



# Caring for the Planet while Creating Feminist Internet



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# Imagine a FeministInternet.org



# Imagine a Feminist Society

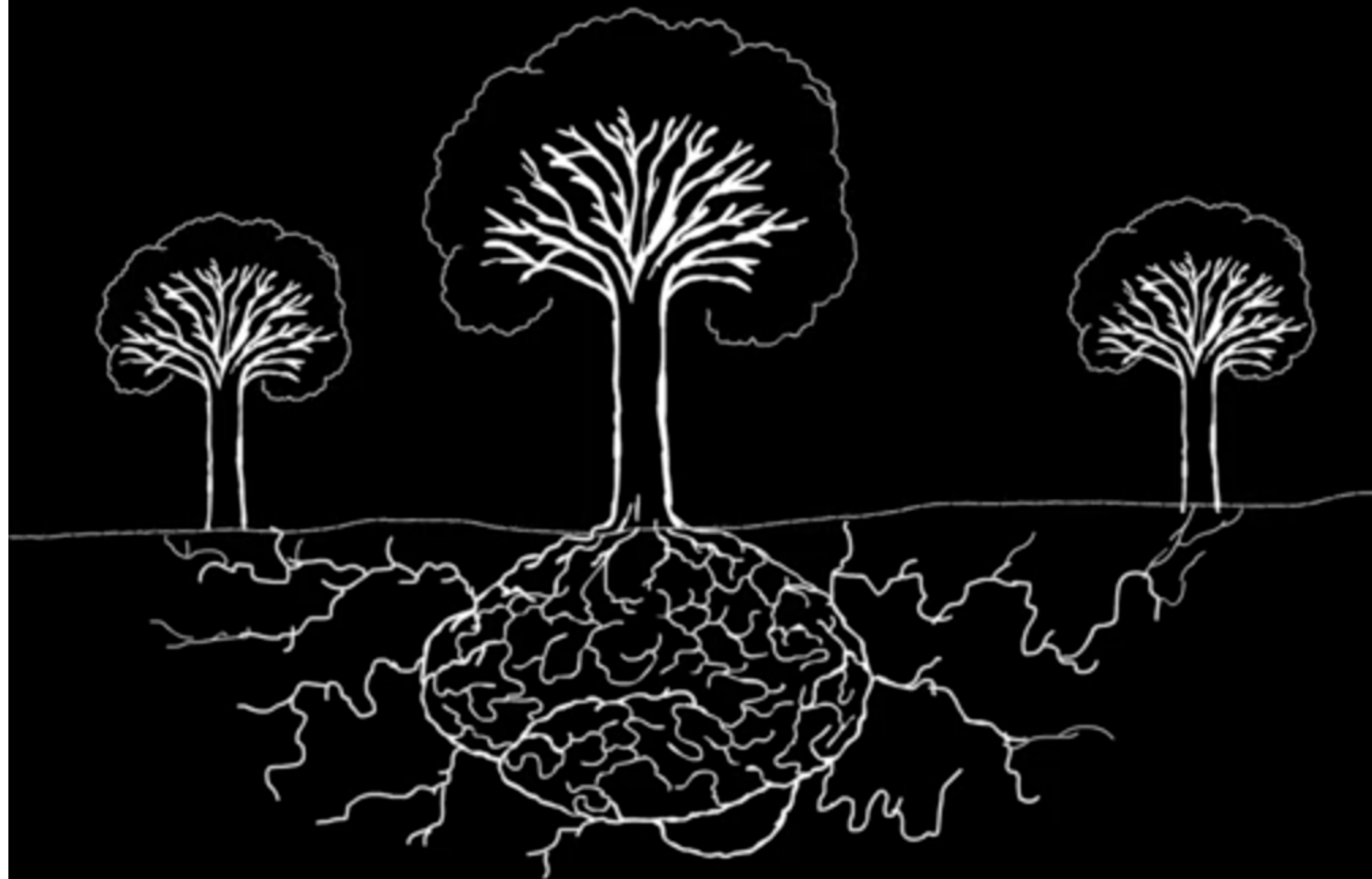
- a society predominantly concerned with maintaining its existence (*and not endlessly expanding*)
- a society with a modest standard of living,
- conservative of natural resources,
- with a low constant fertility rate and
- a political life based upon consent;
- a society that has made a successful adaptation to its environment
- and has learned to live without destroying itself or the people (*or squirrels*) next door.
- ***Ursula Le Guin, “A Non-Euclidean View of California as a Cold Place to Be” (1989)***



Imagine If Trees Gave Off  
Wifi Signals, We Would  
Be Planting So Many Trees  
And We'd Probably Save  
The Planet Too.



Too Bad They  
Only Produce The  
Oxygen We  
Breathe.







# Internet Plumbing

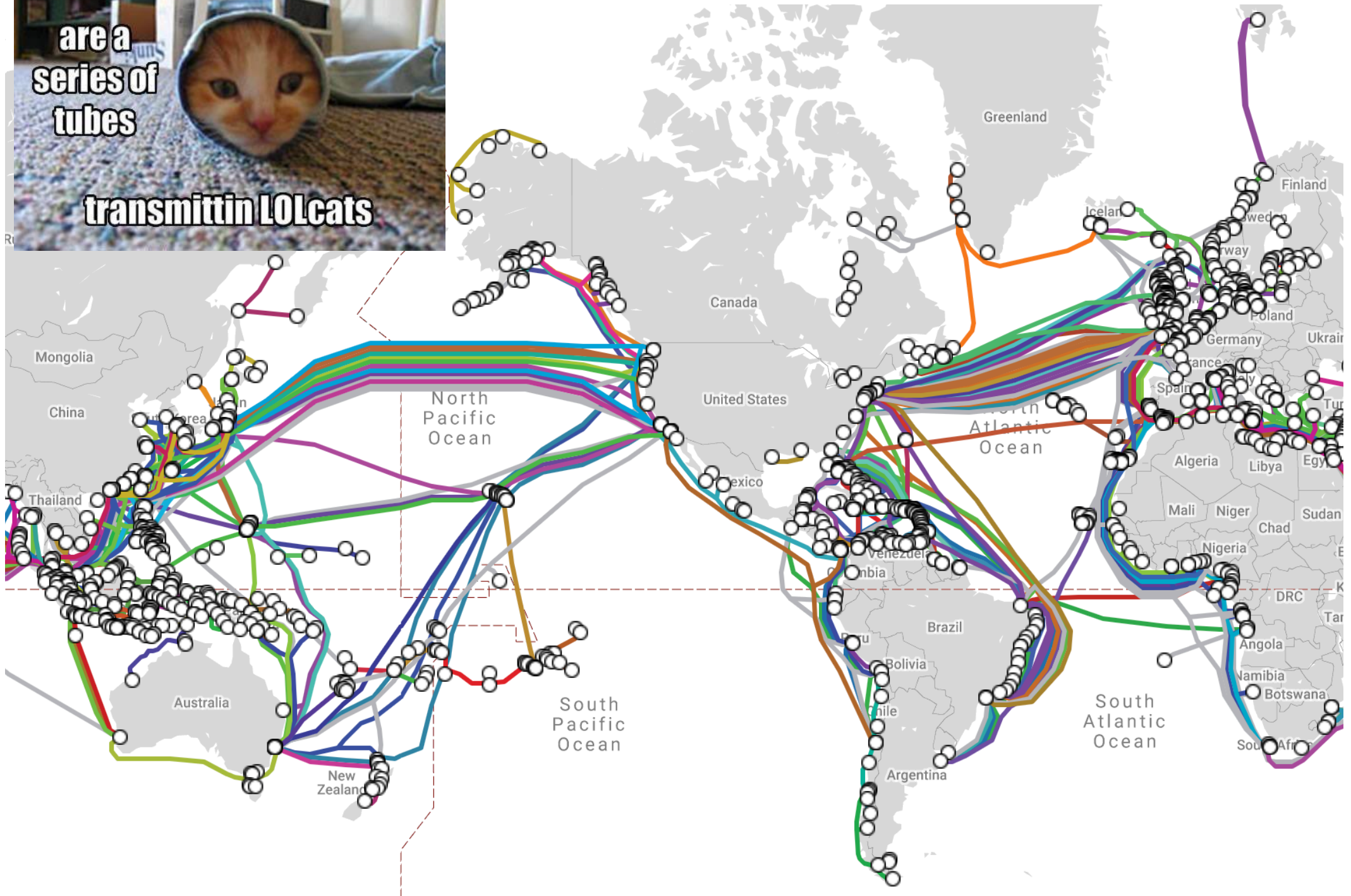
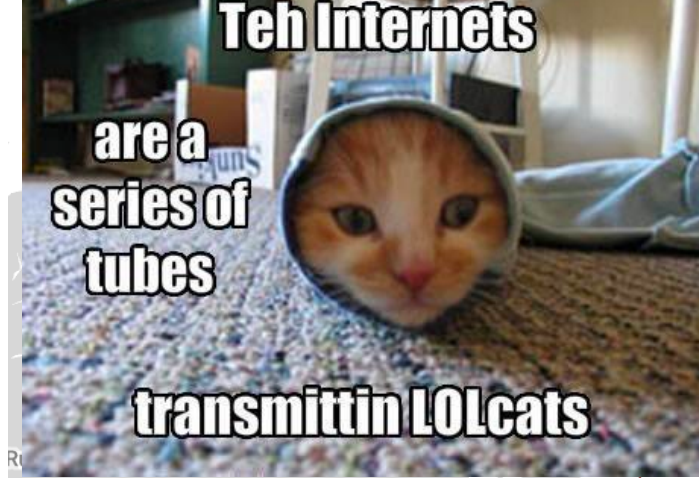
***<https://wiki.techinc.nl/User:Becha/InternetPlumbing>***



