

# Niels ten Oever MA

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## [Linkedin](#)

Singel 40 F  
1015 AB Amsterdam

## [Twitter](#)

+31 629051853  
[mail@nielstenoever.net](mailto:mail@nielstenoever.net)

## Objective

*Seeking out how one can build public spaces on privately owned and governed infrastructures*

## Working Experience

### [University of Amsterdam](#)

PhD Candidate  
October 2015 - Now

- PhD candidate in the Dataactive Research Group at the Media Studies department at the University of Amsterdam.
- Research focuses on the evolution of the notion of public interest in the Internet architecture and its governance using quantitative and qualitative methods

### [ARTICLE 19](#)

Head of Digital  
January 2014 -  
January 2018

- Co-chairing Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANNs Accountability Workstream Two Human Rights Subgroup
- Co-chairing Research Group on [Human Rights Protocol Considerations](#) in the Internet Research Taskforce (IRTF)
- Chairing Cross Community Working Party on [ICANNs Corporate and Social Responsibility to Respect Human Rights](#)
- Implementing [censorship measurement project](#)
- Defining and implementing a global digital strategy for Article19
- Representing Article19 and heading its contributions to NETmundial, Internet Governance Forum, ICANN, IETF and the ITU
- Participant in Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN's Accountability Workstream One
- Fundraising and designing digital security upgrade and free software migration for Article19 Brazil and Mexico office
- Fundraising and implementing [World Cup surveillance project](#) with Article19 Brazil office, and censorship measurement project with Bangladesh, Kenya and Tunisia office
- Co-developing [Internet Legislation Atlas](#)
- Co-authoring A19 Response to UN Special Rapporteur's Call for Comments on Encryption and Anonymity Online
- Co-authoring two Internet Governance papers on ICANN Accountability and Transparency
- Representing Article19 in the Web We Want advisory board and the ICANN Non-Commercial User Constituency

### [Internet Protection Lab](#)

Coordinator  
November 2012 -  
October 2013

- Establishing a network organization with eight relevant actors in the 'IT for Human Rights and Development' field
- Managing the implementation of Publeaks - an [anonymous leaking platform](#) for 30 Dutch media outlets
- Organizing integrated security trainings in digital, physical and psychosocial security in Ethiopia, Bahrain and Russia
- Developing a crowd contribution platform for software supporting the free, open and unfiltered web

### [Free Press Unlimited](#)

Programme Coordinator  
MENA & ICT  
February 2011 -  
October 2013

- Managing the development of the [Storymaker app](#) for Android
- Overseeing the implementation of the app and training of 600 journalist and citizen reporters in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Iraq. With spin offs in Zimbabwe and Libya
- Envisaging the app, writing the proposal, raising the necessary funds for a five year project

### [Press Now / Free Press Unlimited](#)

- Developing strategy for the Horn of Africa for Free Press Unlimited

Programme Coordinator  
Horn of Africa  
May 2009 -  
February 2012

- Establishing Somalia office and network of 15 Somali media outlets
- Managing and implementing freedom of expression projects in Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia
- Training professional and citizen journalists in Ethiopia, Somalia, Eritrea and Afghanistan and Egypt in journalism and digital security
- Migrating Free Press Unlimited from a Windows environment to a Linux environment with improved digital security features

### Mediation Foundation

Director  
May 2007 -  
April 2009

- Establishing Ethiopia's first community radio station in Jimma
- Designing community radio guides in Amharic, Afaan Oromo and English
- Developing a localized Linux environment for community radio stations in Ethiopia
- Training the journalism staff, board of directors, volunteers and technician of the radio station

### Education

2004 - 2006  
2002 - 2004

- Research MA Philosophy - University of Amsterdam (cum laude)
- BA Philosophy - University of Amsterdam, Humboldt University Berlin
- Diploma in journalism - Hogeschool Windesheim in Zwolle

2001 - 2002

### Courses

2018  
2018  
2011

- Academic Writing - University of Amsterdam
- Research Methods and Design - University of Amsterdam
- Hostile Environment Safety Training (including First Aid) - Centre for Safety and Development

2010

- Post doctoral course International Relations - Clingendael Diplomatic Institute

2009

- Horn of Africa Course - Rift Valley Institute

### Courses taught

2016

- European Summer School on Internet Governance - Meissen, Germany

2016  
2015

- Digital Methods Winter School - University of Amsterdam
- European Summer School on Internet Governance - Meissen, Germany

2007 - 2013

- Introduction to journalism - Egypt, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Somalia, Morocco, Iraq, Afghanistan

2012 - 2013

- Introduction to Digital Security for Human Right Defenders and Journalists - Ethiopia, Netherlands, Somalia,

2011 - 2013

- Mobile Content Production & Digital security - Egypt, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Somalia, Morocco, Iraq

2007 - 2011

- Radio journalism - Ethiopia, Somalia, Afghanistan

### Software & Hardware

- **BigBang:** Python based tool for quantitative mailinglist analysis <http://dataactive.github.io/bigbang/>
- **Refugee Hotspot:** Raspberry Pi based wireless router providing Internet access, aimed at refugee populations <https://refugeehotspot.net/>
- **Anonymous:** Gamified interactive digital security tutorial <http://game.ononymous.org/>

