

Equity, Ethics and the Environmental Sustainability of the Internet

RIPE85 pre-event | 4th October 2022

Vesna Manojlovic Senior Community Builder BECHA@ripe.net

Placing Today in a Context



- 2020(2) = Third Year of Global COVID-19 Pandemic (+2 new ones)
- Wars in Ukraine, Armenia, Syria, Yemen, ...
- Climate Chaos...
 - Summer heath-waves: draughts, forest fires, dry rivers, lack of drinking water...
 - Floods in Pakistan, Middle-East, Italy, Japan... Hurricanes in Puerto Rico, Florida...
 - Glaciers melting in Alps, Andes, Himalayas, Greenland, Alaska...
 - Upcoming "hunger winter" with inadequate heating infrastructure...
- Still, I am grateful for being alive, safe, healthy-ish



#HowToMakeThisAboutMe

@Ms_Multicolor

20th Century Carrier (1991-1998)



Education:

- Hight school: Zemunska Gimnazija; Computer Science at @ ETF.ac.yu, Belgrade

Operating systems:

VAX-VMS, DecNET, Linux (galeb.etf.bg.ac.yu), ZaMir (BBS)

Art & (h)acktivism:

Škola Mira, NetForum, Documenta X, HIP97, NextFiveMinutes, Syndicate, nettime...

Employment:

Računski Centar ETF; Centar za Anti-Ratnu Akciju; OpenNet/B92; YUCCA

21st Century Carrier (1999-today): RIPE NCC



- Hired as a "Software Engineer" for expat-law purposes!
- 1st pure "Trainer" at RIPE NCC! IPv4, IPv6, whois Database, IRR
- Also: hostmaster, webmaster, mailing-lists moderator, technical writer... + TRAVEL



- Advanced Courses Trainer (2001-2006)
 - RPSL, DNSSEC, RPKI, BGPsec
 - & IPv6 Evangelist (lecturer & IPv6 RIPEness co-creator) (2007-2010)
- "Measurements Community Building" Manager (2011-2016)
 - RIS, RIPEstat, RIPE Atlas, hackathons
- (Senior) Community Builder (2017-present)



B.S. CS @ ETF.ac.yu 1991-1998 VAX-VMS, DecNET, ZaMir...

ASCII, TechInc, LAG; HIP97, HAL2001, WTH2005, HAR2009, OHM2013, SHA2017, MCH2022; TBD@ADM; CCC 1999-2018

C-PTSD, RSI, OCD ADHD, LGBTQ*

More About Me:



Alisa, Charlie, Olivia



RIPE NCC:

1999-2022+
IPv4, IPv6 / RIPEness,
DNSSEC, RPSL, RIS,
RIPE Atlas, hackathons

RIPE:

SEE{1-10}, CoC-TF, NOGs, IXPs, RIRs, "Trusted Contact"

NVC, EMDR, SNRI, yoga EFT, CBD, MBSR, ASMR

Ethics, Equity, Environmental Sustainability, Empathy*



Ethics

SHA2017 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDfkQo0DOYo

Equity

SEE-10, 2022: https://youtu.be/NRiww-FC0Uc?t=14200

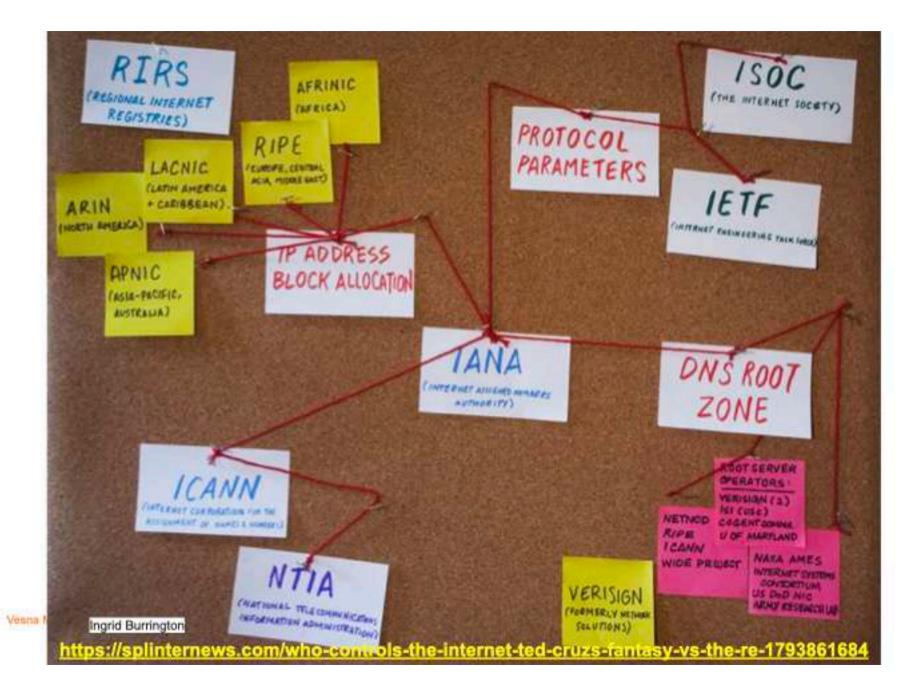
Environmental Sustainability

- MCH2022, https://media.ccc.de/v/mch2022-442-computing-within-limits
- https://wiki.techinc.nl/File:Bits und Baume Greening RIPE copy-compressed.pdf