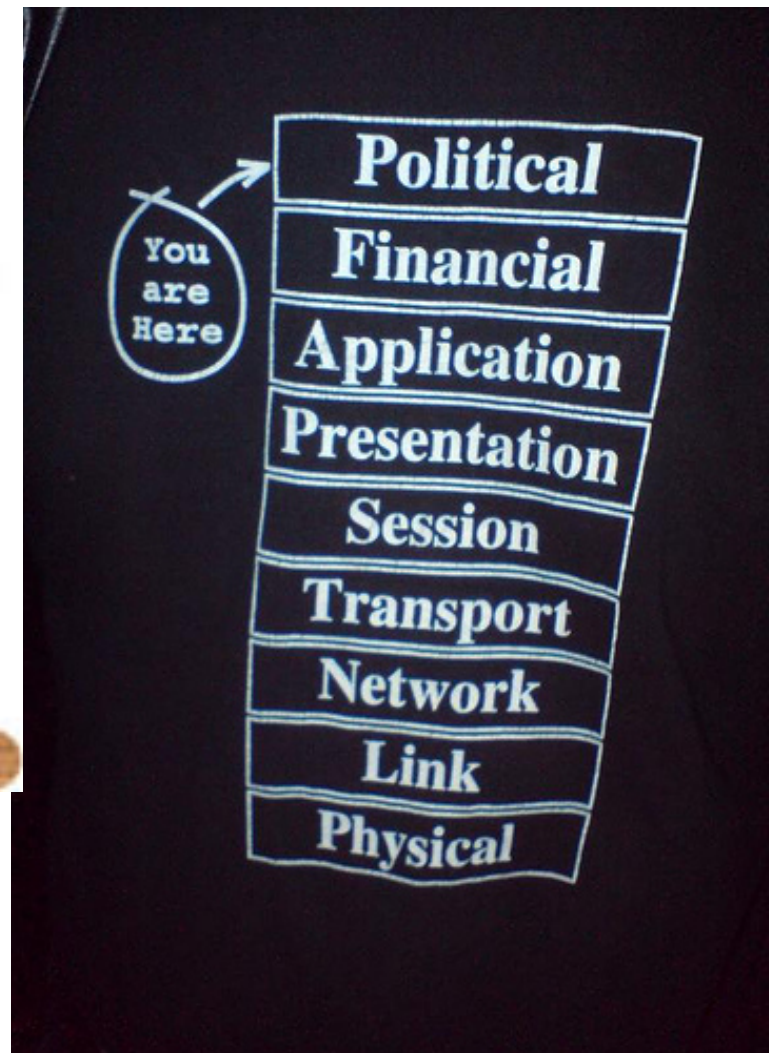
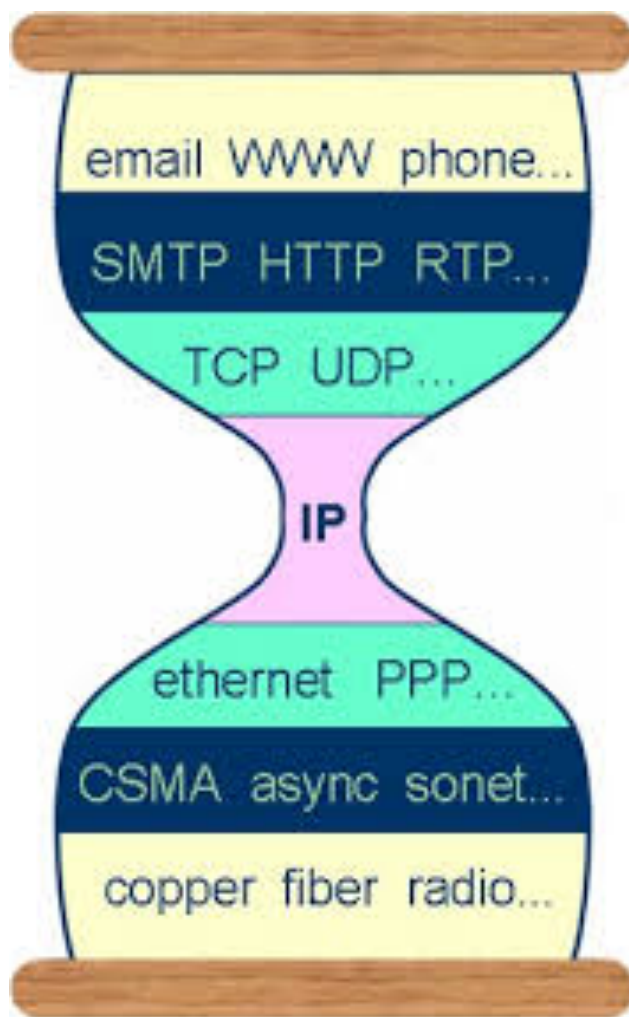
**Teh Internets**

