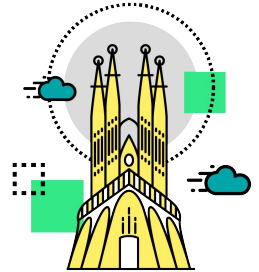


Beyond surveillance capitalism and datacracy: digital democracy and data commons pilot

Antonio Calleja-López (Tecnopolítica / IN3-UOC)



The crisis of democracy, the rise of datacracy



More **(digital) democracy**



Towards **data commons & sovereignty**



Decidim: free software for participatory democracy



Global

15 Countries

90 Cities and Governments

50 Social Organizations

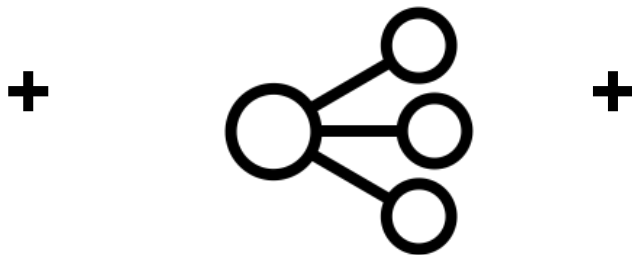
250.000 active participants

DDDC: Technological development

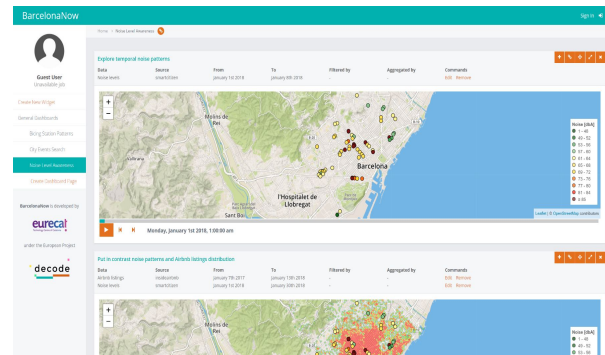
**Sovereignty
Privacy**



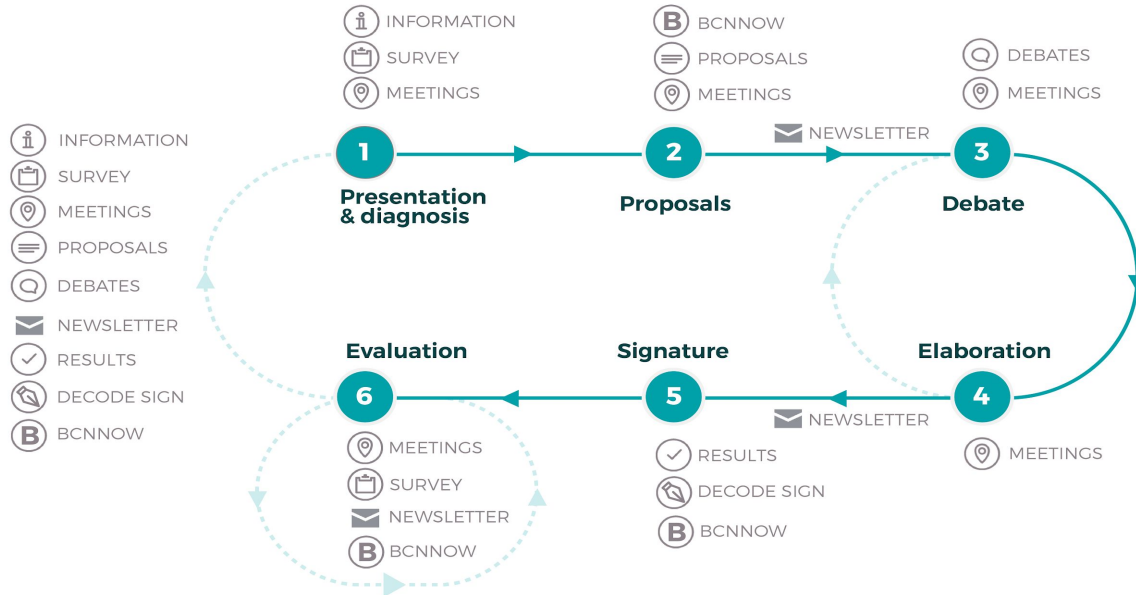
Transparency



**Collective intelligence
& empowerment**



Digital democracy and data commons: a participatory process



- 6 month+
- Decidim software
- 8 meetings
- 300+ participants

DDDC: social innovation

Deliberation and experimentation



Networking



Vision

Data Commons Manifesto See index

DIAGNOSIS

Transformations
Today, everything can be turned into data.
Digital technology is deeply changing the world and the way we work, learn, move, share, decide, even the way we love.

Control
Although we produce data we do not control it. Data controls us. More precisely: who controls data and technologies, controls us.

