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We live in interesting times, even if they are not easy (are there easy times?). Technological advances have allowed society to reinvent itself. Everything changes all the time – as you know, indeed: the way we study, create, relate with one another, transit the city, work, and the way we stand up for democracy and human rights. Consequently, these changes give rise not only to perplexities, but also to legal, economic, regulatory, market-related, and even philosophical issues.

ITS Rio is a think tank that works on the intersection between technology and society. Nevertheless, our goal is not to be an isolated research center that seeks theoretical solutions to theoretical problems. By applying the vision we defend, we want to collaboratively build a better world to this time. This requires the creation of a consistent network of thinkers, researchers, students, employees, visitors, fellows, friends, acquaintances, and interested and curious people.

This is why ITS Rio does not act restrictedly within its walls. (Additionally, with a view like the one we have from our window, there is nothing fairer than to start sharing our own space). Thus, ITS Rio has been promoting ever more events such as the Varandas ITS (Balconies), which hosts important personalities from the world of technology so as to informally debate on the most important subjects of the contemporaneity. However, since not everyone can take advantage of our activities in place, ITS Rio also offers online courses, with the advantage of live classes with some of the leading experts in the fields of our researches. Furthermore, since a strong network is also created internationally, ITS Rio offers courses in partnership with some of the most prestigious universities in the world such as Harvard and Sciences Po, and receives foreign researchers in its fellowship program.

The projects developed by ITS Rio equally make important contributions to the solid construction of public policies. After the approval of the Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights (Marco Civil da Internet) in 2014, ITS Rio envisaged the opportunity to discuss the democratic moves of our country in the MUDAMOS project, which has already addressed political reform and currently deals with public safety. Other topics will ensue. The active participation of everyone in the public debate promoted on the internet is vital in this case – not solely for the success of the project, but above all for the implementation of the advocated changes in the real world.

In addition, how will the future be? Not that distant future of science fiction, but the future that you and I will witness in the coming years? Bitcoin, blockchain, internet of things, encryption, algorithms and biotechnology are issues that will increasingly be part of our lives. Indeed, ITS Rio is already here, thinking and discussing the impact of each of these issues and their relation with privacy, human rights and the practical changes in life.

The issues are abundant, the topics are fascinating, and the challenge is set. Moreover, ITS Rio invites you to join us in the task of rethinking the world. In this report, we present in detail all the activities we developed in 2015 and all the things we want to do in 2016. We are sure that you will love to participate in some of them. Come build the new world with us.

Sérgio Branco
Founder and Director of ITS Rio
Where we have been / nationally

São Paulo
Rio de Janeiro
Brasília
João Pessoa
Fortaleza
Salvador
Belém
Campo Grande
São Paulo
Curitiba
Santa Catarina
Florianópolis
Porto Alegre
Belém
- KAS Virtual Democracy Debate Cycle

Brasília
- Connected Schools International Seminar
- New Social Participation Tools and Methodologies Seminar
- V Internet Information Seminar and II Digital Archiving International Seminar
- XXII Brazil-Europe KAS Forum

Campo Grande
- KAS Virtual Democracy Debate Cycle

Curitiba
- VII Public Interest and Authorship Rights

Florianópolis
- III BitConf – Bitcoin Brazilian Conference

Fortaleza
- KAS Virtual Democracy Debate Cycle

Jôao Pessoa
- Internet Governance Forum (IGF 2015)

Porto Alegre
- XVI Open Source International Forum
- KAS Virtual Democracy Debate Cycle

Rio de Janeiro
- XXII UNIRIO Judicial Week
- CBTMS 2015
- International Telecommunications Society Conference
- OAB/RJ Copyright and Entertainment Commission
- Open Education Resources Seminar: challenges and opportunities for education
- Digital Ambivalences: empowering democracy, monitoring citizens
- Culture and Development International Seminar
- Mass Media and Democracy Seminar: pluralism, freedom of expression and information
- SESI Digital Culture Festival 2014

Santa Cantarina
- Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights Lecture at UFSC