**are a  
series of  
tubes**

**transmittin LOLcats**







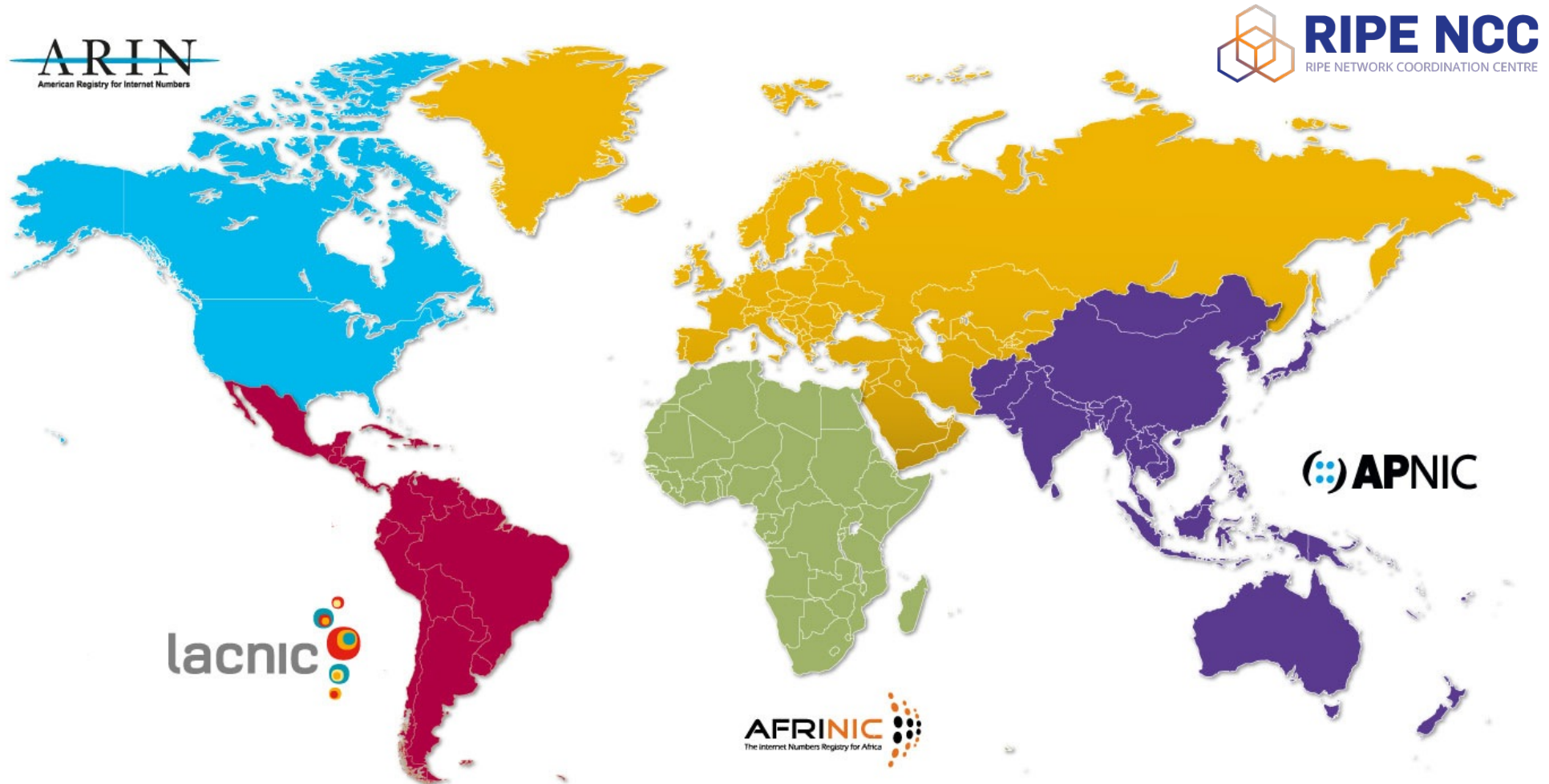
Ethernet

IP

TCP

data

# Where do IP addresses come from?



# RIPE Community: Working Groups

- Anyone can join the discussion & do the work
  - on “mailing lists” & web-forum
  - at the RIPE meetings In Real Life
  - through “remote participation”
- Read and / or subscribe
  - <https://www.ripe.net/participate/ripe/wg>

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Address Policy Working Group

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Anti-Abuse Working Group

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Connect Working Group

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Cooperation Working Group

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Database Working Group

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DNS Working Group

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Internet of Things Working Group

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IPv6 Working Group

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MAT Working Group

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Open Source Working Group

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RIPE NCC Services Working Group

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Routing Working Group

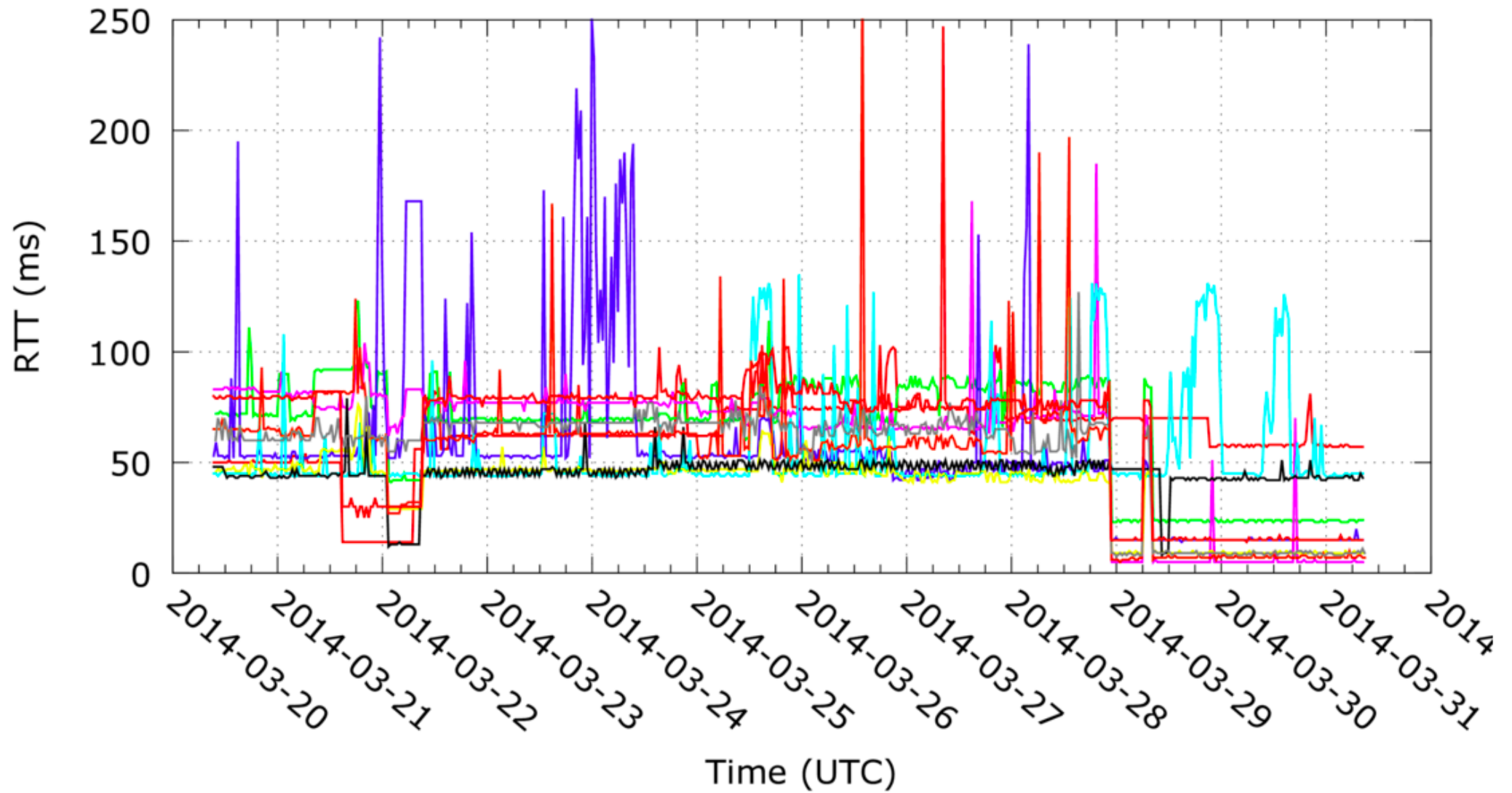
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# RIPE Atlas



