

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. It is December 7th 2021, and this is the 7at7 series broadcasting from L200, here, and BigBlueButton, also here.

Every 7th of the month at 7pm, we offer an experimental news program about the digital world, and a special topic on digital empowerment.

“We” is a coalition of organizations, the ISOC Switzerland Chapter, the pEp foundation, NetHood, Digitale Gesellschaft, CCC-CH, the L200 space, and more.

To the increasing daily disasters that Internet corporations cause to privacy and democracy, even to public health, we want to add positive stories of tangible alternatives, about what all of us could do to create a more healthy and sustainable Internet ecosystem.

This month we are in the L200 studio with members of the NetHood association, one of the organizers of the 7at7 series which advocates for a more democratic, more organic Internet, bringing the cloud to the ground.

But before we go into more detail about NetHood’s past activities and future perspectives, let’s see a few of this month’s important news.

First, it is encouraging to see an increasing number of campaigns against the abusive policies of the few big tech companies that dominate our digital lives.

You can still sign for example for the campaign for stopping automatic facial recognition.

And get involved in the campaign for banning surveillance advertising.

It is interesting to see how such protests slowly manifest also in the physical world. It was just yesterday that one of the biggest conferences on Internet governance the IGF (Internet Governance Forum) was interrupted by protesters bringing awareness for the platform workers rights.

On more proactive actions, on November 30, @EDRi & 114 civil society orgs launched a collective statement to call for Artificial Intelligence Act that addresses the structural, societal, political & economic impacts of #AI uses.

And venues like the platform cooperativism conference, which finished a few days ago, aim to advance knowledge and technology for creating tangible alternatives, digital platforms owned and managed by their users.

The last days of December, as every year, comes the Chaos Computer Club conference. This will be the 2nd time that it will take place online, but with the possibility to participate in a hybrid more through local venues, like the Bitwaescherei in Zurich.

At the Bitwaescherei, and also here at L200, you can also find the WOZ's brochure on digital sustainability and sustainable digitalization that we discussed in the previous 7at7 event. Recordings of all 7at7 events will be released soon! It will be our Christmas present :-)

Talking about sustainability NetHood, today's futuristic organization, advocates for a degrowth approach to Internet technologies, creating coalitions with organizations working on the ground like the Atelier Architecture Autogeree in Paris. In the context of the Cultures 4 Resilience (C4R), we visited recently their new Agrocite in Bagneaux and listened to an inspiring talk by Gilles Clement on the planetary garden.

Imagining the Internet as a garden where people plant locally their digital platforms according to their own needs and resources, and taking care of them like they take care of

their flowers and vegetables is what the concept of the organic Internet is about.

And we have made a first step here at L200, hosting the web site of the Open Futures festival that is still ongoing. Visit openfutures.ch and you will connect to Lennon who is now in the basement because the Christmas market needed every cm of the main space :-)