Empathy (Requests / Offers)



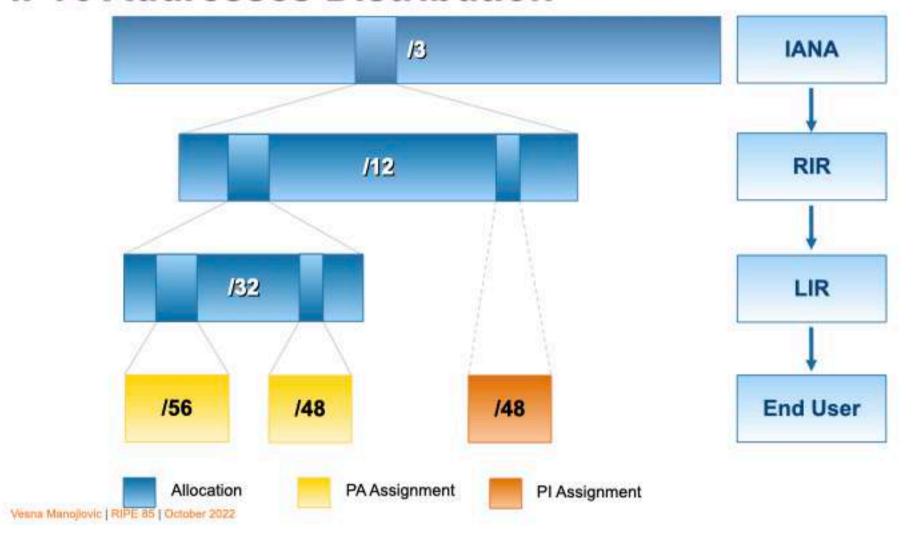
(Mandatory) Introduction to RIPE NCC & RIPE





IPv6 Addresses Distribution





Regional Internet Registries





RIPE (community) and the RIPE NCC

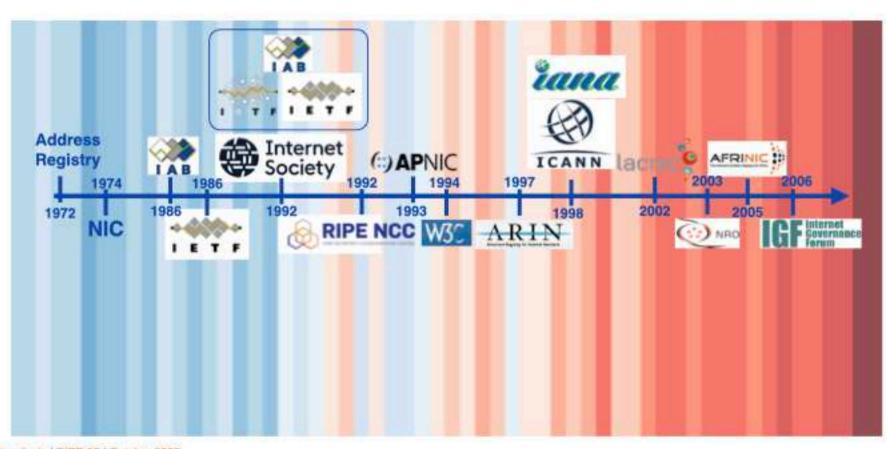






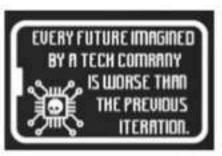
Internet Governance & Global Warming Timeline





Vesna Manojlovic | RIPE 85 | October 2022





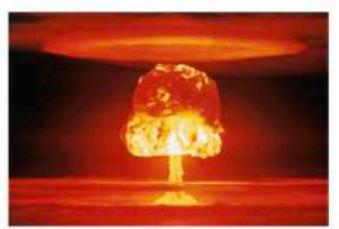






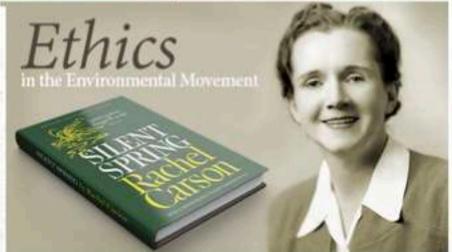
Classical Sciences Ethical Dilemmas





The othe of Hippocratus

which he gaue vnto his defiples and fcollers, which profefsing Philicke and Chirurgerie is very worthie to
be observed and kept faithfullie, of euerie true
and honest Artests, althought he himselfe
were but a heathen man, and without
the true knowledge of the hung Gods
yet for his noble and excellent skit
in Phisicke and Chirurgerie, he
ought not to be forgotten
of vs his posteritie; but
to be had in an honorable remembrace



Computer Sciences Ethical Dilemmas











1920s, Brazil **Biologists from National** Museum, environmental protection



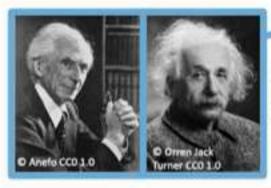
1960 - present, USA Science for the People collective, anti-war and social justice



