

#PrivacyCamp21

Digital rights for change:
Reclaiming infrastructures,
repairing the future.

PROGRAMME

26.01.2021 | 10.00 - 16.10



#PrivacyCamp21

Digital rights for change

With almost a decade's legacy, this year Privacy Camp zooms in on the relations between digitalisation, digital rights and infrastructures. Sessions range in format from panels (speakers addressing the audience) to a more interactive workshop (speakers address + audience engagement experiences). Here you can find out the details about each session.

Privacy Camp is an annual conference held the day before the start of CPDP.

The event brings together digital rights advocates, activists as well as academics and policy-makers from all around Europe and beyond to discuss the most pressing issues facing human rights online.

Privacy Camp is jointly organised by [EDRi](#), [VUB-LSTS](#), [Privacy Salon vzw](#) and [the Institute for European Studies at USL-B](#).



TIME	ROOM A (PLENARY AND PANELS)	ROOM B (PANELS)	ROOM C (WORKSHOPS)
10:00- 11:00	OPENING SESSION & STORIES of digital rights activism		
11:05- 12:00	A new model for consent? Rethinking consent among complex infrastructures and complex explanations	Local perspectives: E-life and e-services during the pandemic	The #ReclaimYourFace campaign: Ban biometric mass surveillance
12:05- 13:00	Wiring digital justice: Embedding rights in Internet governance 'by infrastructure'	On Art and Digital Rights Activism	Cryptowars: The battle for encryption
13:00- 14:00	LUNCH BREAK	EDPS CIVIL SOCIETY SUMMIT	LUNCH BREAK
14:05- 15:00	The privatised panopticon: Workers' surveillance in the digital age	Reclaim your face, reclaim your space: Resisting the criminalisations of public spaces under biometric mass surveillance	Teach me how to hurdle: Empowering data subjects beyond the template
15:05- 16:00	Algorithmic Impact Assessments	Platform Resistance and Data Rights	Can restorative justice help us govern online spaces?
16:00- 16:10	CLOSING SESSION		

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#PrivacyCamp21: Opening session

10:00 - 10:10 | Room A

Event facilitator: Jennifer Baker, Tech policy and digital rights reporter

Jennifer has been a journalist in print, radio and television for more than 20 years, the last 10+ specialising in EU policy and legislation in the technology sector — from data protection and privacy to trade agreements; antitrust cases to copyright law; national security to public transparency.

After moving to Brussels, Jennifer Baker carved out a niche in freelance reporting and analysis, and is now one of the most respected commentators on everything inside the Brussels Bubble – from Brexit to security, fundamental rights to disinformation. Combining her insider knowledge with passion for live communication, Jennifer also relishes the opportunity to moderate conferences and events of any size.

Since 2009, Jennifer has reported on European affairs for a vast array of media, including BBC radio, Middle Eastern television, and some of the biggest names in the global media business – ArsTechnica, The Next Web, Computer Weekly, Mac world, PC world and CIO (as part of the renowned IDG News Service team), and The Register.

Opening remarks: Anna Fielder, EDRi Board President

Anna is President of European Digital Rights (EDRi). She has been a consumer and privacy advocate for many years, after having trained as a classics scholar and spending a stint as a travel reporter and editor, working for Which?, the UK consumer organisation. She is senior policy advisor to the Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD), a forum of 70+ consumer and digital rights organisations, working together to influence US and EU policy. She is also a member of the Board of the UK Open Rights Group.

She was previously Chair of Privacy International (now designated as Chair Emeritus for her contribution to the organisation) and regional Director at Consumers International, the global consumer federation, where she put issues related to online rights and data protection on the consumer organisations' priority agenda and set up the TACD back in 1998. Anna is a Fellow of the UK Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (FRSA).



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Storytelling: STORIES of digital rights activism

10:10 - 11:00 | Room A

This session will present the stories 3 digital rights activists involved in the fight for a fairer digital future. Situating their activism in different parts of the field, of the Planet and of society, the 3 voices will explain what they do, what does it take to be at the forefront of the battle, what motivates them, what they learnt from their experience so far.