Latency to 8.8.8.8 from RIPE Atlas probes in Turkey







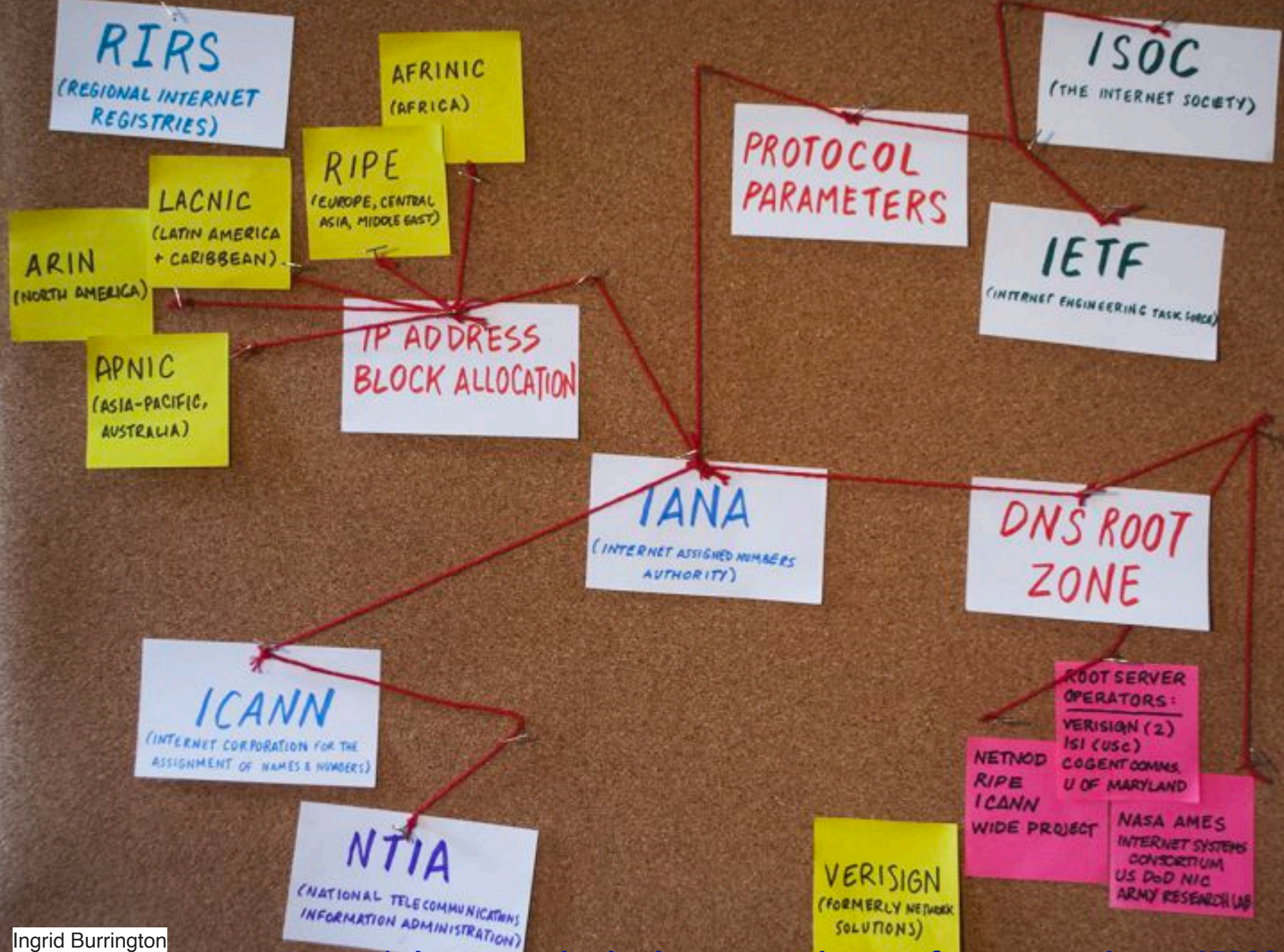
## Ethics, Human Rights Considerations & atlas.ripe.net

- Right to security (safety)
- Right to political participation
- Right to non-discrimination
- Right to freedom of expression
- Right to education

***IETF: RFC8280***

- Personal data not revealed
- No passive measurements
- No HTTP measurements
- “Gratis” devices & SW probes
- Consenting volunteers
- Existence of “non-public” measurements
- Data, API, source code, tools: **free and open**





# IETF / IAB; IPPR and Data Commons

- Internet Engineering Task Force
- Internet Architecture Board
- RFC8890: “The Internet is For End Users”
- “The Internet is for Empowerment of End Users”
- Institute for Public Policy Research: “Creating Digital Commons”
- “Governing Internet Infrastructure as Commons”



# Data Feminism

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

<https://data-feminism.mitpress.mit.edu/>



# 2017: (ACM) SIGPLAN & Climate

- “Engaging with Climate Change: Possible Steps for (ACM) SIGPLAN”
  - Association for Computing Machinery
  - Special Interest Group on Programming Languages
- “a clear responsibility to understand and explore ways of reducing the costs of its conference-focused approach to promoting exchange of ideas”
- <https://www.sigplan.org/Resources/Climate/>



LIMITS 2020 -- Workshop on C x

computingwithinlimits.org/2020/

**LIMITS 2020**

Sixth Workshop on Computing within Limits  
Distributed Workshop: USC, Los Angeles & University of Bristol, UK  
21-22 June 2020

Call for issues | EuroDIG

euroidig.org/index.php?id=110&no\_cache=1&tx\_cpsproposals...

## Overarching theme for EuroDIG 2020

The overarching theme for EuroDIG 2020 is:  
**“Towards a sustainable governance of the Internet”** – and is aligning with the themes

re:publica 20 MAY 6–8 2020 STATION BERLIN

Contact Deutsch back to re-publica.com

## "As Sustainable as Possible"

tweet share share share share

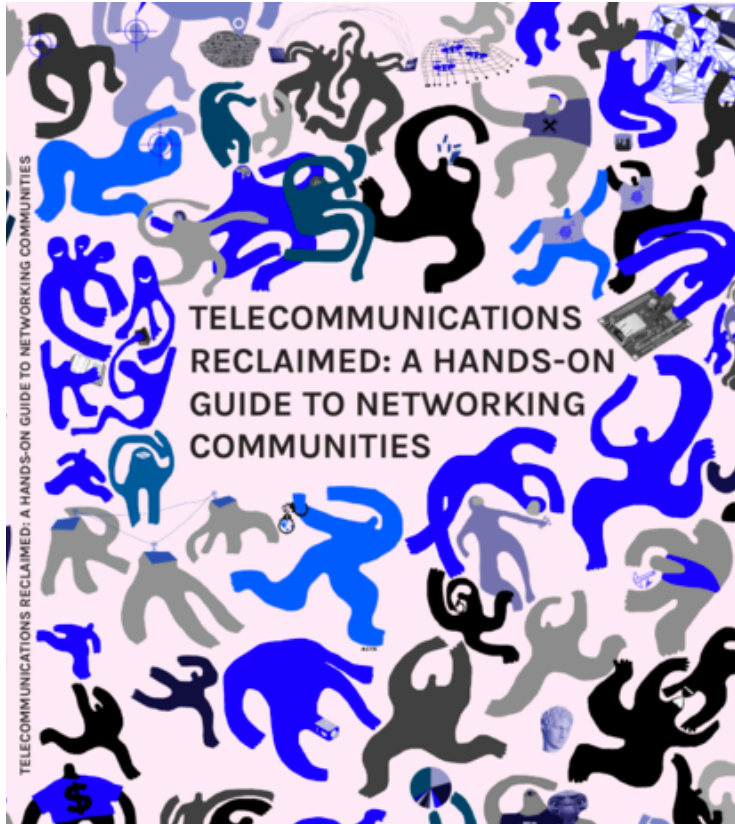
# SUSTAINABILITY

# IGF 2020 Sustainable Internet Governance & IRPC

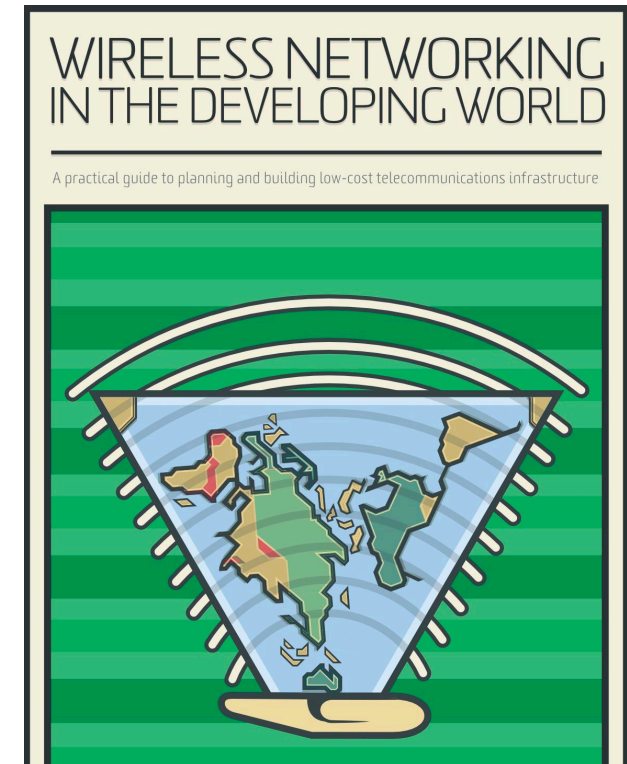


Article 4 c++ “Usage of the Internet for the protection of the environment  
MUST BE balanced with  
protecting the environment \*from\* the **growth of the Internet**”.

