

CALL FOR PAPERS

DIGITAL ENLIGHTENMENT FORUM YEARBOOK 2014

SOCIAL NETWORKS AND SOCIAL MACHINES, SURVEILLANCE AND EMPOWERMENT

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DIGITAL ENLIGHTENMENT FORUM VZW, established in Belgium, aims to shed light on today's rapid technological changes and their impact on society and its governance. The FORUM stimulates debate and provides guidance on these issues, taking inspiration from Enlightenment thought as well as from transformations and evolutions that have taken place since. It examines digital technologies and their application openly with essential societal values in mind. Such values might assume novel forms taking advantage of both today's knowledge and unprecedented access to information. See: <http://www.digitalenlightenment.org/> for further information.

The DEF Yearbook 2014 is its third annual volume, and will explore "Social networks and social machines, surveillance and empowerment." Different stakeholders in society and different scientific communities (technology, law, philosophy, sociology, economics, policymakers) will have very different opinions and perspectives on this topic. Our intention in this volume is to bring together these different perspectives to help form a basis for inspiring and constructive discussions across disciplines.

The growth of online social networking is a key part of the recent history of the Web, from the launch of invitation-only SixDegrees.com in 1997, to the position of Facebook on its 10th anniversary, with over a billion active users and a market capitalisation of \$134bn. On these mediated interaction platforms, users enjoy the benefits of community networking supported by an information infrastructure, and often willingly accept these benefits without being fully aware of the risks of surveillance, invasions of privacy, unconstrained data mining, data and identity breaches, and being haunted by the permanence of the various records maintained and increasingly shared by data intermediaries.

However, as these debates unfold, with stronger claims being made about the monetary and non-monetary benefits and costs of data volunteering and sharing, users' calculations of utility are becoming less tractable, and the struggle to maintain democratic protections and other stakeholder expectations more complex and pressing. Sensitivity is increasing with awareness. Recent events such as the delayed roll-out of the care.data healthcare data-sharing initiative in the United Kingdom (where ideas about privacy have traditionally been relatively relaxed) indicate how attitudes appear to be changing.

At the same time, emergent and collective problem-solving at scale on the Web, driven by increasing availability of data and powerful data-handling tools (exemplified by Wikipedia, Ushahidi and Galaxy Zoo) is empowering many individuals and communities to identify and solve their own problems,

harnessing collective commitment, local knowledge and embedded skills. They are able to leverage their social networks (often with the help of social networking tools) without having to rely on remote experts or governments. This promises to bring about Tim Berners-Lee's vision of using computers "to create abstract social machines on the Web: processes in which the people do the creative work and the machine does the administration." Such social machines have a great deal of potential, but they will depend crucially on the willingness of participants to trust their peers and continue volunteering data into systems that provide appropriate services.

However, Edward Snowden's revelations (and other instances of promiscuous data-sharing practices) have shown how intimate the relationships can grow between governments and other large institutions, and how thin the technical and legal protections of individual autonomy now seem. The level of sharing, and the historically large information differentials created between individuals and the institutions that they rely upon, threatens trust. The free flow of data at scale is jeopardised by citizens' mistrust of data ecosystems in reaction to industrial-scale surveillance and by the potential for an over-vigorous regulatory response (for instance, with regard to the ongoing negotiations surrounding the EU's revised Data Protection Directive, and any national legislation that may follow). A general reaction against surveillance threatens the services such networking sites provide (and other digital services in general). Though these services will remain in demand, the business models of the companies that run them may be affected by changes in the law, for instance, restricting their ability to move data across borders, amalgamate datasets, preserve data for long periods of time, or craft permissive privacy policies.

The scenarios of individual/community empowerment and effective surveillance are not mutually exclusive. Yet it remains a research question as to how far it is possible to have the empowerment benefit without the surveillance cost, and how this dynamic balance is affected by context. The Digital Enlightenment Yearbook of 2014 will gather together the science, social science, law and politics of this new environment in order to enable us to reformulate and address this and related pressing questions.

The Yearbook 2014 will consist of peer-reviewed chapters, of 4000-8000 words each. Articles should relate to the yearbook's theme of "Social networks and social machines, surveillance and empowerment," and may cover topics that reflect the ethical, creative, legal, economic or monetary issues of people's use of social networks.

Relevant themes include, but are not restricted to:

- Advertising, marketing and the economics of social networking
- Big data and privacy
- Citizen empowerment
- Contextual integrity
- Cross-jurisdictional data protection and privacy comparisons
- Data protection, including recent discussions on the EU Data Protection Directive
- De-identification and re-identification processes and implications
- Economics of data and privacy

- Edward Snowden's revelations about commercial companies
- Fundamental rights to privacy, and their alienation by consumers
- Identity management, including federated identity, anonymity and pseudonymity.
- Informational self-determination
- Internet infrastructure
- Monetisation of personal data
- The networked self
- Personal data systems, and personal information management
- Personal identity
- Privacy by design
- Privacy enhancing technologies
- Public attitudes to privacy in social networks
- Security technology
- Social machines
- Social networking
- Sociological impact of data
- Surveillance
- Trust in the Internet

Although the chapters will undergo a peer-review process, the editors welcome not only traditional academic research papers, but also reports of practical advances (e.g. new business models, architectures or policy considerations), survey papers and well-informed 'manifestos'. Authors may be scientists, social scientists, technologists, entrepreneurs or policymakers. However, each chapter must be written in a style and manner intended to reach as wide an audience as possible.

To submit a chapter to the DEF Yearbook 2014, please email an extended abstract, of NO MORE than 2 pages, to the editors at def-editors@ecs.soton.ac.uk, by 15th May, 2014, stating whether the paper is intended as a research paper, practical advance, survey or manifesto.

If the abstract is acceptable, a full submission will be solicited by 7th July. Acceptance of the full paper is conditional on peer review. The abstract can be in any appropriate format, but the full paper must use the IOS Press guidelines (Latex and Word templates) available at <http://www.iospress.nl/service/authors/latex-and-word-tools-for-book-authors/>.

Key dates:

- First deadline: extended abstract 15th May 2014
- Decision on acceptance conditional on review 1st June
- Second deadline: full paper 7th July
- Review decision 4th August
- Third deadline: camera-ready copy 28th August