- **Moderator: Gail Rego, Senior Communications and Media Manager, European Digital Rights**

Speakers:

- Matthias Marx, Germany – on holding ClearviewAI accountable with GDPR
- Gabriel Olatunji, Nigeria – on organising the decentralised EndSARS protests against police brutality
- Chloé Mikolajczak, Belgium – on organising the Right to Repair campaign



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Digital rights for change

PANEL: A new model for consent? Rethinking consent among complex infrastructures and complex explanations

11:05- 12:00 | Room A

Consent is only valid if 'free', 'specific', 'informed', and 'unambiguous'. These terms cannot be taken as a simple recipe, with clearly defined ingredients and steps. In reality, consent is more fluid, and does not automatically follow from an aseptic and formal exercise of information provision or box-ticking. This panel will propose a more substantive and organic approach which includes, amongst the others, an added element of effective "comprehension" and control over the processing. It will discuss the most recent findings from the Court of Justice of the EU, but also the position of the European Commission in the proposed Data Governance Act, and issues around a so-called 'common European data altruism consent'. The suggested contextual approach would find that most of the consent given online could be invalid, especially in situations of extremely complex processing operations.

- **Moderator: Romain Robert, Data Protection Lawyer, [noyb](#)**

Speakers:

- Alexandra Jaspar, Data protection lawyer, [Belgian DPA](#)
- Gianclaudio Malgieri, Associate Professor, [EDHEC Business School](#)
- Max Hoppenstedt, Journalist, [Der Spiegel](#)
- Stefano Rossetti, Data protection lawyer, [noyb](#)



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PANEL: Local perspectives: E-life and e-services during the pandemic

11:05- 12:00 | Room B

The panel will explore the key trends linked to the digitalisation of our lives and to explore the outside factors that have influenced the level of respect of our basic digital rights in Southeast and Central Europe. Under the excuse of "flattening the curve" governments in the region have undertaken extreme measures that have severely affected the media freedom, privacy of people and the most vulnerable groups. While states were implementing different tech solutions to overcome the existing challenges without any strategy, the citizens were left without any protection in the digital arena.

From fragile security of the database systems, online harassment of women to severe digital rights violations, the states in the region were particularly criticised for serious citizen's personal data breaches. Citizens were determined as the biggest victim of all violations and abuses mapped. Moreover the surveillance cameras started to pop up all over Serbia while citizens were spending time in their homes trying to keep themselves and their families safe and healthy.

- **Moderator: Sofija Todorovic, Project Coordinator, [BIRN](#)**

Speakers:

- Jelena Hrnjak, [Atina NGO](#), Serbia
- Nevena Martinovic, [Share Foundation](#), Serbia
- Elena Stojanovska, [Metamorphosis](#), North Macedonia
- Dr Katrin Nyman-Metcalf, [e-Governance Academy](#), Estonia



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WORKSHOP: The #ReclaimYourFace campaign: Ban biometric mass surveillance

11:05- 12:00 | Room C

A people – driven campaign. A coalition of nearly 30 non-profit organisations across Europe and counting. One Citizen Initiative. Investigations. Hard evidence. Over 13.000 people involved already. The #ReclaimYour movement calls for a ban on biometric mass surveillance, transparency and accountability. Together, we urge the European Union to help us protect and respect human dignity in the public space.

Join this session to understand what this campaign looks like, who is behind it and where it is going. We will zoom in on actions and investigations done in Greece and Italy and teach the easy steps you can take to investigate yourself. During the second part of this workshop we will show you how you can get the mayor and city council involved, but also how you can check what ClearviewAI knows about you (the notorious face recognition company scraping social media).

