economy* (U of I Press, 2017).



## Yuezhi Zhao

Simon Fraser University



Dr. Yuezhi Zhao (Ph.D., 1996) is Professor and Tier I Canada Research Chair in Political Economy of Global Communication at the School of Communication, Simon Fraser University. A recipient of the C. Edwin Baker Award and the Dallas Smythe Award for her contributions to scholarship on communication and democracy, and SFU's Chris Dagg Award for International Impact. Dr. Zhao's publications include *Media, Market and Democracy in China*, *Communication in China*, *Global Communications*, and *Communication and Society* (in Chinese).

## Fabrizio Sestini

Senior Expert in Digital Social Innovation European Commission DG CONNECT

[@100fabrizio](https://twitter.com/100fabrizio)



Fabrizio Sestini is Senior Expert in Digital Social Innovation with DG CONNECT of the European Commission, and responsible for the EIC Horizon Prize on 'Blockchains for Social Good'. Within DG CONNECT, he is leading the multidisciplinary initiative CAPS 'Collective Awareness Platforms for Sustainability and Social Innovation'. In the framework of the Next-Generation Internet initiative, he has launched a new area of techno-social research on distributed architectures for decentralised data governance.



## Giovanni Buttarelli

European Data Protection Supervisor

🐦@Buttarelli\_G



Mr. Giovanni Buttarelli (1957) has been appointed European Data Protection Supervisor since 4 December 2014 by a joint decision of the European Parliament and the Council for a term of five years. Before joining the EDPS, he worked as Secretary General to the Italian Data Protection Authority, a position he occupied between 1997 and 2009. A member of the Italian judiciary with the rank of Cassation judge, he has attended to many initiatives and committees on data protection and related issues at international level. He currently teaches on privacy at the Luiss University, Rome.

## Ian Hogarth

Co-founder & ex-CEO Songkick, angel investor

🐦@soundboy



Ian studied engineering at Cambridge, graduating with first class honours. His Masters project was a computer vision system to classify breast cancer biopsy images. He then lived in Beijing and studied Mandarin for a year. He co-founded Songkick, the concert service. Songkick is used by 17 million music fans every month to discover concerts. He served as CEO for eight years, scaling the business to \$100m in ticket sales and 120 people. He is an angel investor in about 30 startups where the main focus of his investing is applied machine learning.

## Marleen Stikker

Founder of Waag

🐦@marleenstikker

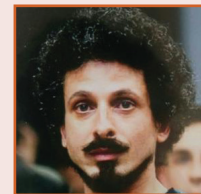


Marleen Stikker (1962) is founder of Waag and also founder of De Digitale Stad (The Digital City) in 1993, the first virtual community introducing free public access to the Internet. She leads Waag, a social enterprise that consists of a research institute for creative technologies and social innovation and Waag Products, which launched companies like Fairphone, the first fair smartphone in the world. She is also member of the European H2020 Commission High-level Expert Group for SRIA on innovating Cities/DGResearch and the Dutch AcTI academy technology & innovation.

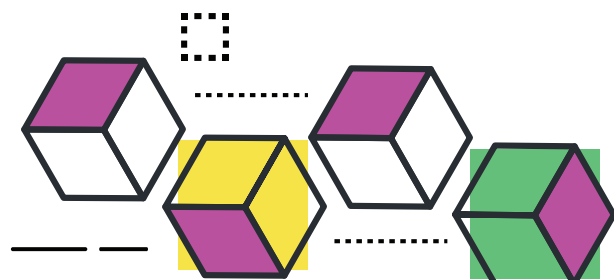
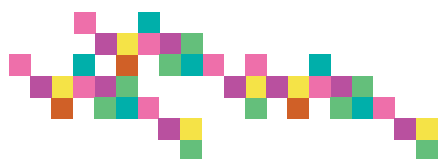
## Denis Roio

Chief Technology Officer, Dyne.org

🐦@Jaromil



Denis Roio, better known as Jaromil, CTO and co-founder of the Dyne.org think&do tank. He received the Vilém Flusser Award at Transmediale (Berlin, 2009) while leading for six years the R&D department of the Netherlands Media art Institute (Montevideo/TBA). He is a fellow of Waag (Amsterdam), included in the 'Purpose Economy' list of top 100 social entrepreneurs in EU (2014) and the '40 under 40' European young leaders program. Jaromil is leading the design of DECODE's technical architecture.



