Open, public & democratic technologies: The European challenge
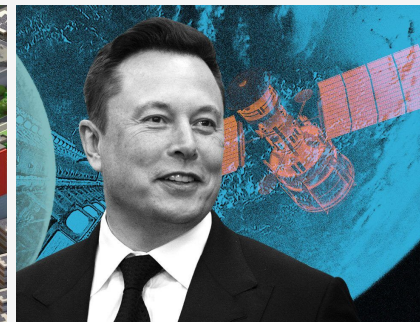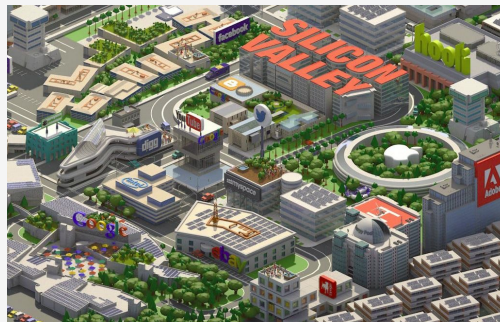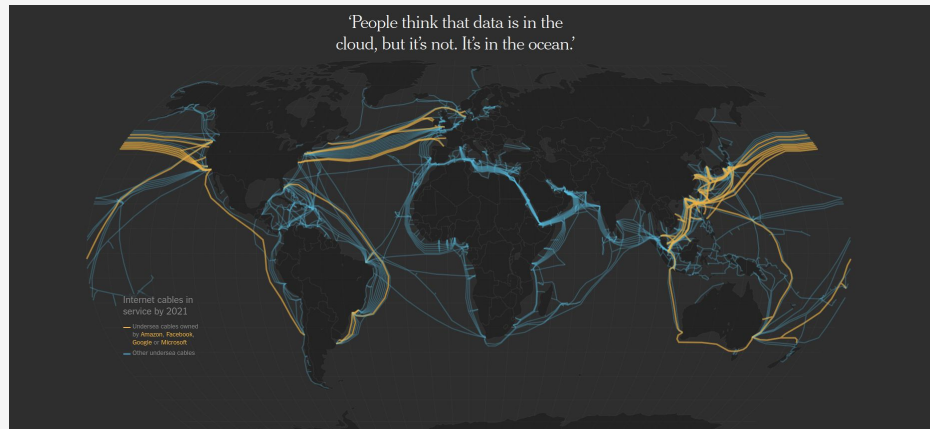
Arnau Monterde
Director of Participation & Innovation for Democracy
City of Barcelona

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The (new) crisis of democracy

* Information
* Representation
* Political systems
* Citizens & Civil Society

THIS ISN'T DEMOCRACY

EXCUSE ME

BUT ARE YOU GOING TO EAT THAT?

ART.47. TODOS LOS ESPAÑOLES TIENEN DERECHO A DISFRUTAR DE UNA VIVIENDA DIGNA Y ADECUADA, JAJAJ

Digital Technologies, democracy & the public

'People think that data is in the cloud, but it's not. It's in the ocean.'

Internet cables in service by 2021
— Undersea cables owned by Amazon, Facebook, Google or Microsoft
— Other undersea cables

* Lost of control of Giants
* No capacity to have a strong public model at any layer
* No democratic culture for making public and commons
*

The urgent need for a European initiative on open and democratic technologies

* Threats, challenges, and the opportunities in 2024
* Multi-layered approach for digital infrastructures
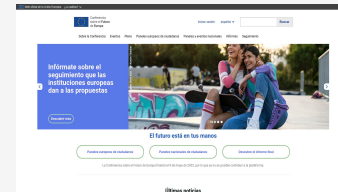* People and rights first

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Decidim, a global digital platform for democracy

* 500 Installations, 3 Million participants, 30 countries, 300 public organisations.
* Technology with democratic guarantees
* New model for public-common technologies

Democratic FLOSS from the public with communities

* 3 layers of the project
* The basis for an extrapolable model

Political Decidim.barcelona

City: co-decision

Technical Decidim

Factory: co-production

Technopolitical Meta.decidim

Community: co-design

Barcelona Citizen Participation Model

* Strong legislation on participation
* Hybrid model
* Decentralised model

Participatory Process

City: co-decision

Citizen Councils

Factory: co-production

Public Infrastructures

Community: co-design

Participatory Budgeting Startegy

* Political commitment
* Co-creation
* Hybridization
* Territorialization

Digital & Democratic for education

* 20 schools
* Civil Society First
* X.net Initiative
* Integrated FLOSS model
* Democratic governance

Other actions from the City

* IA Strategy
* Democratic Data Governance
* Citizen Assemblies
* CC4DR

Political, administrative and institutional learnings from the public

* Public funding - productive ecosystem
* Innovation, collaboration & the quality
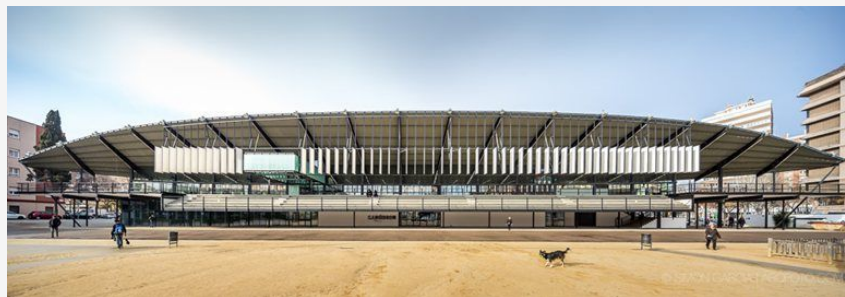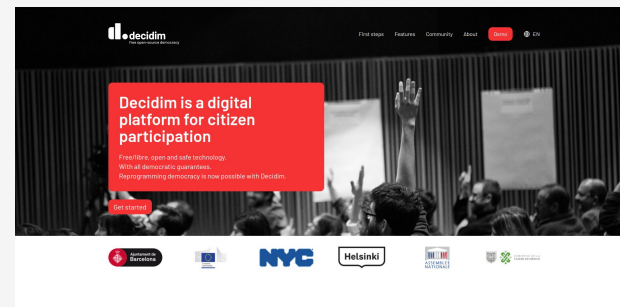* Democratic technologies for democratic society

Why is software created
using taxpayers' money
not released
as Free Software?

If it is public money,
it should be
public code as well.

Public Money
Public Code

publiccode.eu

European opportunities & challenges

* Long term strategy and funding
* Regulation and development
* Sharing technology at all layers
* Decidim model extended
* EU digital Sovereignty - global transfer

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European Digital & Democratic Alliance

Opsroom o Sala de Operaciones de Cybersyn

* To lead the technological developments for the next decade
* Providing guarantees to everyone
* Develop, share and democratise the digital
* Rising new democratic culture

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Thanks!

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