- **Moderator: Andreea Belu, Campaigns and Communications Manager, European Digital Rights**

Speakers:

- Eleftherios Chelioudakis, Co-founder, Homo Digitalis, Greece
- Riccardo Coluccini, Vice-President, HERMES Center for Transparency and Digital Human Rights, Italy



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PANEL: Wiring digital justice: Embedding rights in Internet governance 'by infrastructure'

12:05- 13:00 | Room A

In modern information societies nearly every social process is digitally influenced or mediated. This is why Keller Easterling (in *Extrastatecraft: The power of infrastructure space*, 2014) writes that '[i]nfrastructure sets the invisible rules that govern the spaces of our everyday lives', and that 'changes to the globalising world are being written, not in the language of law and diplomacy, but rather in the language of infrastructure'. In this panel, we seek to engage a conversation on how the language of rights and freedoms can be translated in the language and materiality of infrastructures, and what the complexities are that arise from this process.

Particular attention will be paid to the different types of organizations and configurations in which the 'embedding' of freedoms into infrastructure takes shape, from the arenas of more 'traditional' Internet governance to grassroots and activist-led initiatives. We also seek to unveil the variety of motivations subtending these phenomena, ranging from specific and institutionalized political agendas to technical innovation and experimentation, often linked to particular imaginaries and visions of society.

- **Co-moderators:** [Francesca Musiani](#), [Centre for Internet and Society-CIS](#), [CNRS](#), and [Stefania Milan](#), [University of Amsterdam](#)
- **Co-organisers:** [Francesca Musiani](#) [Centre for Internet and Society-CIS](#), [CNRS](#), and [Niels ten Oever](#), [U Amsterdam/Texas A&M University](#)

Speakers:

- [Amelia Andersdotter](#), [CENTR](#)
- [Mehwish Ansari](#), [ARTICLE 19](#)
- [Kseniia Ermoshina](#), [CIS](#), [CNRS](#)
- [Niels ten Oever](#), [U Amsterdam/Texas A&M University](#)
- [Bianca Wylie](#), [CIGI](#)



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PANEL: On art and digital rights activism

12:05- 13:00 | Room B

In line with #PrivacyCamp21 's focus on the use of digital rights to reclaim infrastructures, this session aims to explore the notions of quantification, visualisation and activism as means of dissent during COVID19 times. Quantification: The measurement of quantity. Counting. While Marijn Bril explores employee surveillance and focuses on the impact of quantification on the way we ascribe value to work, Vladan Joler and his team collects and visualises data that sheds light on an otherwise opaque landscape.

Visualisation: Infrastructures are material. They are owned by private actors and sometimes under state control. Sometimes, infrastructures are wires, and sometimes they are people. Sometimes, infrastructures hurt. What effect does visualising infrastructures such as AI systems (Vladan Joler) and police forces (Paolo Cirio) have on the way we understand complex private/public structures? How does visualisation help enhance the development of our common infrastructures for the common good?

Activism, protest and COVID19: People's ability to organise and protest has been impacted by the COVID19 restrictions. Looking for creative ways to manifest dissent, people across the world have turned to new methods of protest such as artistic public performances . What are the ups and downs of public stunts? What can civil society learn from the power of art to convene messages? How does an online activist performance look like?

- **Moderator: Andreea Belu, Campaigns and Communications Manager, European Digital Rights**

Speakers:

- Vladan Joler, Co-founder, SHARE Foundation
- Paolo Cirio, Conceptual artist, 1979. Italy – U.S. NYC
- Marijn Bril, Resident artist, CPDP and Privacy Salon



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WORKSHOP: Cryptowars: The battle for encryption

12:05- 13:00 | Room C

During this panel we would like to include voices of those voices who could be affected by undermining encryption which are not the usual privacy experts. Human rights defenders, child rights organisations and journalists at risk use encryption to protect themselves and others. Meanwhile, voices in the European Union call for “technical solutions” to solve the “problem” that law enforcement officers encounter when preventing or investigating crimes. Who else cares about encryption, anyway?

Outcome: – Build links and narratives from non-digital rights groups to work in the 2021 work on encryption.