Salvador
- V Brazil’s Internet Forum

São Paulo
- Inovaday
- Net Mundial
- Campus Party
- Create | Iterate | Innovate
- Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights Round Table
- International Meeting: Culture and Digital Technologies
- XIV CONECTAS Human Rights International Colloquium
- Connected Schools Debate Series
- World Summit Youth Award (WSYA)
- IBRAC – XXII Consumer Relations Seminar
- Transform – Education in evolution
- Digital Future: Folha de São Paulo Seminars
- FECOMERCIO – VII Cybercrimes Congress
- FECOMERCIO – VII Cybercrimes Congress
- RIA Festival 2014 – Telefonica Foundation Event
- Cyber Security, Urban Mobility and Digital Economy Risks Seminar
- Digitalization Forum: Solutions for a more Competitive Brazil
- Launching of the 16th edition of the magazine “Observatório” – Itaú Cultural
- Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights at USP
Where we have been / internationally

- United States
- England
- Germany
- Italy
- France
- South Africa
- Belgium
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- Marroco
- China
- India
- Argentina
- Singapore
- Costa Rica
- Mexico
Argentina
- ICANN53 (Buenos Aires)

Belgium
- SWP Cyberlab – The challenges of digitalization for European and German Foreign and Security Policy (Brussels)

China
- Blockchain Workshops – Smart Contracts for Smart Cities (Hong Kong)
- Hong Kong University (Hong Kong)
- 2nd World Internet Conference (Wuzhen)
- Intellectual Property Seminar (Macau)

Costa Rica
- Open Government Partnership Regional Meeting for the Americas (San José)

England
- Global Partners Digital – Cyber security workshop (Cambridge)
- Queen Mary University of London

France
- Internet and Jurisdiction Project (Paris)

Germany
- Chances and Risks of Social Participation (Berlin)

India
- IAMCR 2014 (Hyderabad)

Italy
- Italy’s Chamber of Deputies (Rome)
- Meeting with the President of the Italian Parliament (Rome)

Marroco
- Atlantic Dialogues (Marrakech)

Mexico
- LACIGF (Mexico City)
- Open Government Partnership Summit (Mexico City)

Singapore
- 52nd ICANN Public Meeting (Singapore)

South Africa
- Project SiRCA (Cape Town)

Switzerland
- World Economic Forum – Meeting of Young Global Leaders (Geneva)

Turkey
- Internet Governance Forum (IGF 2014) (Istanbul)

United States
- SXSW (Austin)
- IV eCOM-L@C (Miami)
- IV Annual Latin-American Forum on Internet, Technology and Telecommunications Public Policies (Miami)
- Columbia University – Conference on Internet Governance & Cyber Security (New York)
- RightsCon (San Francisco)
- Geo for Good User Summit 2015 (Mountain View)
- Inauguration of the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies (New York)
- E3 (Los Angeles)
It has always been difficult to explain, at home, what we do. Teachers that lead applied research projects and that created an institute to take forward causes regarding the impacts of technology on society? That also. For none of this explains the reason why we travel so much, why the best discussions are on the balcony or how seven years have passed so quickly since the Internet Bill of Rights was only a good idea before becoming a federal law.

As good Rio habitants (genuine or imported), we ended up getting to know each other on the beach. Copacabana Beach, Botafogo Beach and Flamengo Beach, respectively, have been the meeting point for what we have done, being the latter our latest and current address.

We have always believed that knowledge likes being and must be shared. It is noteworthy that the first theme we worked on, back in 2003, was copyright. With the Creative Commons licenses, we have learned that copyright protection can be combined with access to knowledge. Being faithful to this, we opened our balcony to the community, with innovative and high level debates. The Varandas are always free of charge for those who come, and they count with national and international speakers. This also helps to explain why we travel so much. We travel to build networks and to assert a place to Brazil in the international arena. Not only do we have a lot to learn from what the other countries did, but also we have much to tell. If, after all, this is a small world, we have already gone around it several times learning from others and taking far away our experiences.

The Internet Bill of Rights illustrates this. From Hong Kong to Rome, from New York to Hyderabad, we went far away to discuss the Brazilian (and collaborative) initiative to create a bill of rights for the Internet. No one has authorship of the Internet Bill of Rights, given that it was the result of many voices, but we are part of the group of its founders.