# Alternative Networks/Mesh/Commons



- (GAIA) Global Access to the Internet for All
- RFC7962: alt.net
- <https://wiki.techinc.nl/MeshNet>
- Free books:
  - <- Book
  - Book ->



# **Hacking (and) Internet Governance (and) Feminism**



<https://labs.ripe.net/hackathons>



**RIPE ATLAS HACKATHON:**



**MOST FUN I HAD AT RIPE  
SINCE CANALS FROZE**

memes.com

**AUTOMATE ALL THE THINGS**

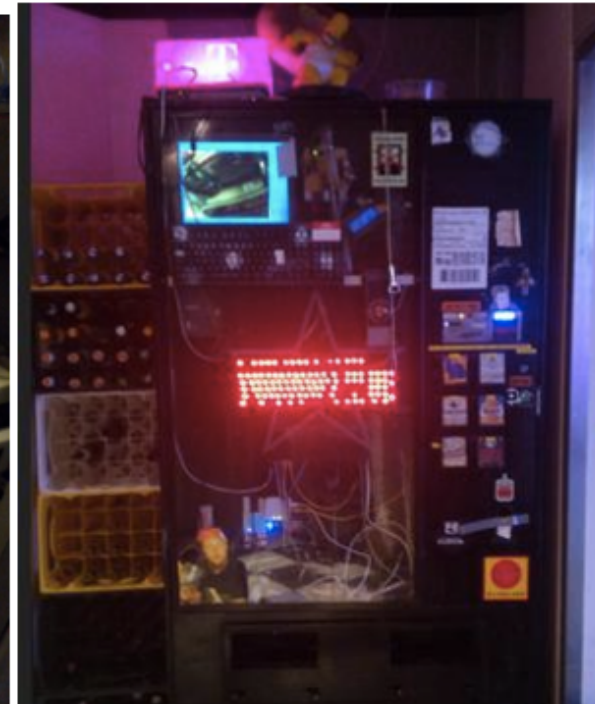


**IXP HACKATHON RIPE73**

memegenerator.net



# RIPE Atlas Probes at hackerspaces





# The Internet as socio-technical system...

“... is technically designed and mediated by a relatively homogeneous group (technical, highly educated, male, Caucasian, from economically developed countries), where design decisions likely embody the **ethic** (and **biases**) of these groups.”



“Philosophy Meets Internet Engineering: Ethics in Networked Systems Research” <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2666934>

## 2. How to get more women in tech?

1. Be explicit and inviting
2. Role Models
3. Talk about this issue
4. Create spaces for women
5. More women in tech → more women in tech!

"When you're accustomed to privilege, equality feels like oppression"

AFRO  
PUNK

### Female Conference Speaker

B	I	N	G	O
Women just aren't interested in this field	There aren't enough qualified female speakers	We need big-name speakers, and few of those are women	It's a male-dominated field	There aren't a lot of women in C-level positions
Both women we called were booked that weekend	Both women we booked bailed at the last minute	All the women were probably busy	Female speakers are always burnt out from speaking so much	Trying to get more female speakers is sexist
The organizers just wanted to get the best speakers they could find	You can't kick out a male speaker just to fit a woman in there	FREE	You can't shoehorn in a woman where she doesn't fit	Women never volunteer to present
You have to be bold; people aren't just going to invite you to present	Women are shy	Women only ever want to talk about woman-stuff	Women need to act more like men	No one has complained about this before
Attendees want to hear from people like themselves	Well, there aren't that many female attendees, either	We're only responding to demand	Fine, YOU tell me who they should have invited	Who? I've never heard of her.





**MOTHERSHIP**  
**HACKER MOMS**

# Hacker ~~Ethic~~ Questions

- ~~Access to computers should be unlimited and total.~~ Who gets to use what I make? Who am I leaving out? How does what I make facilitate or hinder access?
- ~~All information should be free.~~ What data am I using? Whose labor produced it and what biases and assumptions are built into it? Why choose this particular phenomenon for digitization/transcription? What do the data leave out?
- ~~Mistrust authority—promote decentralization.~~ What systems of authority am I enacting through what I make? What systems of support do I rely on? How does what I make support other people?
- ~~Hackers should be judged by their hacking, not bogus criteria such as degrees, age, race or position.~~ What kind of community am I assuming? What community do I invite through what I make? How are my own personal values reflected in what I make?

# <http://linnytu.com/hacker>

linnytu.com/hacker

this is what a hacker looks  
like.

or is it?

the image of the white,  
male hacker in a hoodie is  
harmful and exclusive to  
people who don't fit that  
mold.

what if you could change  
that image?

lights

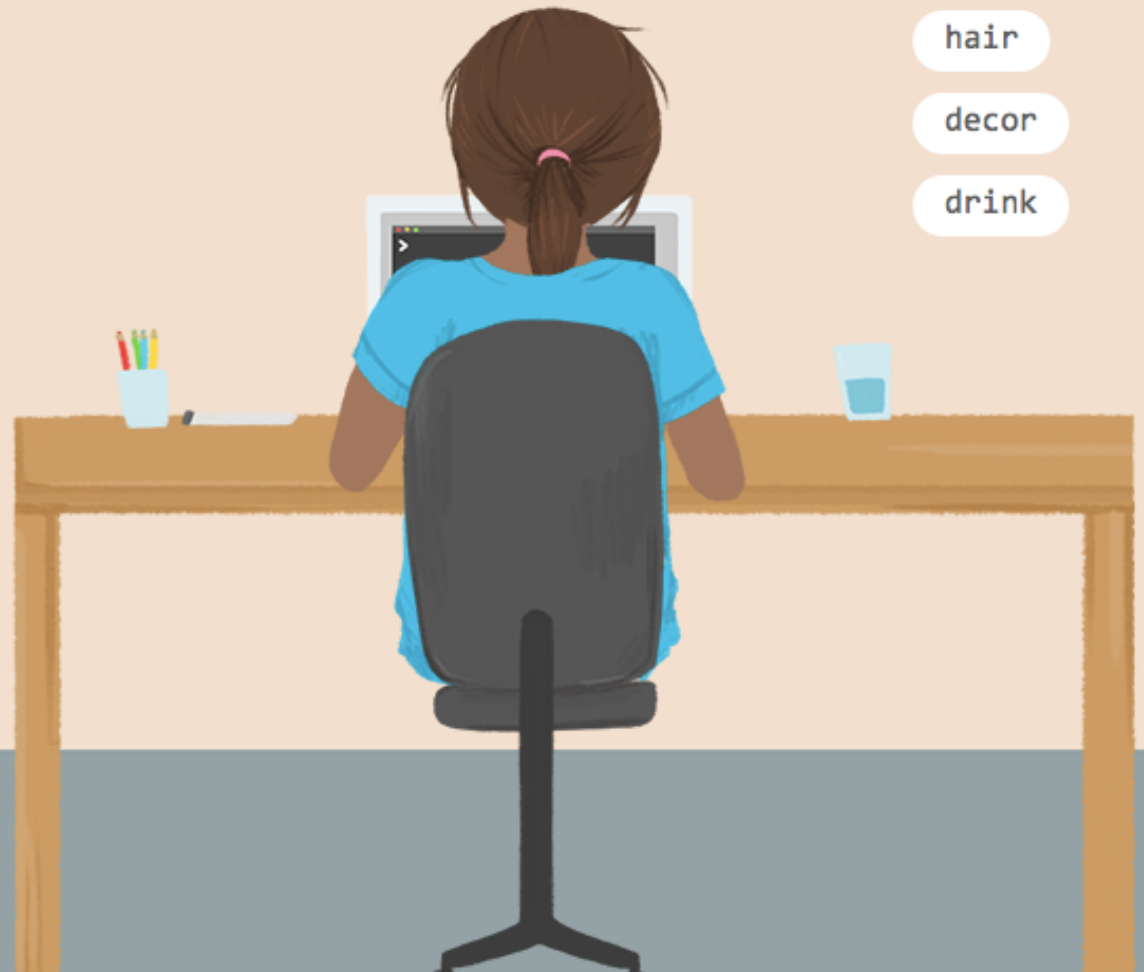
clothing

skin

hair

decor

drink



WITHOUT WOMEN  
COMPUTING AS WE KNOW IT  
WOULD NOT EXIST

ADA LOVELACE



INVENTOR OF  
SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING

HEDY LAMARR



INVENTOR OF WIFI  
BLUETOOTH & GPS

TOP SECRET ROSIES



THE WORLD'S FIRST  
COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS

GRACE HOPPER



WROTE THE FIRST  
COMPILER

WomenRockScience.tumblr.com



[https://wiki.techinc.nl/Ladies\\_Night#Role\\_models](https://wiki.techinc.nl/Ladies_Night#Role_models)