- **Moderator: Diego Naranjo, Head of Policy, [European Digital Rights](#)**

Speakers:

- Wojtek Bogusz, Head of the Digital Protection team, [Front Line Defenders](#)
- Leo Ratledge, Legal and Policy Director, [Child Rights International \(CRIN\)](#)
- Tom Gibson, EU Representative and Advocacy Manager, [the Committee to Protect Journalists](#)
- Jen Persson, Founder, [DefendDigitalMe](#)



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The EDPS Civil Society Summit “Big tech: from private platforms to public infrastructures”

13:00 - 14:00 | Room B

The intensely centralised nature of the global platform economy presents fundamental challenges for our times and future generations. A limited number of big tech companies exercise significant control over the internet as a network whereby sharing of information, freedom of expression and people's choices are increasingly under the influence of corporate interests. In addition, we see the outsourcing of public authority to private companies, as holders of essential infrastructures, to safeguard and regulate our digital lives. Corporations which started as search engines and social media platforms are now exercising significant influence in healthcare, education and public administration. Others have become indispensable to a huge number of business users or to enable work processes. Some other big tech companies, dictate the terms of our social interactions, and occupy the public space of freedom of expression and formulation of political opinions. This power grabbing has further intensified the power and “indispensability” of big tech companies as platforms but also as service providers, decision-makers, and gatekeepers.

In a dynamic exchange between civil society and the European Data Protection Supervisor, we explore the wider consequences of the data intensive business models of dominant tech companies.

- **Moderator: Claire Fernandez, Executive Director, [European Digital Rights](#)**

Speakers:

- Wojciech Wiewiórowski, European Data Protection Supervisor
- Gabrielle Guillemain, Senior Legal Officer, [Article 19](#)
- Domen Savič, Director, [Citizen D](#)
- Dr Seda Gürses, Associate Professor, [TU Delft](#)



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PANEL: The Privatised Panopticon: Workers' surveillance in the digital age

14:05- 15:00 | Room A

The global pandemic crisis has increased some trends related to work and surveillance that were already happening. First, with the raise of working from home, in some cases employers have tried to keep the tight control of the workforce via the the use of different types of software (Zoom, Microsoft Office). Second, the increase of eCommerce and the huge growth of Amazon has also raised concerns about the impact of surveillance on workers. Increasingly, the need to bring labour rights is a digital rights topic as well, and the need to bring coalitions together against specific threats are of utmost importance. During this panel we aim at discussing the current trends of surveillance at the workplace and the role of trade unions to enforce and defend digital rights. With Amazon as the prime suspect, we will explore other cases in the EU where the interaction of trade unions and digital rights are crucial.

During this panel we aim at describing the different struggles open and the possibilities for digital rights groups and trade unions to bring changes together in specific campaigns and actions in 2021. How could we combine the fight for human rights online and the work of trade unions when tackling surveillance at the workplace or when protesting, going on strike...

- **Moderator: Diego Naranjo, Head of Policy, [European Digital Rights](#)**

Speakers:

- Alba Molina-Serrano, Researcher, [Eurofound Correspondent](#)
- Nick Rudikoff, Campaign Director, [UNI Global Union](#)
- Renata Ávila, [Progressives International](#), [#MakeAmazonPay campaign](#)
- Aída Ponce, Senior Researcher, [European Trade Union Institute](#)



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PANEL: Reclaim Your Face, Reclaim Your Space: resisting the criminalisation of public spaces under biometric mass surveillance

14:05- 15:00 | Room B

The public square is a place where we can all be free to express ourselves, to organise and meet with others. It is a locus of social and political participation, and it is also a space of sanctuary, where we are entitled to the anonymity, privacy and respect for our individuality that enables each of us to live in dignity. Yet once our squares, streets, parks, football stadiums and city centers are equipped with constant, "seamless" biometric surveillance like facial recognition, we risk losing so many of the things that we value in a democratic society.

In this panel, organised by the European Reclaim Your Face coalition, speakers will explore the role of the public space, our bodies within it, and how this can be transformed by biometric mass surveillance. The session will explore how civil society and public actions to reclaim our faces and our spaces will ensure that we are not treated as weirdos, deviants, criminals or barcodes simply for living our lives. The objective of the panel is to create an empowering space of collective learning, exploration and resistance aimed at preserving the public voice and collective public rights and freedoms in the public space.