Freedom of speech, net neutrality, privacy and personal data are some of the issues comprised in the collaborative construction of this law that placed Brazil at the forefront of protecting online rights and that has inspired initiatives in other countries. One of the main lessons taught by Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights was to rely on participation. It is through the union of different expertise and points of view that the result of an initiative grows stronger.

MUDAMOS, a project of collaborative platform developed by ITS Rio for the discussion of public policies, is the continuation of our work regarding the exploration of the boundaries of online participation. It all started with the debate on internet regulation. With MUDAMOS, we have already deepened political reform and public safety. What will the next topic to explore through the platform be?

The ITS Rio projects are opportunities for us to work together. We do not develop them because this is our job. On the contrary, our work is to make an idea materialize in the form of a project. The following projects provide a glimpse of this direction. They are a map of the steps we choose to take in order to attain our goals. It is by means of projects that new partners, researchers and interlocutors join the walk. Therefore, we could not accomplish this if we did not do it together.

Carlos Affonso Souza
Founder and Director of ITS Rio
MUDAMOS Platform:
All citizens can continuously exercise political participation, but for a great part of the population, it is still reduces to the electoral period. With the aim to contribute to the shift of this scenario by expanding and qualifying the debate, ITS Rio launched in 2015 the platform MUDAMOS.

In this virtual space, real efforts converge for a collective experience based on principles of open government. By means of the platform, anyone can register and participate in the debates that take place in cycles. They all originate documents prepared from the analysis of the comments and contributions received, which shall be delivered to public officials related to the topic at stake. A content partner that happens to be expert on the subject works in conjunction with the ITS Rio team so that the narrative has the tone of an analysis and results in recommendations.

During the first year of the project, the platform registered more than 2,500 entries and two major topics were on the agenda: Political Reform in the 21st century and Public Safety. On the page that the project feeds on Facebook, the figures equally give reasons to celebrate: more than 11,000 followers, with a total reach of more than 1.5 million profiles.

In addition to a careful and thorough process that requires constant investments in technology and in human resources, the implementation of the MUDAMOS platform functions by respecting non-negotiable values, such as transparency. The Ombudsperson Office and a Transparency Committee – which comprise representatives of civil society organizations, the academia and the government – are indicative of the priority of this issue for ITS Rio. The project seeks to have several cycles going on simultaneously in the near future, with different kinds of public debating the most relevant themes for Brazilian society. Hence, the MUDAMOS platform expects to collaborate in building a new culture of political and civic participation in Brazil.
**Bitcoin Hub:**

Bitcoin is one of the latest innovations in technology that is still on the margin of the society’s broad understanding. Demystifying the operation of this decentralized and universal network was one of the goals of the Bitcoin Hub project, which included meetings and content planned by ITS Rio during 2015.

Until then, there was no aggregator initiative on the subject conducted by an organization in Brazil. ITS Rio, reaffirming its vocation to anticipate discussions related to technology that may cause social, economic and legal impacts, promoted the creation of a community interested in debating the use and research of Bitcoin. We held meetings featuring the participation of national and international speakers, with the aim to reflect the potential Bitcoin impact on several areas. Thus, we discussed various topics such as business models, e-commerce, macroeconomics, and art. Among the main personalities of the field that participated in the events, we highlight the French artist and researcher Primavera De Filippi, the American entrepreneur Justin Blincoe, the economist Fernando Ulrich, the Brazilian businesspersons living abroad Fernando Gouveia and Fernando Bitti, in addition to the most meaningful names that make up the Brazilian ecosystem.