2020s, Worldwide Scientist Rebellion, climate and ecological breakdown

1920 1950 1860 1890

1980 2010 2018 - present, Argentina



1957, USA & Europe Nobel winners' Russell-Einstein Manifesto, abolition of atomic weapons and war



1988 - present, USA Climatologist James Hansen, climate change



Biologist Esteban Servat, social

Science/Engineering: Power and Responsibility



At a time when science plays such a powerful role in the life of society, when the destiny of the whole of mankind may hinge on the results of scientific research, it is incumbent on all scientists to be fully conscious of that role, and conduct themselves accordingly. I appeal to my fellow scientists to remember their responsibility to humanity.²¹⁰

With Great
Power
Comes
Great
Responsibility



Vesna Manojlovic



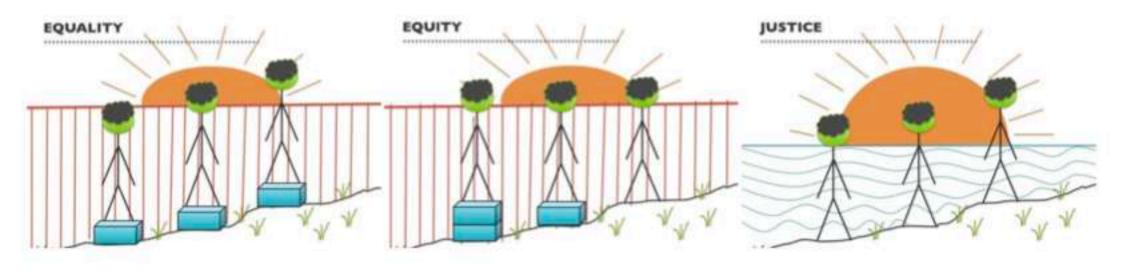
Table 2.1: From data ethics to data justice

Table 2.1: From data ethics to data justice	
Concepts That Secure Power	Concepts That Challenge Power
Because they locate the source of the problem in individuals or technical systems	Because they acknowledge structural power differentials and work toward dismantling them
Ethics	Justice
Bias	Oppression
Fairness	Equity
Accountability	Co-liberation
Transparency	Reflexivity
Understanding algorithms	Understanding history, culture, and context

Justice > Equity > Diversity > Inclusion



https://theavarnagroup.com/2019/05/25/and-heres-yet-another-equity-v-equality-v-justice-image-series/



https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/data-feminism-from-data-ethics-to-data-justice/