### Publications

#### Peer Reviewed

- Ten Oever, Niels. 2018. [Productive Contestation, Civil Society,](#)

[and Global Governance: Human Rights as a Boundary Object in ICANN Policy & Internet.](https://doi.org/10.1002/poi3.172) <https://doi.org/10.1002/poi3.172>

- Ten Oever, Niels, and Corinne Cath. 2017. "[Research into Human Rights Protocol Considerations.](https://doi.org/DOI.10.17487/RFC8280)" *RFC8280*. <https://doi.org/DOI.10.17487/RFC8280>.
- Milan, Stefania, and Niels ten Oever. 2016. "[Coding and Encoding Rights in Internet Infrastructure. Sociotechnical Imaginaries and Grassroots Ordering in Internet Governance.](https://doi.org/10.14763/2017.1.442)" *Internet Policy Review* 6 (1). <https://doi.org/10.14763/2017.1.442>.

## Editorial

- Ten Oever, Niels, and Davide Beraldo. 2018. [Routes to rights: internet architecture and values in times of ossification and commercialization.](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) *XRDS: Crossroads, The ACM Magazine for Students – Pseudonymity and Anonymity* Volume 24 Issue 4, Summer 2018 Pages 28-31. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561>

## Reports

- Cath, Corinne, Niels ten Oever and Dan O'Maley, 2017. [Media Development in the Digital Age: Five Ways to Engage in Internet Governance](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561)

## Blogposts

- [Assessing the human rights impacts of Internet registries](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) December 2017
- [Internet protocol community has a new tool to respect human rights](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) November 2017
- [Combating Censorship and Highlighting the Politics of Protocols at IETF99](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) August 2017
- [Status Code 451: An Internet Governance Standard to Expose Censorship](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) April 2017
- [#InternetOfRights: Creating the Universal Declaration of Digital Rights](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) March 2017
- [Freedom of Expression Unfiltered: How blocking and filtering affect free speech](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) December 2016
- [Corporate actors must not facilitate human rights violations through new Chinese rules](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) December 2016
- [Freedom of Expression and the role of the telecommunications and Internet access sector](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) December 2016
- [Making the Internet truly global: The IANA transition](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) September 2016
- [ICANN Board agrees to human rights commitment](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) February 2016

## Film

- [Net of Rights](https://doi.org/10.1145/3220561) March 2016

## Presentations

- April 2018
- April 2018
- March 2018
- The Architecture Imaginary and its Ossification – Humboldt Institut fuer Internet und Gesellschaft
- Internet Infrastructure, Architecture, Ossification – School of Global Studies, University of Gothenburg
- Internet Infrastructure, Architecture, Ossification – Alan Turing

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|-------------------------|---|
| March 2018              | Institute   |
| December 2017           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quantitative Analysis of Mailinglists - Internet Engineering Taskforce</li> </ul>  |
| November 2017           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Net of Rights: Human Rights Impact Assessments for the Future of the Internet - IGF2017</li> </ul>   |
| October 2017            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protocols and Freedom of Expression - University of California, Irvine, School of Law.</li> </ul>  |
| July 2017               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mensenrechten en internetinfrastructuur: Human Rights Impact Assessments - NLIGF2017</li> </ul>  |
| April 2017              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Protocols and Human Rights - IETF98</li> </ul>  |
| December 2016           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human Rights and Internet Infrastructure - SHA2017</li> </ul>  |
| November 2015           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internet Architecture &amp; Human Rights: ICANN &amp; IETF - CPDP2016</li> </ul>   |
| November 2015           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing Core Principles in the Digital Age - IGF2015</li> </ul>   |
| November 2015           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human Rights on the Internet - IGF2015</li> </ul>  |
| September 2014          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zero-rating and net neutrality policies in developing countries - IGF 2015</li> </ul>  |
| October 2013            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICANN, Transparency, Accountability and Human Rights</li> <li>Best practices in Digital Security - 3TU - Delft Technical University</li> </ul> |
| March 2012 and May 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Freedom of Expression Globally - Utrecht University College</li> </ul>  |
| June 2013               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Citizen journalism secured: Storymaker - Freedom Online Tunis</li> </ul>   |
| August 2013             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Storymaker: Open source mobile reporting in MENA - approaches, challenges and first findings - OHM2013</li> </ul>                              |

## Languages

Dutch	Native language
English	Fluent in speaking and writing
German	Fluent in speaking, proficient in reading and writing
Portuguese	Basic skills
French	Basic skills

## IT Skills

Linux, Bash, Python, Java, SugarCRM, CiviCRM, MySQL, Wordpress, Drupal, Penetration Testing, Digital Security, Android development, networking, Wireless Mesh

## Board and Committees

<a href="#">Ranking Digital Rights</a>	Board member	November 2015 - now
<a href="#">SOMO</a>	Board member	July 2016 - now
<a href="#">On Our Radar</a>	Advisor	September 2014 - now
<a href="#">Internet Society NL</a>	Board member	November 2015 - December 2017