Value, power, profit
Data has value, but it is extracted and exploited without our awareness, and concentrated in a few hands. The most valued companies base their business model on it, and the trend is pervading the rest. States rebuild themselves around data, as well. The quest for profits and power fuels today the datification of the world.

FOLLOW
AMEND
COMMENT

Threats
As a result, our individual and collective rights, and the very shape of our lives, are threatened and redefined in new forms of surveillance, exploitation, manipulation, or discrimination. New (or old) inequalities, subjugations, dysfunctions and divisions emerge.

Democracy

Thanks!

More info

Decidim

Web: www.decidim.org

Twitter: @decodeprojecteu

DECODE

Web: <https://decodeproject.eu/>

Twitter: @metadecidim

Tecnopolitica

Web: www.tecnopolitica.net

Twitter: @tecnopolitica_

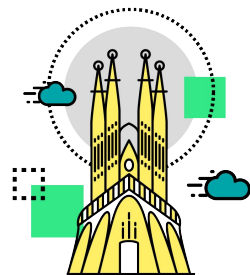
Data commons manifesto: workshop

Antonio Calleja-López (Tecnopolítica / IN3-UOC)

Melissa Renau (Dimmons / IN3 - UOC)

Anna Cigarini (Dimmons / IN3 - UOC)

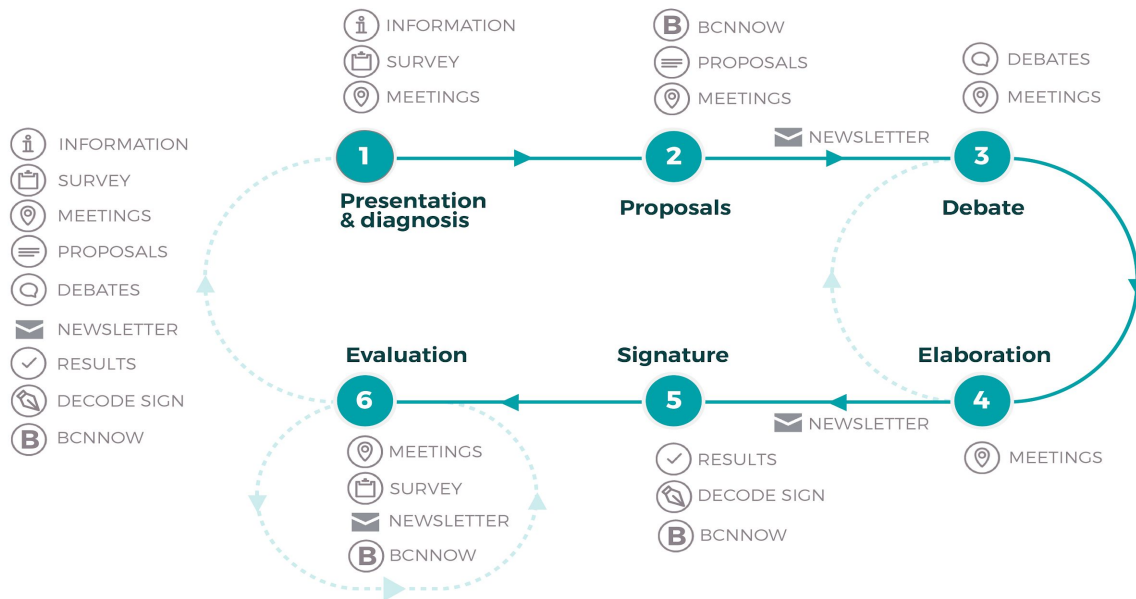
Juanl Linares (Tecnopolítica / IN3 - UOC)



Outline

- 2' - 5'. Presentation of the session
- 60' - 70'. Break out groups
 - 5' - 10'. Opening profiles in dddc.decodeproject.eu
 - 45'. Comments and debate. 3 groups, 15' per section
 - 5' - 10'. Download DECODE app & signature
- 5' - 10'. Collective feedback from groups

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Democracy

Democracy is endangered too. Data is used to influence the political decisions of millions. Economically, it feeds monopolistic platforms that erode people's rights, impact the environment, and give lease life to an unjust and unsustainable economic system.

Against technological determinism

Capitalism is pushing socio-technical progress down narrow paths, where the possibilities of people, data and digital technologies are not realised. However, there are alternatives. Against the quest for profit and power, they outline a quest for wealth and potentialities for the many rather than for the few.

Alternatives to capitalism

Free software, hardware, knowledge, and culture point towards a digital society without artificial scarcity, grounded on a logics of fairness and cooperation rather than exploitation and competition. Innovations in digital democracy as well as in the solidarity and cooperative digital economy multiply, and could help to address local and global challenges. Activism for data awareness, empowerment, justice or commons is mounting. Increasingly digitally educated and skilled citizenries are there to be mobilized. Some public institutions react, and new regulations such as GDPR, even if insufficient, can be useful in the struggle.