ITS Rio has also promoted an online course, which consists on ten lessons on the subject, and constituted an active part in online debates self-organized by members of this new network, and started marking a presence in the important events related to the subject, such as the III Bitcoin Brazilian Conference. The Institute has consolidated itself as a reference for information and updates on the subject, thereby being sought by the press often as an expert source. Thanks to this work, a present and active community in Rio de Janeiro has been promoting meetings (meetups) autonomously in the city based on the embryo formed with the Bitcoin Hub. Also because of this success, we will expand and deepen such discussions based on a new project focused not solely on Bitcoin, but rather on the entire range of projects that stem from its technology, named Blockchain Hub.
NoC – Network of Centers:
Approaching research and public interest is an ongoing effort of ITS Rio, which, in this movement, does not dispose of the network articulation and the partnerships with other centers of excellence in research. The NoC (Network of Centers) emerged from this collaboration paradigm and consolidated itself as an interdisciplinary network. Since 2012, institutions that think and study the “technology x rights” relationship in different countries have been working together to produce informed content, to promote better training of specialists and to generate content from collaborative dynamics. ITS Rio is a member as well as an integral part of the executive committee of the NoC, which discusses, analyzes and propounds recommendations that could legally and politically influence the Internet regulation and governance. In the first “policy-oriented” project (dedicated to public policies) of that network, developed from 2014, ITS Rio contributed, with the aid of a case study, to a relevant comparative research on the liability of intermediaries on the Internet. Learning calls and international meetings provided a real integration of the participating centers. In addition to specific studies, the ongoing effort to map areas of knowledge and spaces that should and can be subject to the NoC’s impacts is a task always shared by the associate centers under a multi-sectoral perspective and with the support of a list of e-mails. Among the Northern and Southern centers of the globe that feature this network are: the Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society (Germany), the Berkman Center for Internet and Society (USA), the Centre for Internet and Society in Bangalore (India); the Nexa Center for Internet & Society – Politecnico di Torino (Italy) and the Access to Knowledge for Development Center (Egypt).
Oficina Antivigilância (Counter Surveillance Workshop):
Privacy and freedom of expression are, in the view of ITS Rio, fundamental and non-negotiable rights. Strengthening the resistance scene that ensues from the mass surveillance context and the resulting violations of these rights is the attitude adopted by the Institute since its founding as an organization. Given all that, it is natural that a project like the “Counter Surveillance Workshop” was one of the first to emerge.

For two consecutive years, the production of reference content and free training through workshops for users interested in protecting their data were part of the strategy of ITS Rio to promote a network informed about threats and protection opportunities. Online communication platforms were developed and customized by a team of experts and communicators, as well as counter surveillance technologies were disseminated while a virtual discussion group was consolidated from these efforts. In 2015, this network remained active and autonomous, and its activities can be monitored through the website created in ITS Rio, updated by the Project.
In 2015, the Lemann Foundation invited ITS Rio to coordinate the production of a technical plan that proposes improvements in the provision of internet access for public elementary and secondary education. A study that contemplates the proposition of the National Pact for Connectivity in Schools, with established goals and responsibilities reallocated among different levels of government, hence suggested structural changes and goals. With the hustle revolving around the issue, there have been unfolding. School communities have engaged themselves and identified gaps in the Broadband Program at Schools (Plano de Banda Larga nas Escolas – PBLE). Based on such evidence as well as on data collected by ITS Rio, a new study was developed by highlighting the number of schools that should already be connected but remain without internet. This study was filed within the National Telecommunications Agency (Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações – Anatel) and charges the regulatory agency greater supervision for compliance with the contract established by PBLE.

Connectivity in Schools:
Brazilian and foreign organizations recognize the ability of ITS Rio to study and scrutinize scenarios related to the internet with the aim to develop assertive recommendations that may contribute to improvements and advancements in public policies.
Connectivity at Risk:
ITS Rio seeks to position itself whenever it identifies threats or violations to citizens’ and computer network users’ fundamental rights. Among many relevant topics, the communication regulation in the country is a strategic subject for the institute.

In June 2015, in face of the possibility of Anatel (National Telecommunications Agency) deciding to block unapproved phones, ITS Rio confronted the regulatory agency with a document published and registered in partnership with Access Now, which is an independent organization with a global scope that works for the defense and expansion of digital rights. The study and technical opinion called “Connectivity at Risk” pointed out that the disconnection of these unregistered phones would be a disproportionate measure, with negative upshot on the fields of privacy, freedom of expression and digital inclusion. The digital version is available in full view on the web.

The effort to produce the document caused Anatel the need to position itself on the matter, and equally increased the visibility of the subject in the public debate, evincing the most sensitive issues that could rise with a probable unilateral decision of the agency. The study was published in accessible language for the understanding of the public as a whole, and not just for experts. In order to explain the way privacy would be threatened, for example, the report describes that the system would function by means of IMEI verification (International Mobile Equipment Identity), and pragmatically relates this to the formation of a huge base data that could be used for mass surveillance. Another key point in the study is the impact the measure would exert on the Internet access of low-income population, after all the mobile phone represents connectivity to thousands of Brazilians.