Digital Colonialism ==> Climate Justice

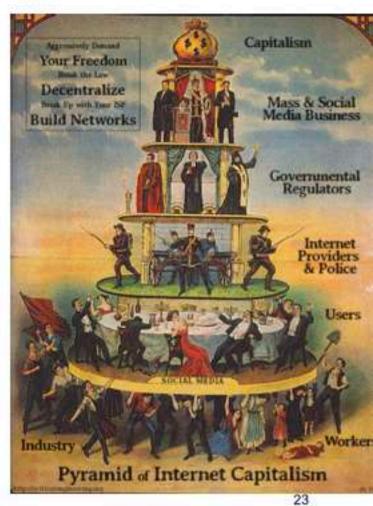






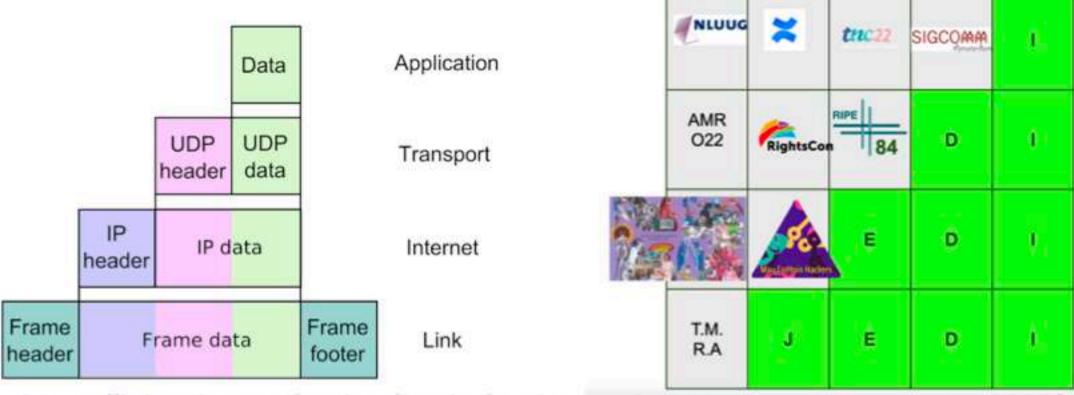






UDP & JEDI: Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion



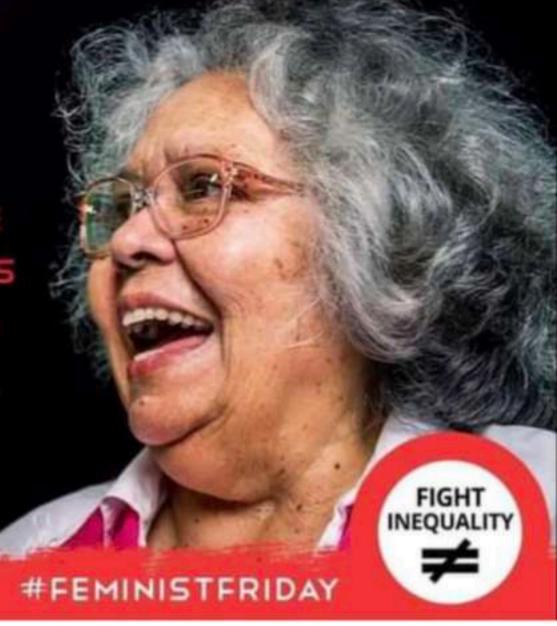


https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/spring-and-summer-events-season-2022/

IF YOU HAVE COME HERE
TO HELP ME, YOU ARE
WASTING YOUR TIME.
BUT IF YOU HAVE COME HERE
BECAUSE YOUR LIBERATION IS
BOUND UP WITH MINE, THEN
LET US WORK TOGETHER.

- LILLA WATSON

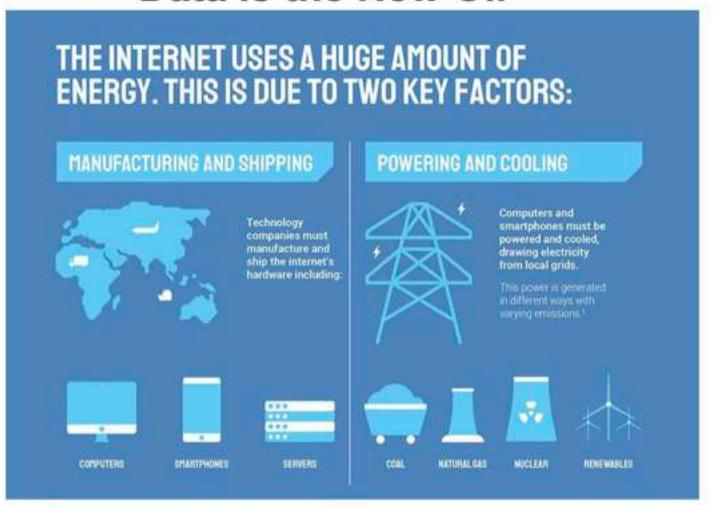
Indigenous Australian visual artist, academic, activist





Environmental Sustainability

"Data is the New Oil"









REBOOT THE WORLD

The Internet: Can we survive with it?

Nature is Fighting Back

- impact on the the operations of Internet infrastructure:
- Sea-level rise & storms: flooding of data centers
 - https://labs.ripe.net/author/ggm/surviving-the-flood-how-data-centres-and-the-internet-must-face-climate-change/
- ... & forest fires https://www.akcp.com/blog/data-centers-coping-with-climate-change-induced-wildfires/
- Water (un)availability for cooling power-plants & data centers:
 - https://www.datacenterdynamics.com/en/opinions/why-data-centers-need-to-talk-about-water/
- Energy over-consumption leads to (un)availability
 - https://www.consultancy.uk/news/28772/10-ways-businesses-can-reduce-their-digital-carbon-footprint
 - ... taking water, land & energy away from local (human/plant/animal) population



Green Tech at RIPE



0 103 Water 63% **83%** (free 22m 15% 7%

To Green the Internet, We Need RIPE

Michael Oghia - 29 jun 2020

If Europe is going to realise its vision for a greener ICT ecosystem and a sustainable future, support from the RIPE community is imperative. But what can you do - as a network operator and as a user - to work towards a sustainable Internet?

sustainability policy community









What Do We Do With E-Waste?



Mirsam Kühne + 9 Nov 2018

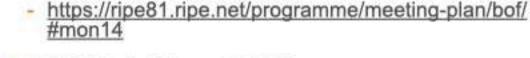
The headlines are raising awareness about the plastic soup that's clogging up our oceans but there's another problem much closer to home for much of the RIPE community: e-waste (aka 'dead electronics'). E-waste is a massive contributor to environmental pollution globally. We want to keep the conver...

sustamubility community









RIPE81 (October 2020): Sustainable

Michael Oghia, Independent Community Member

RIPE84 (May 2022): Towards a Fossil Free Internet

- Chris Adams, Green Web Foundation
- https://ripe84.ripe.net/archives/video/751/

My RIPE Labs series on Resilience

Layer 9 and Layer 6 articles

ICT Procurement





Michael Oghia - 23 pm 2017

in recent weeks, I've attended two events, SEE 6, hosted by the RIPE NCC in Budva, Monitenegro, and the 10th European Dialogue on Internet Governance (EuroDIG) in Tallinn, Estonia. At both events, I had the opportunity to speak about the issue of sustainable access to the Internet.











Painfully Slow... Why?

- focused on growth
- efficiency myth (Jevons paradox)
- aligned with dominant power structures

Beliefs:

- "tech is neutral"
- "we are the good guys" bias
- tech optimism

Individualism

Individuals and consumers are ultimately responsible for taking actions to address climate change.