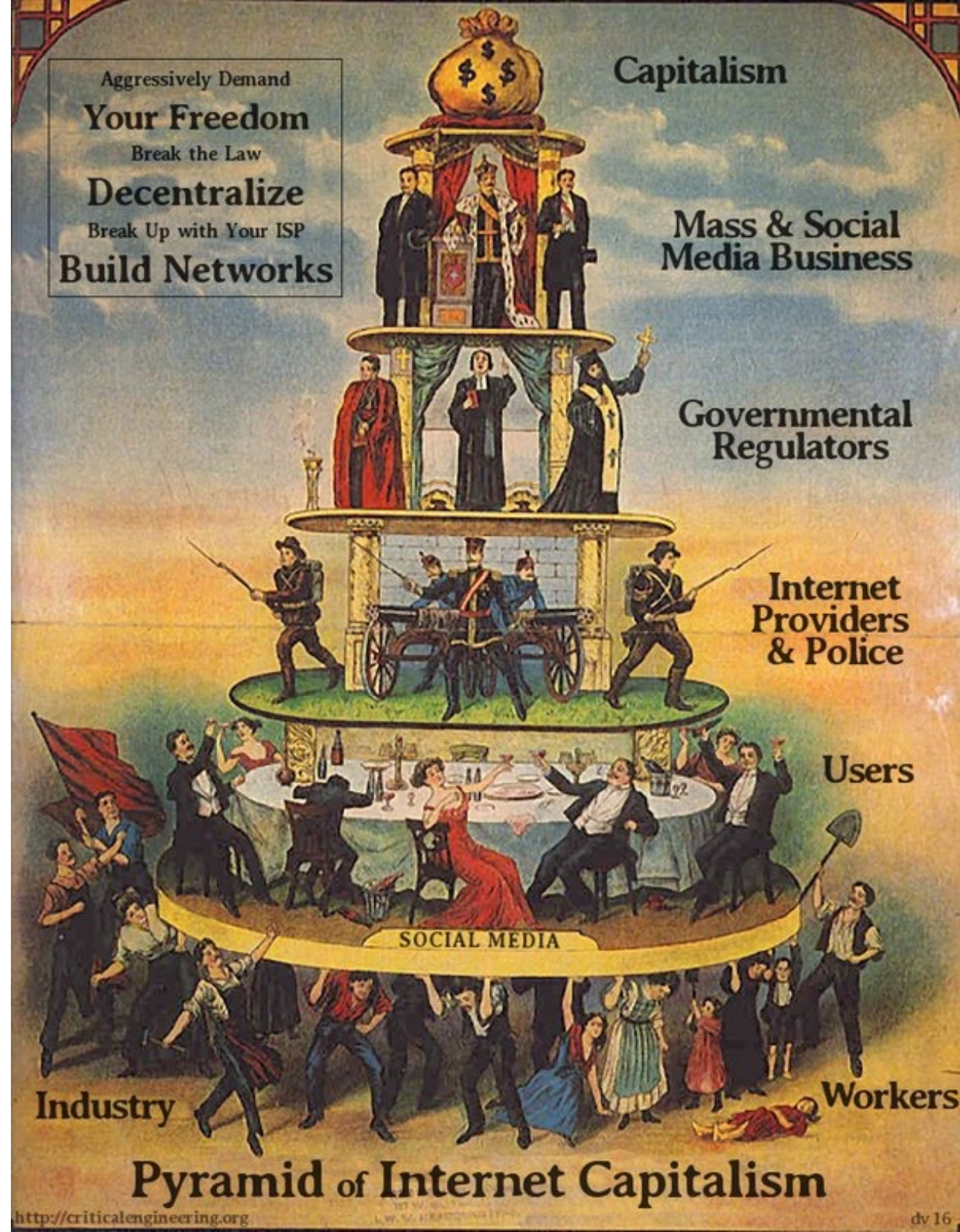
# Hacking Feminism!

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Consent .....
Response to sexual violence and community .....
accountability .....
Programming .....
Networking (protocols, packet distribution) ..
De-learn norms .....
Internet Governance .....
Break stuff .....
Amygdala hacks .....
Command line skills .....
Securing linux .....
Decolonising queerness & feminism .....
Poster making & spreading .....
Cryptography .....
Shoplifting .....
Gaming the system .....
Learn new tricks .....
TransHackFeminist! Convergence .....
Film/documentary nights .....
Open events for ally education .....
Anticop .....
Debate .....
Workshop .....
.....
.....
.....
https://wiki.laglab.org/Hacking Feminism .....

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# **Beyond Techno-Optimism**







📷 A child at the Agbogbloshie electronic waste dump in Ghana. Photograph: Andrew McConnell/Alamy