Anatel formally responded to ITS Rio by stating that it was time to analyze the backdrop, and declared that, before any measure, Anatel would duly inform the user. ITS Rio keeps following up the matter.
Login Cidadão (Citizen Login): To assist the government of Rio Grande do Sul in innovating its relationship with citizens and promote greater efficiency in digital services without distancing itself from the fundamental rights of internet users.

Thus can be defined the mission of the ITS Rio Login Cidadão Project [https://meu.rs.gov.br/], a pioneering initiative in the country led by a government aiming at the development of a single registry for citizens to access public services and participatory processes.

The work, carried out in partnership with the World Bank and the US consultancy Robinson + Yu, determined the terms of use and privacy policy of the platform that will have the ability to link databases, in line with Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights. In the form of a toolkit, it presented the rules and conditions for management and use of personal data, always preserving the non-violation of the privacy of users as the greatest value. There are quite a few sensitivities when it comes to a project that takes convenience to citizens while rendering their data more accessible to government agents. This is the very reason why ITS Rio assigned itself to assess them aiming to anticipate possible situations of violation as well as its terms of use.
OSF Big Data in Global South:
The debate on Big Data is fundamental. An agenda is required in order to qualify and deepen it from a regional perspective.

The event “OSF – Big Data in the Global South”, held by ITS Rio in Rio de Janeiro in November 2015, asserted itself exactly to the identification of concerns and demands common to the Global South with regard to the creation, management and treatment of public and private data. For two days, the event exclusive of experts hosted debates on laws, guidelines and other instruments of governance that contribute to the regulation of the voluminous paradigm of big data.

Professionals working in the academy and in public, private and third sector organizations presented and discussed practices and real cases, and initiated a network model outline to keep debating the theme. The effort carried out by ITS Rio in this event of international character was also in this sense: to map the conditions for the creation of an international and multi-sector network of privacy and big data, a work developed in partnership with the CIS – The Centre for Internet & Society of India. A case study has already been published and is open to the public on the web.

ITS Rio and the partner organizations that were present and buttressed the initiative understand that the issue is deemed urgent on the agenda of contemporary politics, not only due to the recent privacy violations attributed to governments and the private sector, but also to the almost sheer lack of data protection laws in the Southern countries. This debate, analogously to laws that draw on data, is already structured in the North of the globe. Developing it in the South as well is a strategic issue for the economic, social and political fields.
Democracy and Technology Expert Meeting:
Identifying trends for the debate and practices involving democracy and technology, in order to contribute to a greater public engagement scenario, is an exercise that ITS Rio practices in its day-to-day work.

In August 2014, we granted this experience in person during a two-day immersion in an event that brought together, in debates, representatives of civil society, government, private sector, academia and project financiers. Besides being multi-sectoral, the “Democracy and Technology Expert Meeting” was also multicultural, as it gathered experts from Brazil, Chile, United States, Mexico, among other countries.

Which initiatives existing today in Chile, for instance, can inspire new practices in Brazil? What kind of cooperation is feasible between activists and private companies that value civic action with Internet support? Questions of this nature were raised and discussed, illustrated by real cases and successful practices shared by managers.

After facilitating the networking among actors and setting the possibilities of collaboration, ITS Rio fomented an additional space for the continuity of exchange, this time online, in partnership with the Avina Foundation and the World Bank Digital Engagement Unit, thereby creating Civviki [wiki.itsrio.org], a civic wiki. Any user can access and make use of already published material on civic innovation and new technologies.
Varandas ITS

Inviting the public to open and free discussions that take place at the headquarters of ITS Rio, in Rio de Janeiro capital, has become a recurring practice since December 2013, when the first edition of Varandas ITS (ITS Balconies) was held. Ever since until the end of 2015, there were 21 thematic meetings that addressed relevant as well as diverse issues and opened space for people interested in discussing technology and society to meet with Brazilian and foreign names that have made a difference in their fields.