## Philipp Staab

Institute for the History and Future of Work



Dr. Philipp Staab, born 1983, sociologist, visiting Professor for Technology studies at University of St. Gallen, researcher at the institute for the history and future of work in Berlin. His recent publications include: *Finance Capitalism and the Digital Economy. An Explosive Symbiosis, Digital Capitalism - How China is challenging Silicon Valley, The Consumption Dilemma of Digital Capitalism, and Market and Labour Control in Digital Capitalism.*

## Yun Wen

Simon Fraser University



Yun Wen has a PhD in Communication from Simon Fraser University in Canada. She is a senior economist at Infinitesum Modeling Inc. Her research interests include information and communication technologies (ICTs), Chinese communication and social change, and technology and innovation policy. She has taught a range of courses in the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University and at Columbia College in Vancouver. Yun Wen is the author of *The Huawei Model: The Rise of China's ICT Giant in Global Digital Capitalism.*

## Paul Mason

Journalist and author

🐦@paulmasonnews

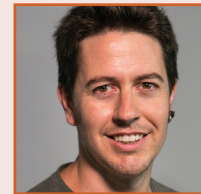


Paul Mason is a British commentator and radio personality. He was Culture and Digital Editor of *Channel 4 News* becoming the programme's Economics Editor on 1 June 2014, a post he formerly held on BBC Two's *Newsnight* programme. He is the author of several books, and a visiting professor at the University of Wolverhampton.

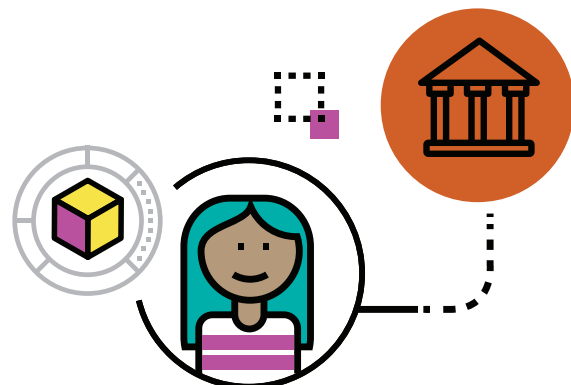
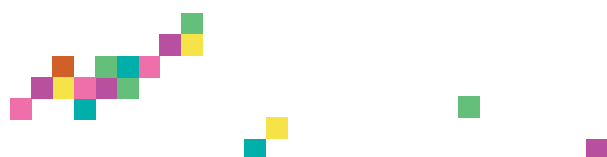
## Arnau Monterde

Barcelona City Council

🐦@arnauMonty



Arnau Monterde is responsible for Research, Development and Innovation in Participation at the Barcelona City Council. He is one of the cofounders of the Decidim.barcelona and the Decidim.org projects. He studies emerging forms of political participation and democracy in the network society. He has also promoted the Laboratory of Democratic Innovation in Barcelona. He was the coordinator of the Tecnopolitica project at the Internet Interdisciplinary Institute (IN3-UOC). He holds a PhD in Information and Knowledge Society by the Open University of Catalunya.



## Nick Srnicek

King's College London

🐦@n\_srnck



Nick Srnicek is a Lecturer in Digital Economy at King's College London. He is the author of *Platform Capitalism* (Polity, 2016) and co-author with Alex Williams of *Inventing the Future: Postcapitalism and a World Without Work* (Verso, 2015). With Helen Hester he is currently writing *After Work: The Fight For Free Time* (Verso, 2019).

## Oliver Nachtwey

University of Basel

🐦@onachtwey



Oliver Nachtwey, born 1975 in Unna, is Professor of Social Structure Analysis at the University of Basel. He studied economics at the University of Hamburg and received his doctorate from the University of Göttingen. He worked at the Universities of Jena, Trier, Darmstadt and Frankfurt and as a fellow at the Post-Growth Societies College in Jena and at the Hamburg Institute for Social Research. His book *Die Abstiegs-gesellschaft. Über das Aufbegehren in der regressiven Moderne* (2016) received several awards and has been translated into English and Spanish.

## Dan Hill

Associate Director at Arup  
UCL Institute for Innovation  
and Public Purpose

🐦@cityofsound



Dan Hill is an Associate Director at Arup, and Head of Arup Digital Studio, a multidisciplinary strategic and service design team. He is a Visiting Professor at UCL Bartlett Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose in London and an Adjunct Professor at RMIT University in Melbourne and University of Technology Sydney.

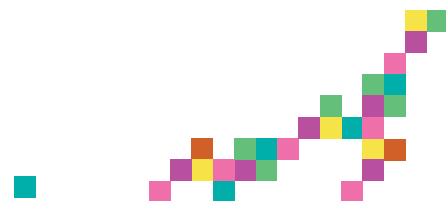
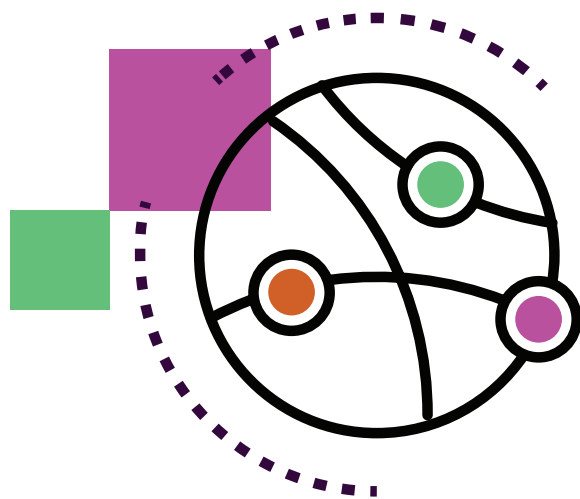
## Shoshana Zuboff