Whataboutism

Our carbon footprint is trivial compared to [...]. Therefore it makes no sense for us to take action, at least until [...] does so.

The 'free rider' excuse

Reducing emissions is going to weaken us. Others have no real intention of reducing theirs and will take advantage of that.

Change is impossible

Any measure to reduce emissions effectively would run against current ways of life or human nature and is thus impossible to implement in a democratic society.

Doomism

Any mitigation actions we take are too little, too late. Catastrophic climate change is already locked-in. We should adapt, or accept our fate in the hands of God or nature. Someone else should take actions first: redirect responsibility

It's not possible to mitigate climate change: surrender

Discourses of climate delay Disruptive change is not necessary; push nontransformative solutions

Change will be disruptive: emphasize the downsides

Policy perfectionism

We should seek only perfectly-crafted solutions that are supported by all affected parties; otherwise we will waste limited opportunities for adoption.

Appeal to well-being

Fessi fuels are required for development. Abandoning their will condemn the global poor to hardship and their right to modern livelihoods.

Appeal to social justice

Climate actions will generate large costs. Vuinerable members of our society will be burdened; hard-working people cannot enjoy their holidays.

We should focus our efforts on current and future technologies, which will unlock great possibilities for addressing civilate change.

All talk, little action

Technological optimism

We are world leaders in addressing climate change. We have approved an ambitious target and have declared a climate emergency.

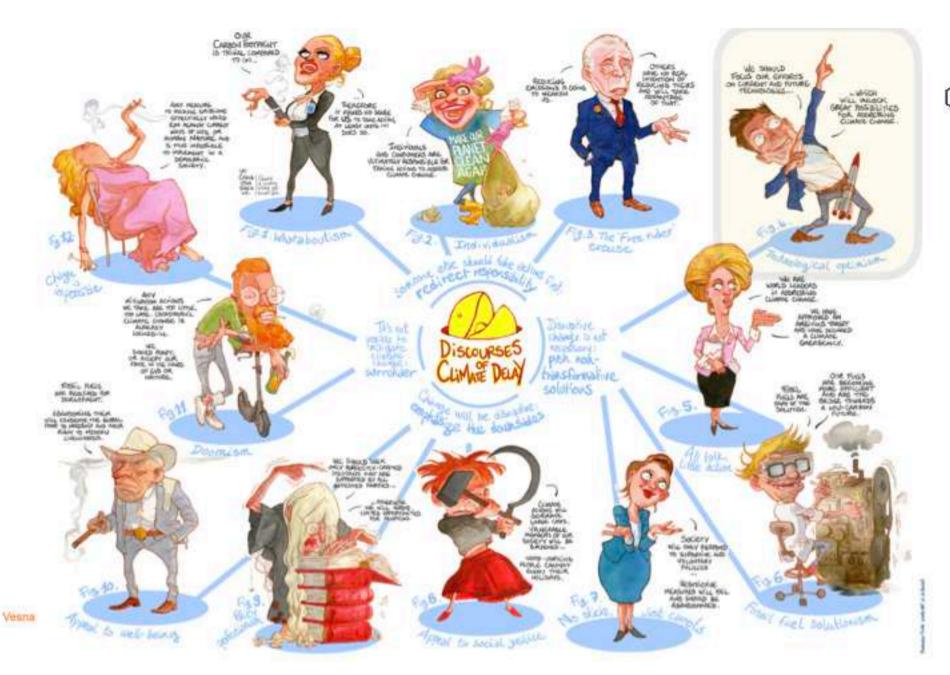
Fossil fuel solutionism

Fossil fuels are part of the solution. Our fuels are becoming more efficient and are the bridge towards a law-carbon future.

No sticks, just carrots

Society will only respond to supportive and voluntary policies, restrictive measures will fail and should be abandoned.

Source:







that humanity should reduce the use of fossil fuels.

"If solutions within this system are so difficult to find then maybe we should change the system itself" - Greta Thunberg addresses the COP24 climate conference in Poland. @GretaThunberg @ExtinctionR





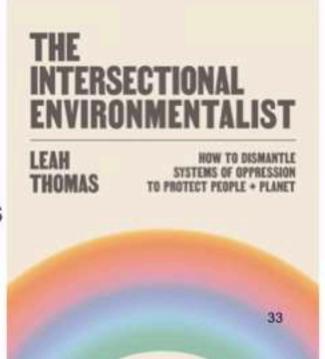
It is the sufferings of the many which pay for the luxuries of the few.