More than simply listening to these experts, during the events the participants were able to contribute to the identification and the discussion of trends and challenges related to “Maker movement”, “Privacy and personal data protection”, “Humor and freedom of expression”, “Democracy, political reform and participation”, among many other agendas [watch the videos on our YouTube channel].

The balcony is usually full – in some meetings, the places are completed right on the first days of enrollment. The dynamics have remained the same in all editions: one or more guests led the conversation and talked about the work they do in a format more informal than that of a lecture. Then they put themselves available to answer to questions and to debate. In the audience, students, researchers, journalists and managers of public, private and third sector organizations have attended.

As the project format presupposes closeness and connection, on top of recognizing the face-to-face meeting as an important enabler of articulations, it would be no exaggeration to allege that the public that attended the terrace of ITS Rio benefited from the Institute’s ability to create, to foster and to promote people networks. Where else other than on the balcony of ITS Rio would it have been possible, in Brazil in 2015, to find and join a chat with David P. Stewart – Rapporteur of the OAS principles on privacy and personal data protection, Frédéric Martel – author of “Smart: On the internets”, Ethan Zuckerman – director of the MIT Center for Civic Media, Barry Bergdoll – Professor at Columbia University and curator of the MoMA and Anna Livia Arida – director of Minha Sampa?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01.02.14</td>
<td>Cibersegurança</td>
<td>With Adam Segal (Council on Foreign Relations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.03.14</td>
<td>Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights</td>
<td>With DF Alessandro Molon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.04.14</td>
<td>Bitcoin</td>
<td>With Alexandre Linhares (member of the Club of Rome, researcher and professor at EBAPE/FGV), Gabriel Aleixo (ITS researcher) e Gustavo Chamati (CFO of the Mercado Bitcoin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>08.05.15</td>
<td>Fashion Law: Fashion, Law and Technology</td>
<td>With the lawyer and professor Deborah Portilho, fashion expert at London College of Fashion, Paula Acioli, and the founder and CEO of the app Dujour, Felipe Venetiglio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29.07.14</td>
<td>Fellows 2014/15</td>
<td>With Allison Burtch, Kate Krontiris, Primavera de Filippi, Amalia Deloney, Amar Ashar e Malavika Jayaram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02.10.14</td>
<td>Virtual Reality</td>
<td>With Gabriel Brasil (journalist, designer and illustrator), Franey Nogueira (visual artist), with the mediation of the journalists Alexandre Roldão (LabMídia, executive editor of Navegador, an innovation program at Globonews) and Rafael Coimbra (presenter of the column “Futuro: modo de usar”, at Jornal da GloboNews)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Humor and Freedom of Expression, 19.03.15
With Hélio de La Peña, one of the founders of the humor magazine “Casseta Popular” and participant of “Casseta & Planeta”, and Luis Lobianco, actor and Brazilian comedian, part of the cast of “Porta dos Fundos”

Participation, Democracy and Technology, 23.04.15
With Ethan Zuckerman (Director of the MIT Center for Civic Media) and Ivan Krastev (Centre for Liberal Strategies in Sofia/Institute of Human Sciences of Vienna). Mediation by Lucia Nader (member of the ITS Board and fellow of the Open Society Foundations)

Why Information Grows: The Evolution of Order, from Atoms to Economies, 15.05.15
With César Hidalgo, professor of the MIT and the MIT Media Lab, expert in complexity, evolution and networks, known worldwide for its data visualization projects

Architecture, Urban Planning and Culture, 15.07.15
With Barry Bergdoll (professor at Columbia University and curator of MoMA, Arto Lindsay (Musician e cultural critic) and Washington Fajardo (Rio City Hall)

Fellows 2015/16 – Marginalized Communities in the Digital Era, 22.07.15
With Daniel Arnaudo (University Of Washington's Center For Global Studies) and Payal Arora (Erasmus University of Rotterdam)
Fellows 2015/16 – Hacking Policy in the Digital Era, 23.07.15
With Florian Martin-Bariteau (University of Montreal), Gemma Clavell (Autonomous University of Barcelona) and Karima Smouk (University of Montreal)