- **Moderator: Ella Jakubowska, Policy and Campaigns Officer, [European Digital Rights](#)**

Speakers:

- Karen Melchior, Danish MEP, [Renew Europe group](#)
- Dr Stefania Milan, Associate Professor, [University of Amsterdam](#)
- Vidushi Marda, Senior Programme Officer, [ARTICLE 19](#)
- Ella Jakubowska, Policy and Campaigns Officer, [European Digital Rights](#)



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WORKSHOP: Teach me how to hurdle: Empowering data subjects beyond the template

14:05- 15:00 | Room C

Data subjects wishing to exercise their rights face a variety of obstacles. Some derive from their own limited knowledge on applicable rules. Many, however, are due to data controllers' problematic responses – or lack of response – to requests, which can leave even the most advanced and confident data subject in a state of perplexity, helplessness, or despair. This workshop will explore ways in which individuals can self-organise and help each other, or help others in their community, for the exercise of data protection rights. It is organised in connection with the [Repair Cafés for Digital Rights – BXL](#) initiative.

- **Moderator: Joris van Hoboken, Associate Professor [IViR / University of Amsterdam](#), [LSTS/VUB](#)**

Speakers:

- Olivier Matter, [European Data Protection Supervisor Office](#)
- René Mahieu, Researcher, [LSTS/VUB](#)
- Safa Ghnaim, Project Lead, Data Detox Kit at [Tactical Tech](#)
- Ana Pop Stefanija, Researcher working on AI Transparency at [SMIT, VUB](#)



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PANEL: Algorithmic Impact Assessments

15:05- 16:00 | Room A

EPIC's submission for Privacy Camp 2021 is to focus on the role of Algorithmic Impact Assessments in regulating AI and protecting people from algorithmic harm. Panelists will dive into the types of Assessments that have been deployed worldwide, what value they can bring to systems of oversight, and the potential risks posed by relying on assessments to combat unique harms semi-automated states create.

A good outcome for the panel would be for attendees to be introduced to algorithmic impact assessments, to learn what can make these assessments effective, to consider the implications of requiring assessments for public and private use, and to think about how assessments can fit into the broader efforts to regulate AI. However, EPIC will ensure there is a diversity of location, race, and gender reflected in the participants.

- **Moderator: Gianclaudio Malgieri, Associate Professor, EDHEC Business School**

Speakers:

- Dr. Gabriela Zanfir-Fortuna, Senior Counsel of Global Privacy, Future of Privacy Forum
- Heleen Louise Janssen, Researcher, IVIR Institute for Information Law at the University of Amsterdam



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PANEL: Platform resistance and data rights

15:05- 16:00 | Room B

The last few years have seen a growing number of individuals and collectives capitalising on data rights to vindicate social justice goals in digitally intermediated environments. These goals tend to be very diverse: from demanding better labour conditions for gig workers, to challenging demonetisation practices affecting independent content creators, or reverse-engineering credit-scoring algorithms discriminating against certain communities. All these examples are characterised by specific group dynamics, increasingly being constrained by the platform-owned digital infrastructures in which they are embedded. Data rights has the potential to play a transformative role in building collective and countervailing resistance to platform power. The potential lies in envisioning new collective futures to construct more equitable forms of digital infrastructures. This panel will explore how data rights can, and should, empower people, in order to challenge the unilateral reconfiguration of group dynamics and communities by platform companies.

- **Moderator: Jill Toh, Researcher, [University of Amsterdam](#)**

Speakers:

- Rebekah Overdorf, Research Associate, [École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne](#)
- Gloria Gonzalez Fuster, Research Professor, [Vrije Universiteit Brussel](#)
- Bama Athreya, [Open Society Foundation](#)



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PANEL: Can Restorative Justice Help Us Govern Online Spaces?

15:05- 16:00 | Room A

Because a few giant internet companies managed over the years to almost completely dominate the online communication and information space, it is a common representation among policymakers, citizens and the media to consider those privately owned platforms today's main online "public space". However, their ability to set the limits and the frame of online speech and debates of nearly half the world population is heavily criticized.