PM - Dec 17, 2018

Hopeful Directions Towards Planet-Friendly Internet



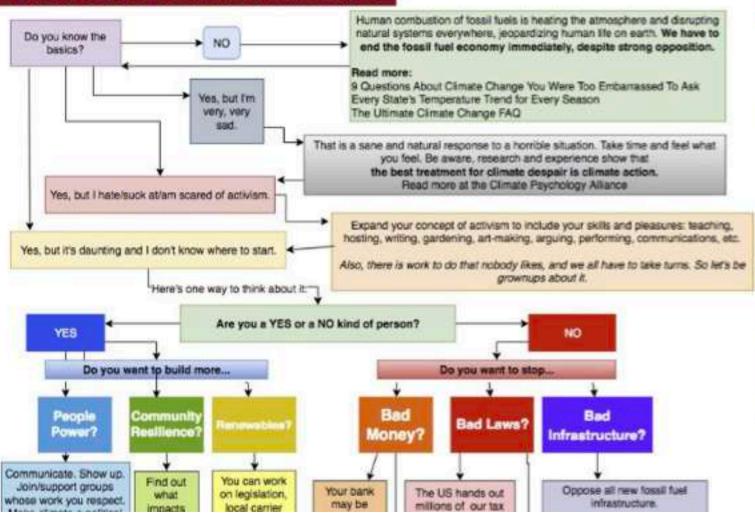
- Decolonising The Internet; Degrowth, Divestment...
- Feminist Internet / Data Feminism
- Community-owned & community-run networks (e.g. GAIA)
- "Right To Repair" Movement
- Permacomputing
- Low-Tech, Slow-Tech, Retro-Tech
- Intersectional Environmentalism
- Extinction Rebellion, Scientists Rebellion, Mothers Rebellion

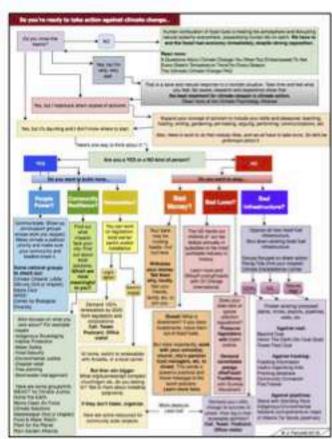


What can you do?



So you're ready to take action against climate change...







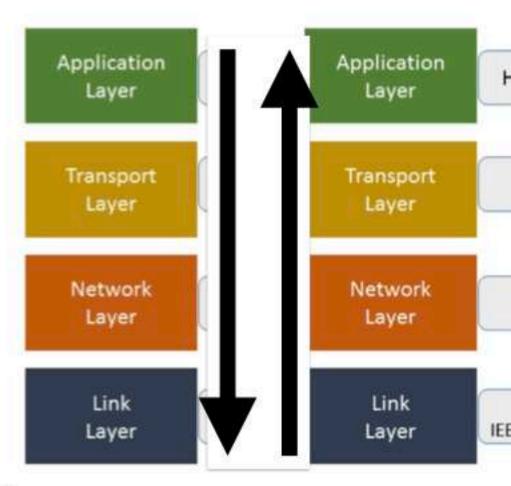
Sustainability Sustainability Sustainability



Requests & Offers (Empathy)







C Dance Floors @ Bridget Belgrave & Gina Lawrie 2003 http://www.GnB.org.uk

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Join RIPE Working Groups (online!)

- "Political" Layer: Cooperation-WG
- Application Layer / Aesthetic Needs
 - Opensource-WG, Anti-abuse-WG, MAT-WG, DNS-WG
- Transport Layer / Esteem Needs
 - IoT-WG, Routing-WG
- Network Layer / Needs for Connection
 - Connect-WG, IPv6-WG, (IPv4) Address Policy
- Link Layer / Physical Needs
 - "RIPE NCC Services" / RIPE NCC members meeting

Address Policy Working Group

Anti-Abuse Working Group

Connect Working Group

Cooperation Working Group

Database Working Group

DNS Working Group

Internet of Things Working Group

IPv6 Working Group

MAT Working Group

Open Source Working Group

RIPE NCC Services Working Group

Routing Working Group

Vesna Manojlovic | RIPE 85 | October 2022

Take part in RIPE / NCC Communities



- Join RIPE meetings
 - Twice a year, hybrid; ~1000 participants; network operators et.al
 - Become WG-chair or volunteer on the Programme Committee

Reach out to RIPE: write for RIPE Labs: https://labs.ripe.net

- Join smaller events organised by RIPE NCC
 - Regional meetings / Training courses & on-line education / Hackathons

Quantum Internet Hackathon 2022

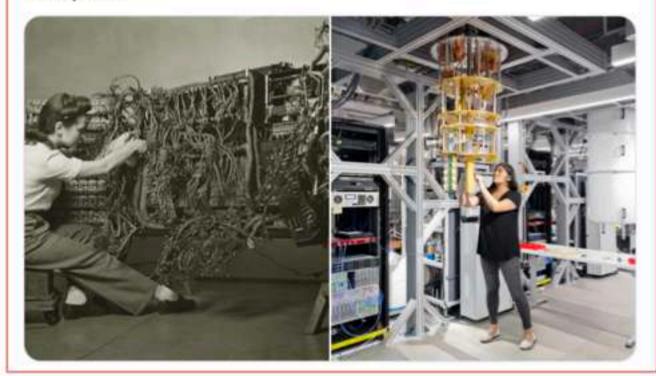


1-2 December, online & in 6 locations

- Amsterdam, Dublin, Padua,
 Poznan, Tashkent, Sarajevo
- https://labs.ripe.net/author/ karla-white/take-part-in-thequantum-internethackathon-2022/