Author of *The Age of  
Surveillance Capitalism*

🐦@shoshanazuboff



Shoshana Zuboff is the author of the 2015 article that first theorized surveillance capitalism as a novel and extractive new economic order, *Big Other: Surveillance Capitalism and the Prospects of an Information Civilization*. Her new book, *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism: The Fight for a Human Future at the New Frontier of Power*, will be published in Germany (Campus: October 4, 2018) and in the US (Public Affairs: January 15, 2019).







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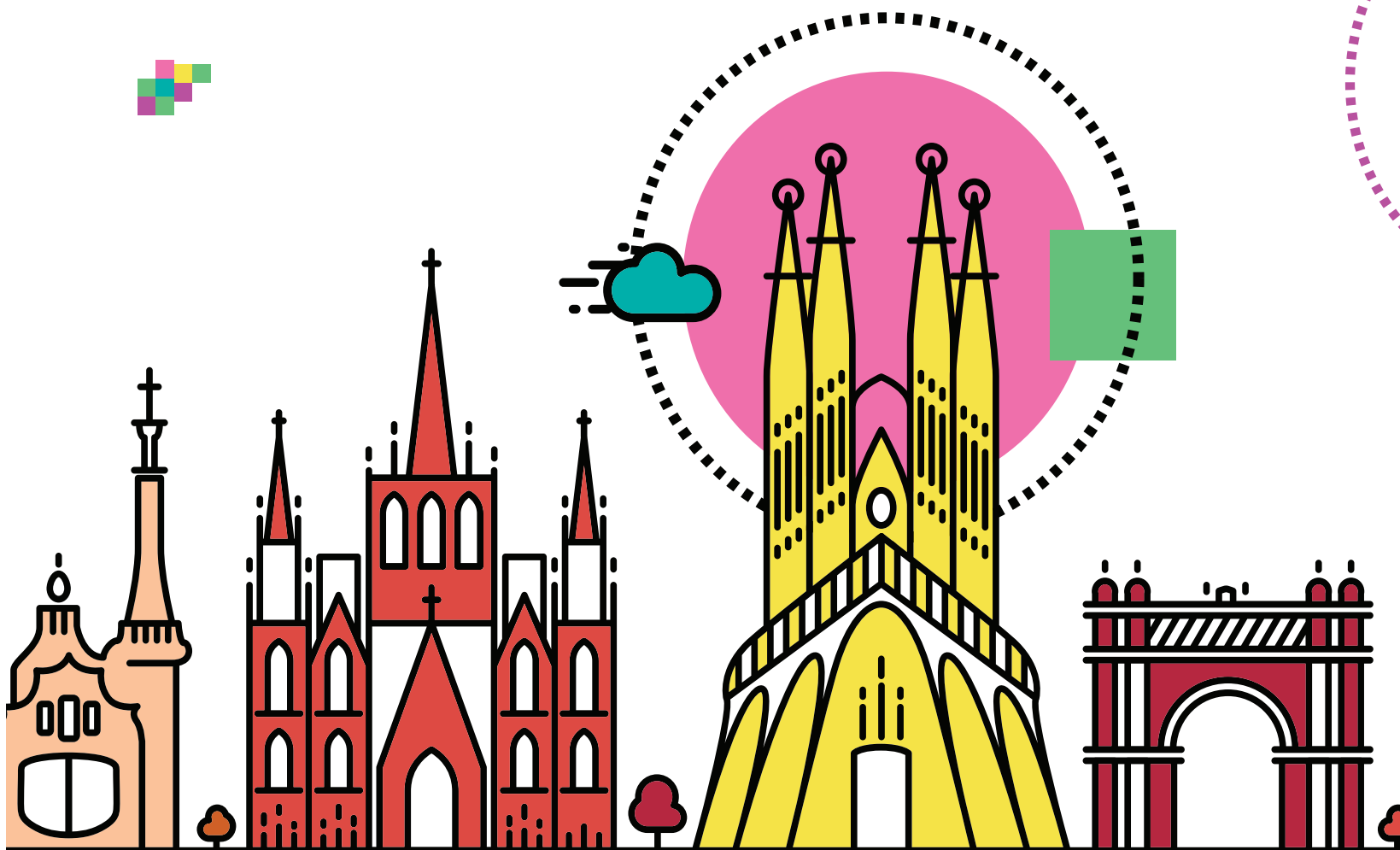
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