

Niels ten Oever MA

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Objective

Understanding the socio-technical orderings that invisible infrastructures provide to societies

Work Experience

[European University Viadrina](#)

Research Fellow
September 2019 - Now

- Research fellow with the Centre for Internet and Human Rights with a specific focus on the politicals and inscription and subversion of power and values in digital information architectures

[Fundação Getúlio Vargas](#)

Associated Scholar
September 2019 - Now

- Researching the potential impact of the development and implementation of 5G on human rights with a specific focus on Brazil and South Africa
- Contributor to the [cyberBRICS project](#)

[University of Amsterdam](#)

PhD Candidate
October 2015 – present

- PhD candidate in the DATACTIVE Research Group at the Media Studies and the Political Science departments 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

Strategy and management

- Defining and implementing a global digital strategy for the International office
- Designing, fundraising, and managing Global Team Digital – consisting of six professionals around the world
- Supporting and liaising with ARTICLE19s eight global offices on digital issues

Internet governance

- 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
- Chairing Cross Community Working Party on [ICANNs Corporate and Social Responsibility to Respect Human Rights](#)
- Participant in Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN's Accountability - WorkStream One
- Representing ARTICLE 19 and heading its contributions to NETmundial, Internet Governance Forum, ICANN, IETF and the ITU
- Co-developing [Internet Legislation Atlas](#)
- Representing ARTICLE 19 in the Web We Want advisory board and the ICANN Non-Commercial User Constituency
- Co-authoring ARTICLE 19 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

Security and surveillance

- Fundraising and designing digital security upgrade and free software migration for Brazil and Mexico office
- Implementing [censorship measurement project](#) with Brazil, Bangladesh, Kenya and Tunisia office

- Fundraising and implementing [World Cup anti-surveillance project](#) with Brazil office

[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](#)

Programme Coordinator
Horn of Africa
May 2009 -
February 2012

- Developing, fundraising and implementing strategy and projects for Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia
- Establishing Somalia office in Hargeisa, Somaliland and network of 15 Somali media outlets
- 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

2001 - 2002

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

Courses

2019

2019

2018

2018

2011

2010

2009

- Advanced Social Science Theory - University of Amsterdam
- Research Design Methods - University of Amsterdam
- Academic Writing - University of Amsterdam
- Research Methods and Design - University of Amsterdam
- Hostile Environment Safety Training (including First Aid) - Centre for Safety and Development
- Post doctoral course International Relations - Clingendael Diplomatic Institute
- Horn of Africa Course - Rift Valley Institute

Courses taught

2016

2016

2015

- Networks and Protocols - European Summer School on Internet Governance - Meissen, Germany
- Digital Methods Winter School - University of Amsterdam
- European Summer School on Internet Governance - Meissen, Germany
- Introduction to journalism - Egypt, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Somalia,

2007 - 2013

Morocco, Iraq, Afghanistan

2012 - 2013

- Introduction to Digital Security for Human Right Defenders and Journalists – Ethiopia, Netherlands, Somalia,
- Mobile Content Production & Digital security - Egypt, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Somalia, Morocco, Iraq
- Radio journalism - Ethiopia, Somalia, Afghanistan

2011 - 2013

2007 - 2011

Software & Hardware

- **BigBang:** Python based tool for quantitative documents analysis of mailinglists <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. Forthcoming. "'This is not how we imagined it' - Technological Affordances, Economic Drivers and the Internet Architecture Imaginary" *New Media & Society*.
- 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>
- Ten Oever, Niels, and Corinne Cath. 2017. "[Research into Human Rights Protocol Considerations](#)." *RFC8280*. <https://doi.org/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](#)." *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](#). *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>

Book Chapters

- Ten Oever, Niels., Beraldo, Davide, and Milan, Stefania. (forthcoming). 'Internet Protocols and the Public Interest: Methods for Studying Discourse'. In eds. D. Cogburn, L. DeNardis, N. Levinson and F. Musiani, *Research Methods in Internet Governance*. MIT press.
- Frank Jørgensen, Rikke, Bloch Veiberg, Cathrine, and Ten Oever, Niels (forthcoming). 'Information and communication technologies (ICT): Exploring the human rights impact of the ICT sector' in: *Handbook on Human Rights Impact Assessment*. Edited by. Nora Götzmann, Elgar Publishing

Reports

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

Blogposts

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

Film

- [Net of Rights](#) March 2016

Reviewing

- Article reviewer for New Media & Society
- Book reviewer for MIT Press - Information Policy Series