Apply here

1958: An engineer wiring an early IBM computer 2021: An engineer wiring an early IBM quantum computer



RIPE Community Offers & Contributions

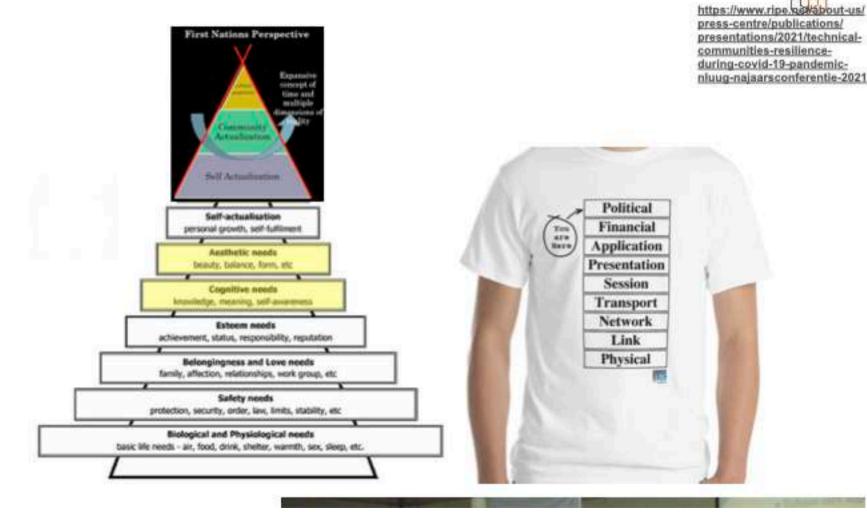


- Community Projects Fund: ripe.net/cpf
- Diversity & Inclusion @ our events
 - Paid childcare
 - RACI & Fellowship funding
 - Mentoring programme
 - Free (diversity) tickets for speakers
 - Code of Conduct & "Trusted Contacts" available
- Bottom-up power distribution: community self-governance



Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs <==> OSI Layers

https://www.netnod.se/blog/technical-communities-resilience-during-covid-19-pandemic



RIPE Community Resilience: "You Are Not Alone"



1. Physical Layer / Physiological Needs

1.1. Surviving, Self-care, Wellness, Mental Health

2. Data Link Layer / Safety Needs

2.1. Safety Net (Risks, Security, Absence of Harm)

3. Network Layer / Belonging Needs: Connection!

3.1.Isolation != Empathy, Emotions vs Feelings; Love <=> Grief

4. Transport Layer / Esteem Needs

4.1.Boundaries, Burnout, Doing Less

5. Session Layer / Cognitive Needs



- 5.1. Embrace Neurodiversity
- 6. Presentation Layer / Aesthetic Needs
 - 6.1.Art& Beauty; Climate Chaos; Nature is Healing; We belong to Circles
- 7. Application Layer / Need for (self) Actualisation
 - 7.1. Web of Interconnections vs Privilege
- 8. Financial /Need for Contribution & Community Actualizatio
 - 8.1. Economy of Care, Alternatives to Capitalism, Resisting Inequalities
- 9. Political /Need for Transcendence & Cultural Perpetuity
 - 9.1. "Each society has the Internet they deserve"



https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/building-bridges-between-diverse-communities-at-ripe-85/







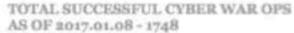
Extra Slides



Squirrels

Animals Against Technology

 https://wiki.techinc.nl/ Hackers_tribes#Other_animals_against_ Technology





Agent	Success
Squirrel	879
Bird	434
Snake	83
Raccoon	72
Rat	36
Marten	22
China	0
Russia	0*
USA	1