On one hand, they censor too much and on the other hand, they don't protect marginalised users enough. Platforms have a hard time making sense of the differing needs and experiences of the demographics using their spaces, and social bias embedded in their algorithmic tools further complicates the issue. Several voices are calling for greater targeted measures to moderate and regulate speech online, ranging from increasing platforms' responsibilities vis-à-vis user-generated content to creating new criminal offences specific to online harms. Others advocate for alternative ways to deal with harmful content and online content disputes that would require neither arbitrary private actors' decisions nor the need for lengthy judicial proceedings.

This panel aims to bring this discussion to the table and explore the ways how the principles of restorative justice can inspire the future of content moderation online.

- **Moderator: Chloé Berthélémy, Policy Advisor, European Digital Rights**

Speakers:

- Pierre-François Docquir, Head of the Media Freedom Programme, ARTICLE 19
- Amy A. Hasinoff, Associate Professor, University of Colorado Denver (US)
- Alexandra Geese, Member of the European Parliament
- Josephine Ballon, Head of Legal, HateAid GmbH



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#PrivacyCamp21: Closing session

16:00- 16:10 | Room A

The closing session will have PrivacyCamp21's Content Committee offer their remarks of what lays ahead of us in 2021. Read below who they are.

As the last action of the day, we will also try to take a crowd screenshot for those who want to turn their cams on. (this might crash the whole platform but hey – at least we end with a bang! ... and a group pic)

Andreea Belu is a digital rights activist, as part of (and beyond) her day job at European Digital Rights – the network of 44 human rights organisations working. With an academic background in business, politics and philosophy from Copenhagen Business School, she dedicates her days to making topics of digital rights chewable for the public at large and mobilising people across Europe. She currently focuses on EDRI's campaigns on biometric mass surveillance and platform power. Andreea has been part of the the organisation of Privacy Camp for the past 3 years.

Rocco Bellanova is a Visiting Professor at the Université Saint-Louis – Bruxelles (USL-B) and a Research Associate at the University of Amsterdam. His work sits at the intersection of politics, law, and science and technology studies. He studies how digital data become pivotal elements in the governing of societies. His research focuses on European security practices and the role of data protection therein. He is member of the Scientific Committee of the Computers, Privacy and Data Protection (CPDP) conferences, and co-organizer of the annual Privacy Camp.



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Digital rights for change

#PrivacyCamp21: Closing session

16:00- 16:10 | Room A

Prof. Dr. Gloria González Fuster is a Research Professor at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)'s Faculty of Law and Criminology. Co-Director of the Law, Science, Technology and Society (LSTS) Research Group, and member of the Brussels Privacy Hub (BPH), she investigates legal issues related to privacy, personal data protection and security, teaches 'Privacy and Data Protection Law', and coordinates the 'Bruxelles: La ville et le droit' course. She also teaches 'Data Policies in the European Union' at the Data Law option of the Master of Laws in International and European Law (PILC) of VUB's Institute for European Studies (IES), and lectures on EU fundamental rights for PILC's course 'International and European Protection of Human Rights'. Additionally, she lectures on data protection law at the LL.M. in European and Transnational Law of Intellectual Property and Information Technology of Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. She has an academic background in Law, Communication Sciences and Modern Languages and Literatures.



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The organisation of Privacy Camp 2021 is made possible with the help of a dedicated team composed of:

Content Committee:

- Andreea Belu (EDRi)
- Gloria Gonzalez (VUB-LSTS)
- Rocco Bellanova (USL-B – IEE)

Operations Committee:

Guillermo Peris (EDRi)

Thierry Vandebussche (Art and Events Director at Privacy Salon)

Ine de Bock (Communication and administration Officer at VUB Crosstalks and Privacy Salon)

Privacy Camp 2021 would not be possible without the support of the entire EDRi team. In particular, thanks to Katarina Bartovičová in identifying sponsors and funders for the event, Gail Rego for communications support on and around the event, policy colleagues for organising panels and content discussions, and Claire Fernandez for coordination and support

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