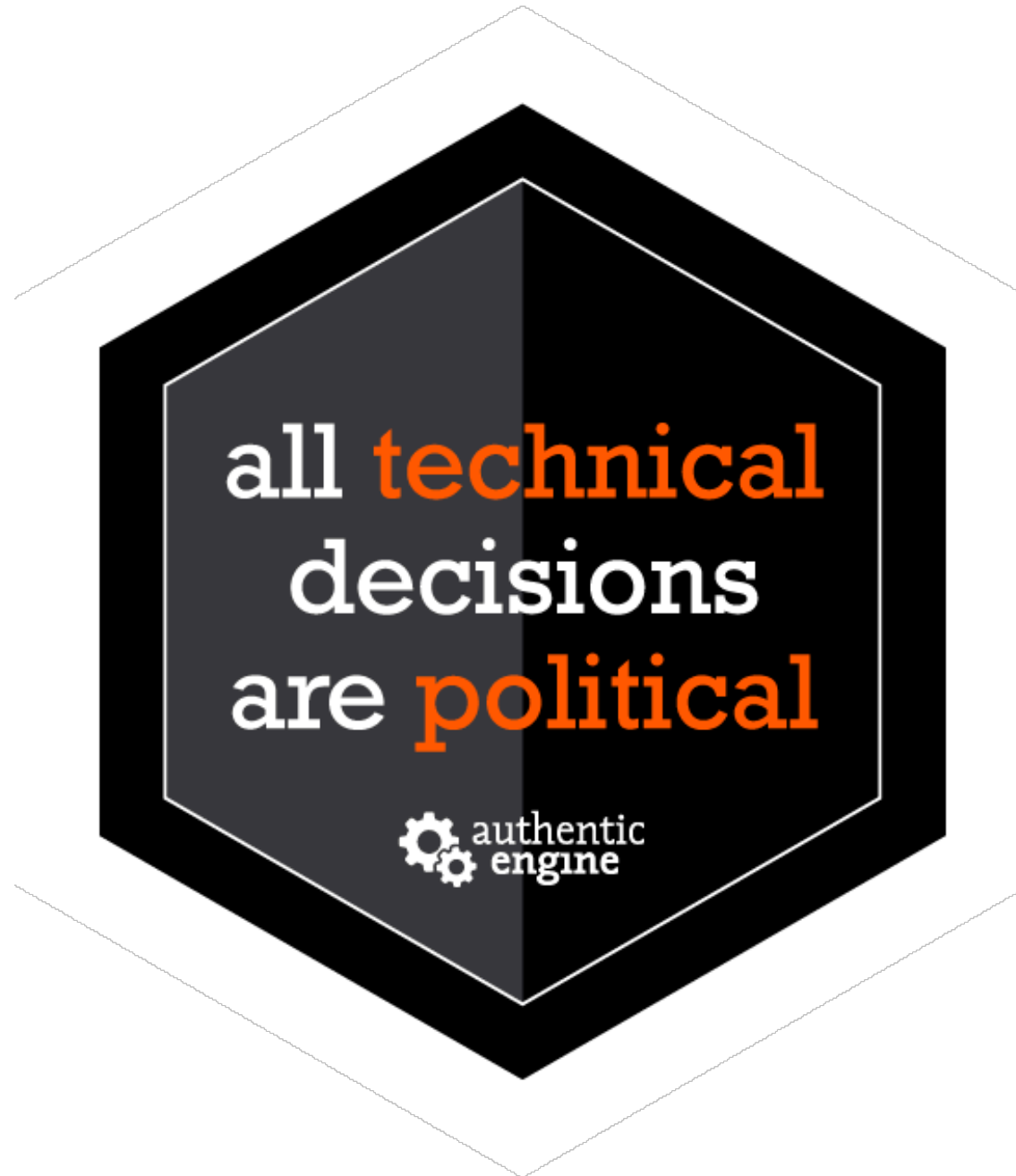


**A NATURAL PAIRING** A data center in Ashburn, Va., seen past a Dominion Virginia Power substation serving it. Worldwide, such centers use the rough equivalent of the output of 30 nuclear power plants.  
Brendan Smialowski for The New York Times



Child miner in Burkina Faso – PBS NewsHour





# Technical is Political

- “Technological ideas and technological things are **not** politically **neutral**: routinely, they have strong, built-in tendencies.” [r]
- “The machines, structures, and systems of modern material culture are (should be) judged for their:
  - contributions of efficiency and productivity,
  - positive and negative environmental side effects,
  - the ways in which they can embody specific forms of power and authority.” [art]



# Programming is Political

- Language is political
- Artefacts are political [art]
- Transcription / translation is political [p]
- Crypto is political [r]
- Code Is Politics [how]
- “The Personal is Political” [feminism]





With Great  
Power  
Comes  
Great  
Responsibility

# With great power...

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.<sup>210</sup>

- ... great responsibility
- to humanity...
- to the planet...
- and to squirrels!



# Squirrels Winning the Cyber-War ;-)

TOTAL SUCCESSFUL CYBER WAR OPS  
AS OF 2017.01.08 - 1748

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



- [https://wiki.techinc.nl/index.php/Hackers\\_tribes#Squirrels\\_against\\_technology](https://wiki.techinc.nl/index.php/Hackers_tribes#Squirrels_against_technology)



# Jellyfish Attack Nuclear Power-Station

- Reality: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/oct/01/jellyfish-clog-swedish-nuclear-reactor-shutdown>
- Fiction: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Swarm\\_\(novel\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Swarm_(novel))

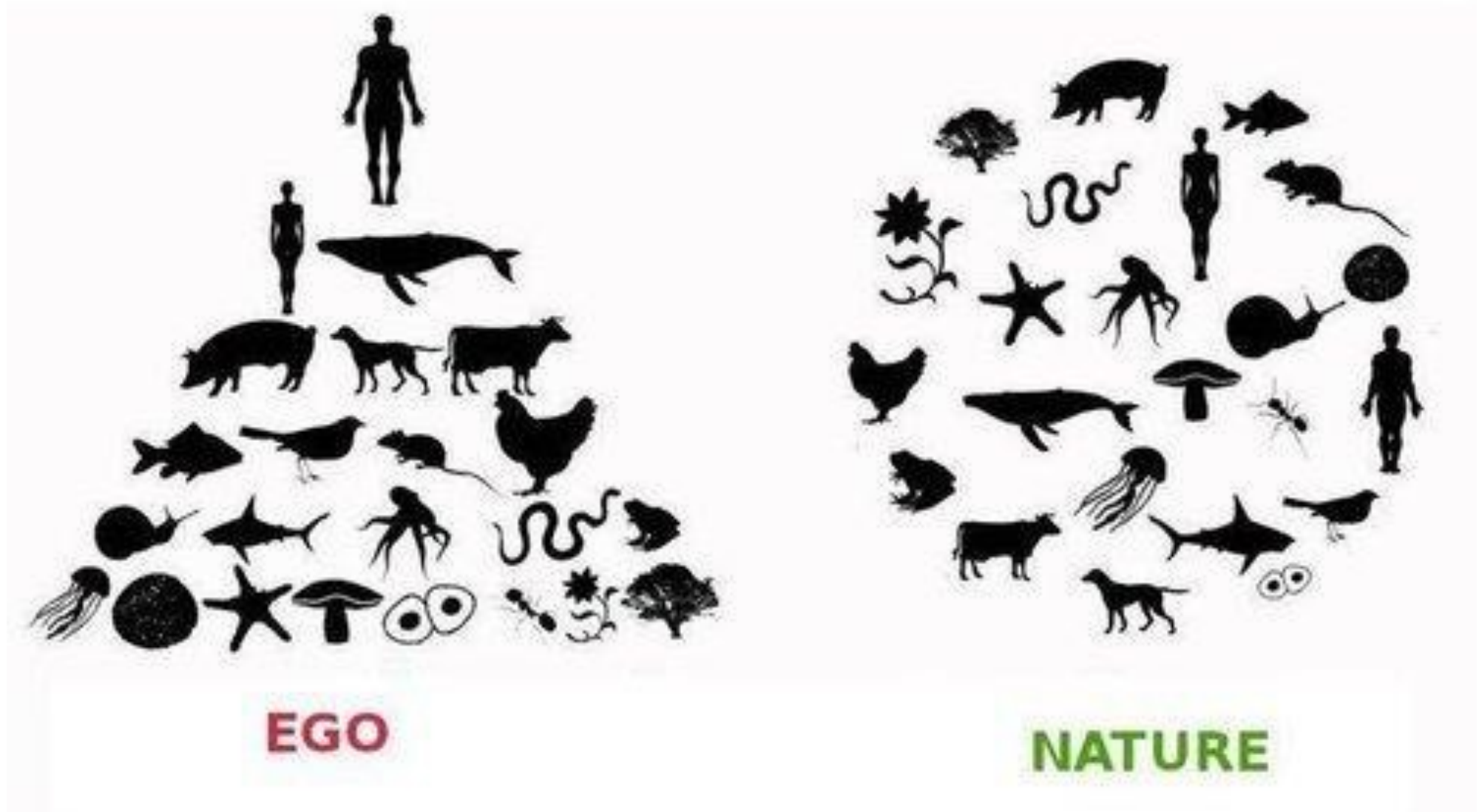
# OCTOPI WALL STREET



**Invertebrates are 97% of animal diversity!**

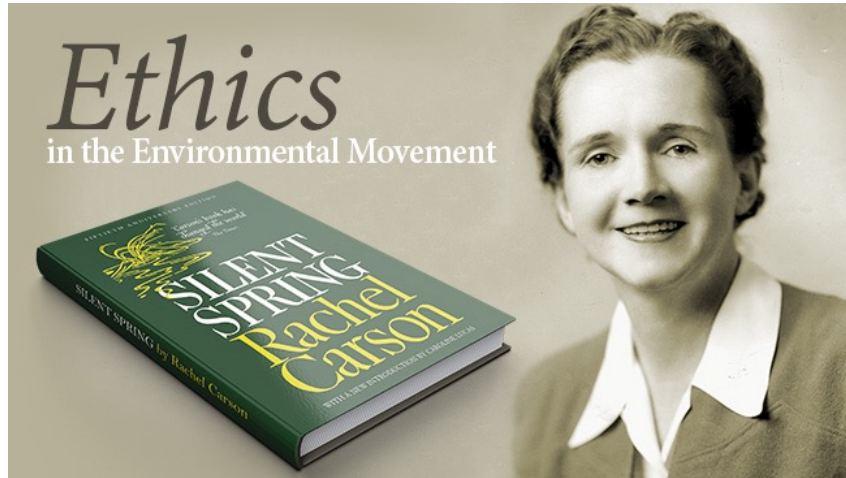
*Brought to you by Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, University of Oregon*