Towards data commons

Against corporate data and extractivism, open data and personal data control initiatives are a step in the right direction. However, we must go further. A fairer data economy implies to advance towards a strong model of data commons, one that goes beyond open data by attending not only to the potential of open access to data but also to the conditions of its production, to the power over and the protection from it, to its governance as well as to the social responsibility for its impacts. It implies to avoid data-centric visions by looking not only to data but also to the technological, legal, economical, social and other structures that define it. Strong data commons go also beyond regulations and initiatives centered on individual control over personal data by pointing towards the centrality of the collective dimension.

Resuming: there is a need to advance from open data to data commons, from "my data" to "our data". Data commons means data of, by and for the people.

BELIEFS, PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

We declare

In the face of this, we declare that

Freedom, equality and sorority

We still believe in freedom, equality, and fraternity, and the need to strive for a just society. A socio-technical contract on data in the digital era will be necessary to advance towards it.

We believe in data sovereignty/autonomy, data justice and data commons: people should be able to equitably control, share and benefit from data. If the market has symbolized freedom and the State formal equality, we believe commons points towards fraternity and sorority, and should be the base of a better digital society.

Data collection and use must be consensual, fair and transparent (Good Data Principle #11, The Good Data Project).

Data is not neutral or unbiased, so it must bear a critical, political and ethical analysis.

Privacy and data protection are key: furthermore, people have the right to be free from all forms of unlawful or unfair interference in their digital life.

Data is usually relational, so we must think beyond the individual, towards collective rights.

Augmented democracy

We believe in democracy. Data and digital infrastructures should be used to nurture a radical and augmented democracy, a society where everyone is allowed, able and willing to rule, and where collective intelligence, deliberation and action are boosted.

Data should primarily nurture emancipatory social transformation instead of unjust perpetuation, blind disruption or mere innovation.

Economy of common life

We believe in an economy that respects and nurtures the living, from nature to our own lives. Today, data and digital infrastructures are a basic building block for this.

Corporations should respect people's digital life and rights worldwide, the State should work for this, and people ascertain it.

Sharing and collaboration are fundamental for equal and fair digital societies. People should have easy ways to build commons with their digital lives, and to use them for improving them.

Data should not only respect human rights and the natural world but to help them to flourish (beyond Good Data Principle #14, The Good Data Project).

Beyond data

We also believe data is only a small piece in such endeavors. People and life are their centers.

GOALS AND ACTIONS

From beliefs to action

These beliefs, principles, and values inspire us to define a set of broad goals. These goals demand action (from civil society, the public sector, and academia, especially, but also from the private sector). Below, we list some preliminary proposals for action gathered in open meetings during the DDDC process:

Rights and society. Constructing a well-regulated and fair digital society.

Co-construction of a model of data commons, by an initial community comprising any organizations (be it civic, public or private) citizenry, including a contract of technological and social protocols able to reconcile all parties' interests in a trustworthy, privacy-protecting and mutually value-producing way.

The public sector must regulate, monitor and audit data as well as data-powered (i.e. algorithmic) procedures in order to ensure citizens' rights and well-being. Promotion and adoption of open standards to foster interoperability and data portability and, furthermore, of data sovereignty, beginning with public procurement processes.

Develop and promote technological, legal and practical tools that provide privacy, security, and ethics by design.

Promotion of quality data ecosystems, including indicators of data science for the common good.

Development and promotion of more understandable (user friendly) privacy agreements, terms of use and other legal tools.

Democracy. Building an augmented democracy.

Fund experiments for developing more democratic data governance models.

Stir citizen participation in the definition of research using public data.

- Awareness. Moving towards a data-aware society, with a holistic and critical vision of data.

Raise campaigns to promote terms and conditions and privacy policies that enable digital commons.

Organize campaigns and courses about the values & impacts of data exploitation, data impact and protection, etc.

Develop educational plans on critical data management and science.

- Empowerment. Advance towards a digital society where people are able to control, share and exploit data.

Enlarge community datasets through public datasets.

Promote the use of free and creative common licenses that also ensure personal and community rights.

Promote grassroots data analysis and visualization programs.

Develop a data commons design toolkit.

Generate spaces where citizen can participate in data-based research agendas, specially, based on public data.

Promote the release of open resources to facilitate public and community data exploitation (notebooks).

Integrate citizen initiatives and citizen science projects for public policy-making.

Economy. Moving towards a commons-based digital economy.

Incentivize the development and scope of digital platforms that do not base their sustainability in user's data exploitation, but in a commons oriented sustainability model, where users, funders and community take a step forward taking the lead of this sustainability.

Take advantage of taxation (specially to big digital corporations) to promote commons business models.

Make for-profit users of open data pay for it proportionally to their intensity of use.

Research different platform models in order to characterize them and develop data commons economic viability models.

Organize trainings about data commons exploitation and foster commons-oriented businesses.

Support data sovereignty and commons communities and ecosystems, with local impact.