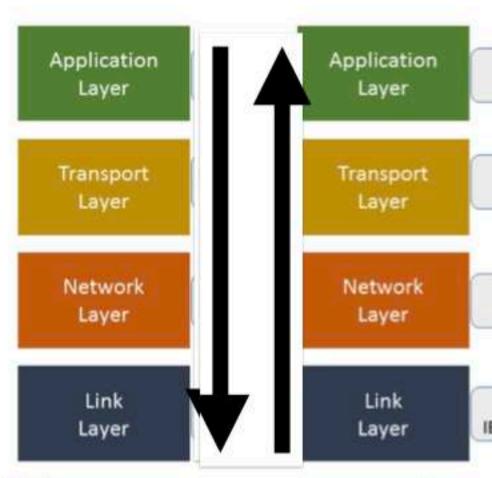
NVC: Language of Life



Practice: NVC Dance Floors







Links to NVC in Tech

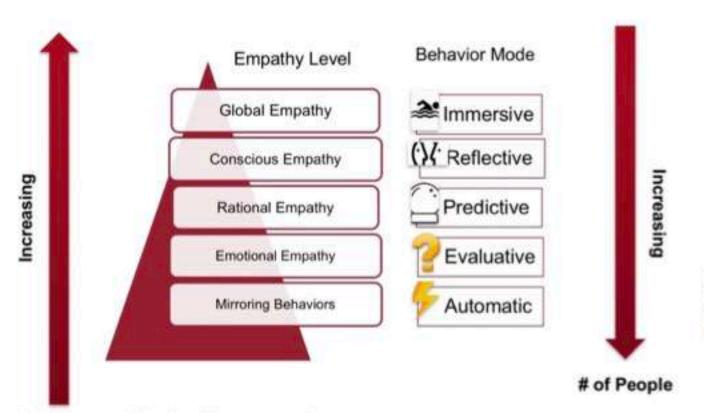
- Building Compassionate Communities in Tech
 - NodeConf EU 2013 ,Isaac Z Schlueter
- "Guide to Empathetic Technical Leadership" by Alex Harms
 - FREE to read online: https://leanpub.com/littleguide/read
- Conference "Open Source and Feelings" (#OSSfeel)
 - "NVC for Fun, Profit, and Self Defense."
- The empathy in tech https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PuLi3Uegn9g
- Two blog posts for Agile teams: <u>link1</u> & <u>link2</u>
- NVC++ https://wiki.techinc.nl/Hackers_tribes#NVC.2B.2B

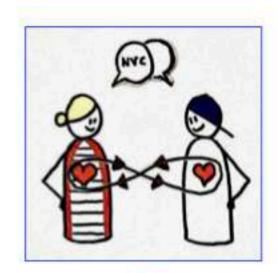
The Internet of Empathy

- From: "To Our Friends" by The Invisible Committee
 - https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/our-friends
- Positive freedom of connectivity, interaction and involvement
 - Instead of libertarian "freedom" as independence and self reliance
- This freedom comes together with greater responsibility
- "the intrinsic value of a network does not lie in the sovereignty and independence of its nodes, but in their connectedness,"
- "Empathy is willingness to engage with the Other, and willingness to enrich network with our contributions"

NVC = empathy & honesty

Levels of Empathy/Social Behavior Coupling







Gift Economics is based in what Marshall Rosenberg called "natural giving" – when human beings give and receive freely out of our intrinsic desire to contribute to one another.

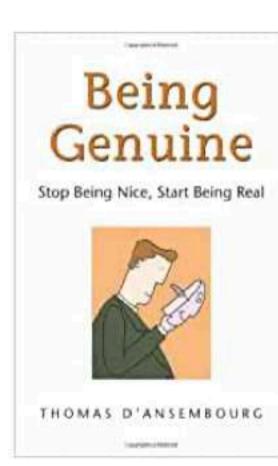
https://wiki.techinc.nl/Hac

Spatial, Temporal Scales, Resources, Energy

Learn NVC (NonViolent Communication)



- https://nvctraining.com
- "Our survival as a species depends on our ability to recognize that our well-being and the well-being of others are in fact one and the same." – Dr. Marshall Rosenberg"
- "We recognize that the pain is deep and that much aid will be needed now, and in the future to support ongoing healing for all parties, Ukrainian, Russian, and others."
- https://www.connecting2life.net, https://cupofempathy.com, https://mirjamschulpen.nl/en/home/



Quote by Marshal Rosenberg

For about 10.000 yers over most of our planet people have been operating according to, what I call, domination structures, structures in which some people claim to be superiors and have the right to control others because they know what's best.

Some of these people called themselves kings, tzars... It's very important for their structures to (be able to) sustain themselves, for people to be educated to be obedient to them.

So how do you educate people to be submissive and obedient?

You need to teach them a language in which they get disconnected from their own power and look outward to authority to guide how are they meant to live.

To do this requires a language that is static, that describes what people *are*, whether they are "good" or "bad", right or wrong, normal or abnormal...

So, to maintain domination structures, a core component is to educate people with such static language, that uses the verb "to be" in ways that judges people: their behavior, their appearance, their intelligence;

and in addition to this language that i call "a language of domination", it's also important to teach people **retributive justice**: retributive justice basically implies that if you are judged as bad by the authorities, you deserve to suffer for it, to receive punishment and if you are positively judged by authorities as good, then you deserve to be rewarded.

This is at the heart of violence on our planet.

Additional Links



- https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/ripe-community-resilience-economy-of-care/
- https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/data-feminism-from-data-ethics-to-data-justice/
- https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/computing-within-limits-2022-event-wrap/
- https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/ripe-community-resilience-every-society-has-the-internet-they-deserve
- https://labs.ripe.net/author/becha/ripe-community-resilience-nature-is-healing/
- https://irtf.org/gaia
- https://zenodo.org/record/7047049#.YzGNcy0RqgA (The Role of Life Scientists in the Biospheric Emergency)
- https://wiki.techinc.nl/Hackers tribes#Other animals against Technology
- https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jevons_paradox
- https://archive.org/details/being-genuine-stop-being-nice-start-being-real-2/page/n11/mode/2up
- https://UnCiv.nl

More Presentations

- https://www.ripe.net/about-us/press-centre/ publications/presentations/2022/the-resilienceof-the-internet-in-ukraine-ietf-113
- https://www.ripe.net/about-us/press-centre/ publications/presentations/2021/technicalcommunities-resilience-during-covid-19pandemic-nluug-najaarsconferentie-2021
- https://www.ripe.net/about-us/press-centre/ publications/presentations/2020/ripe-ncc-toolsand-services-an-update-denog-10