Right place and the right role in the symphony of life



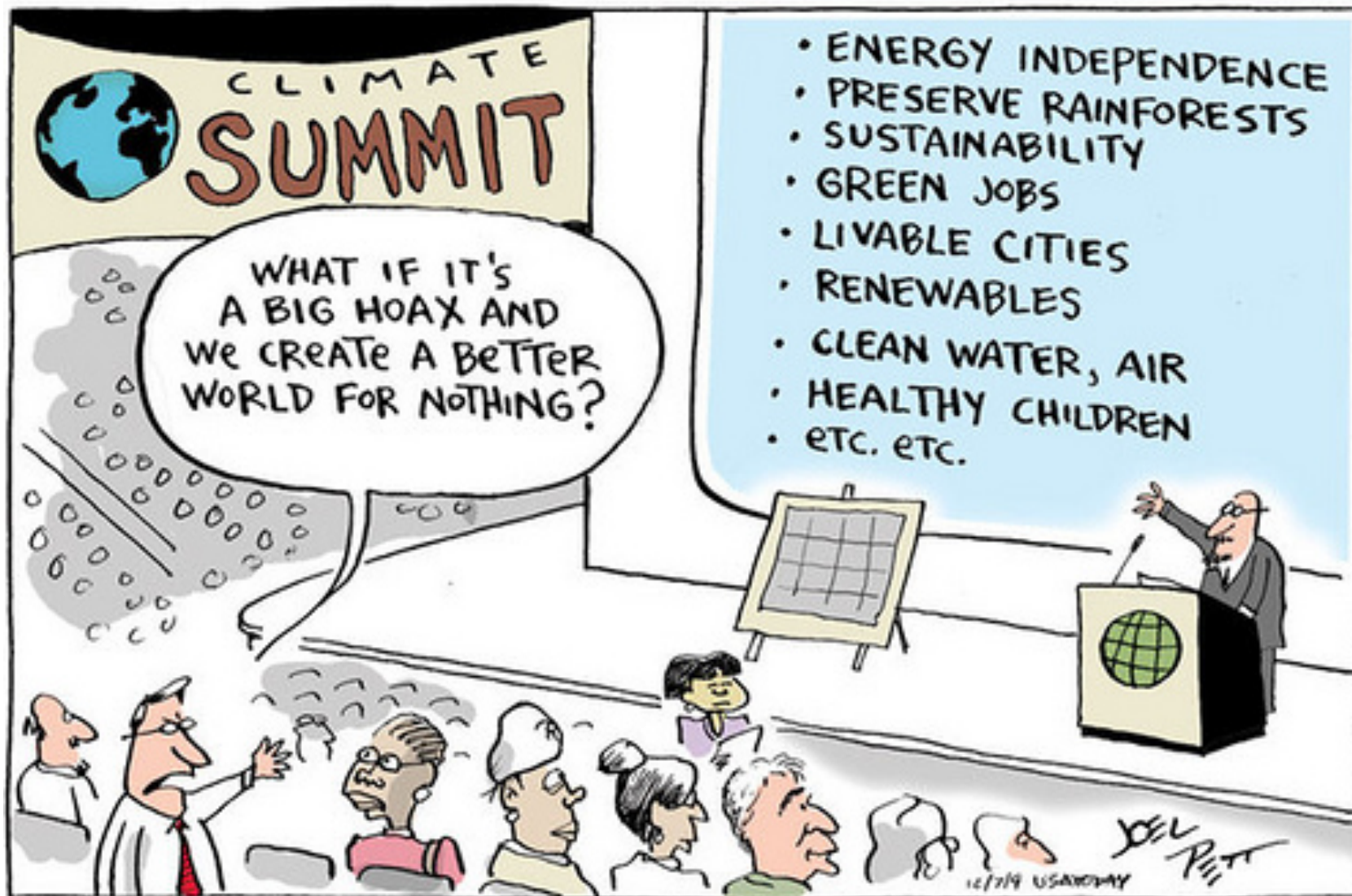
Mature cultures have found balance with Nature







# Let's Create a Better World!









# Further Reading

# Vesna's Writings

- <https://labs.ripe.net/Members/becha>
- <https://lists.puscii.nl/www/arc/uncivilization/2019-09/msg00000.html>
- <https://18.re-publica.com/en/session/governing-internet-infrastructure-commons>
- <https://fosdem.org/2017/interviews/vesna-manojlovic/>
- <https://becha.home.xs4all.nl/hackerspaces-patriarchy-equality.html>
- [https://wiki.techinc.nl/index.php/File:Nature-speaking-on-future\\_of\\_the\\_internet-RIPE69.pdf](https://wiki.techinc.nl/index.php/File:Nature-speaking-on-future_of_the_internet-RIPE69.pdf)
- <http://guymcpherson.com/2013/12/hackers-ethic-for-the-world-after-collapse/>
- <http://becha.home.xs4all.nl/hackers-philosophers-utopian-network-dec-2012-becha.pdf>

# Cyber Safety Links

- [https://wiki.techinc.nl/Hackers\\_tribes#Digital\\_Safety](https://wiki.techinc.nl/Hackers_tribes#Digital_Safety)
- [https://wiki.techinc.nl/Ladies\\_Night#Improving\\_privacy\\_and\\_security](https://wiki.techinc.nl/Ladies_Night#Improving_privacy_and_security)
- Feminist Principles: e-learning
  - <https://en.ftx.apc.org/books/feminist-principles-of-the-internet>



# Referenced in These Slides

- [r] Phillip Rogaway: “The Moral Character of Cryptographic Work” (2015)
- [ensr] “Philosophy meets Internet Engineering: Ethics in Networked Systems Research”
- [art] Langdon Winner: “Do Artefacts Have Politics?” (1980)
- [p] Allison Parrish: “Programming is Forgetting: Toward a New Hacker Ethic” (2016)
- [u] Ursula K. Le Guin: “A Non-Euclidean View of California as a Cold Place to Be” (1989)

# More references

- [w] <http://networkedsystemsethics.net/>
- [Philosophy of Hacking, by Groente](#)
- [Digital Tailspin: Ten Rules for the Internet After Snowden](#)
- [Tor, Technocracy, Democracy](#)
- [\[how\] Software Freedom your Way](#)
- “To Our Friends”, by The Invisible Committee <https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/our-friends>
- “I Hate the Internet” <http://weheardyoulikebooks.com/releases/i-hate-the-internet/>
- Geoff Huston: “The Internet's Gilded Age” <http://www.potaroo.net/ispcol/2017-03/gilding.html>
- The Fifth Sacred Thing is a 1993 post-apocalyptic novel by Starhawk.: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Fifth\\_Sacred\\_Thing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Fifth_Sacred_Thing)
- “IT industry is a dictatorship” Heather Marsh’: <https://georgiebc.wordpress.com/2014/10/03/world-war-iii-stateless-ponzi-schemes-of-power/>
- “The Retro Future : Looking to the Past to Reinvent the Future” by John Michael Greer <https://www.newsociety.com/Books/R/The-Retro-Future>

# projects for photographers: document...

- ... tech-conferences / cyber-security events
- ... hackerspaces
- ... remote-working
- ... IoT devices / networking equipment / alternative networks / data-centers
- OTHER women-in-technology groups, events, projects... such as: [https://wiki.techinc.nl/Ladies\\_Night#Events](https://wiki.techinc.nl/Ladies_Night#Events) & [https://wiki.techinc.nl/Female\\_experts](https://wiki.techinc.nl/Female_experts)



# Take part in RIPE/NCC Communities

- Join RIPE meetings
  - RACI programme
  - RIPE Fellowship <https://www.ripe.net/participate/ripe/ripe-fellowship>
  - Diversity Task Force <https://www.ripe.net/participate/ripe/tf/ripe-diversity-task-force>
- Join other events organised by RIPE NCC
  - Regional meetings / Training courses & on-line education / Hackathons
- Write for RIPE Labs: <https://labs.ripe.net>