Presentations and talks

- June 2019
 - The Net That Won: a little history repeating - Research Infrastructure for the Study of Archived Web Materials (RESAW) 2019 - Univeristy of Amsterdam
- June 2019
 - Transmetropolitan Revisited: Why the Present-Future is Boring - TILTING 2019 Tilburg University
- May 2019
 - Taking the High Route - an approach to value based routing - RIPE78 Reykjavik, Iceland
- April 2019
 - The (dis)content of Internet infrastructure consolidation, Networks With an Attitude Workshop - Constant, Antwerp
- March 2019
 - The Inscription and Subversion of Values in Transnational Internet Infrastructure Governance - Privacy and Sustainable Computing Lab of the Vienna University of Economics and Business
- October 2018
 - This is not how we imagined it' - Technological Affordances, Economic Drivers and the Internet Architecture Imaginary' Plenary talk at RIPE77
- April 2018
 - The Architecture Imaginary and its Ossification - Humboldt Institut fuer Internet und Gesellschaft
- April 2018
 - Internet Infrastructure, Architecture, Governance, and Values in times of Ossification and Commercialization - Internet Governance and Human Rights Conference - School of Global Studies, University of Gothenburg
- March 2018
 - Internet Infrastructure, Architecture, Ossification - Alan Turing Institute
- March 2018
 - Quantitative Analysis of Mailinglists - Internet Engineering Taskforce
- December 2017
 - A Net of Rights: Human Rights Impact Assessments for the

- November 2017 • Future of the Internet - IGF2017
- Protocols and Freedom of Expression - University of California, Irvine, School of Law.
- October 2017 • Mensenrechten en internetinfrastructuur: Human Rights Impact Assessments – NLIGF2017
- July 2017 • Internet Protocols and Human Rights – IETF98
- April 2017 • Human Rights and Internet Infrastructure - SHA2017
- December 2016 • Internet Architecture & Human Rights: ICANN & IETF – CPDP2016
- November 2015 • Implementing Core Principles in the Digital Age – IGF2015
- November 2015 • Human Rights on the Internet – IGF2015
- November 2015 • Zero-rating and net neutrality policies in developing countries – IGF 2015
- September 2014 • ICANN, Transparency, Accountability and Human Rights
- October 2013 • Best practices in Digital Security – 3TU – Delft Technical University
- March 2012 and May 2013 • Supporting Freedom of Expression Globally - Utrecht University College
- June 2013 • Citizen journalism secured: Storymaker - Freedom Online Tunis
- August 2013 • Storymaker: Open source mobile reporting in MENA - approaches, challenges and first findings – OHM2013

Workshop Organizing and Programme Committees

- January 2020 • Programme Committee of 2020 Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency in Barcelona (FAT* 2020)
- September 2019 • Workshop Co-Organizer of 'Future Paths to a Public Interest Internet Infrastructure' – Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University
- June 2019 • Programme Committee for Workshop: Engineering Accountable Information Systems at ECIS 2019, Stockholm University
- April 2019 • Workshop Co-Organizer and Host of '4th global HTTP implementers workshop' – University of Amsterdam

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

Debian/Linux (desktop and server), Bash, Python, R, Java, HTML, HTMLS CSS, SugarCRM, CiviCRM, MySQL, Wordpress, Drupal, Penetration Testing, Digital Security, Android development, Networking, Wireless Mesh, LaTeX, LibreOffice, Markdown, Git, Github.

Boards and committees

[Digital Rights and Responsibilities Catalonia SOMO](#)
[Ranking Digital Rights On Our Radar](#)
[Internet Society NL](#)

Advisory Board member	August 2019 – present
Board member	November 2015 - present
Board member	July 2016 - present
Advisor	September 2014 – present
Board member	November 2015 – December 2017

Awarded Grants

- 2020 – 2021 Individual grants
 - Open Technology Fund – Research Project on Human Rights Implications of 5G (128.000 USD research project contract)
- 2019
 - Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis PhD finishing fellowship (one year 0.5 FTE)

- 2019
 - 2019 - 2020
 - 2019
 - 2019
- RIPE academic travel grant (flight, hotel, conference attendance)
 - Ford Foundation (50.000 USD research project grant)
 - Amsterdam Centre for European Studies (800 EUR grant covering interview transcription costs)
 - Ford Foundation (20.000 USD), Harvard Kennedy School (20.000 USD), ARTICLE19 (10.000 USD), Amsterdam School for Globalisation Studies (2500 EUR), MacArthur Foundation (2500 USD) for workshop 'Future Paths for a Public Interest Internet Infrastructure' at the Harvard Kennedy School)
- Institutional project grants
- 2015 - 2018
 - 2016 - 2018
 - 2016 - 2018
 - 2011 - 2013
 - 2010 - 2011, 2017 - 2018
 - 2008 - 2009, 2016
- United States State Department, Department of Human Rights and Labor (multiyear project funding >1m USD)
 - MacArthur Foundation (multiyear project funding > 1m USD)
 - Ford Foundation (multiyear project funding >100k USD)
 - Human Rights Fund of the Governments of the Netherlands (multiyear project funding >700k EUR)
 - National Endowment for Democracy (multiyear project funding >100k USD)
 - Stichting Dijkverzwareing (multiyear project funding >50k USD)
- Memberships**
- International Studies Association
 - Society for Social Studies of Science