Democracy, Political Reform and Participation, 30.07.15
With Márlon Reis (Judge in Maranhao / Creator of the “Movimento Lei Da Ficha Limpa”, which led to the approval of the People’s Initiative Act in the Congress)

Connected schools and technology in the education, 08.10.15
With Anna Livia Arida (Director of Minha Sampa), Diogo Moyses (Consultant) e Heloísa Mesquita (Former manager of the Ginásio Experimental Carioca)

The fragmented and regionalized Internet, 27.10.15
With Frédéric Martel, author of the book “Smart: On the internets”

Privacy and Personal Data Protection with OAS, 17.11.15
With David P. Stewart, Rapporteur of the OAS principles for privacy and personal data protection

#AgoraÉQueSãoElas, 27.11.15
With Alessandra Orofino (Co-founder of the network Nossas Cidades), Gabriela Agustini (Founder of Olabi Makerspace) and Manoela Miklos (creator of the actions Não Tem Conversa e #AgoraÉQueSãoElas)

Surveillance on the Internet, 08.12.15
With Stéphane Bourliataux- Lajoinie (University of Tours)
Global Policy Fellowship Program

Brazil, being the country of the Internet Bill of Rights, of the Multi-sectoral Internet Steering Committee, of the broadband access discussions, of the open consultations for laws regarding the internet, of the “tecnobrega” and many other interesting features, is a complex and powerful space for debate on free, democratic internet. With the proposition to present this space to foreign students and professionals in a warm and exciting way, and with the aim of facilitating exchanges and discussions on best practices, ITS Rio has already promoted two editions, in 2014 and in 2015, of the Global Fellows Program. During four weeks, the groups were received by the ITS Rio team and had the opportunity to make an immersion in the areas of ITS Rio. The schedule of activities included the cities of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Brasília and involved meetings with representatives of the politics, the civil society and large companies working on the intersection of law and technology. Relating with the institute’s staff in the office in Rio allowed visitors to get to know part of the internet research panorama in Brazil and boosted collaboration when commonalities were identified. A presentation open to the public and part of the agenda of ITS Varandas additionally enabled the fellows to talk to a diversified audience about the work they perform. In the testimonies that foreign researchers gave following the end of the fellowship program, it became evident that having contact with the specialized and non-specialized public contributed to a better understanding of the Brazilian context. For ITS Rio, the two groups of fellows, which gathered 13 researchers in total (ten women, three men) from Latin America, Europe and Asia, reaffirmed the institute’s vocation to be a hub that connects people aiming to identify trends and suggest solutions and practices that may have local or global applications.
Get to know the selected fellows of the two editions of the program:

**2014**

- **Allison Burtch**
  New York University (USA)
- **Amalia Deloney**
  Center for Media and Justice (USA)
- **Amar Ashar**
  Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University (USA)
- **Kate Krontiris**
  Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University (USA)
- **Malavika Jayaram**
  The Centre for Internet and Society – CIS (India)
- **Primavera de Filippi**
  Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University (USA)

**2015**

- **Daniel Arnaudo**
  University of Washington’s Center for Global Studies (USA)
- **Emy Tseng**
  National Telecommunications and Information Administration – NTIA (USA)
- **Florian Martin-Bariteau**
  Université de Montréal (Canada)
- **Gemma Clavell**
  Eticas Research & Consulting (Spain)
- **Karima Smouk**
  Université Paris-Sud (France)
- **Payal Arora**
  Department of Media and Communication at Erasmus University Rotterdam (Netherlands)
- **Roxana Radu**
  Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Switzerland)
With online courses, ITS Rio expands spaces and possibilities to access contents on law and technology.
Through an online dynamics and with the support of an interactive platform, the Institute started offering distance extension courses, always with the transmission of live classes and the possibility of interaction with the students.

The intersection of law, technology and society guides the content of the courses, open to any professional from Brazil or abroad. In addition to courses aimed at the Brazilian market, ITS Rio is developing international academic partnerships to discuss relevant aspects of foreign laws, as well as to offer the foreign public an opportunity of getting acquainted to the internet legislation and regulation in Brazil. In this regard, since 2014 the Institute annually offers the course “Copyright X”, in partnership with UERJ (State of Rio de Janeiro University) and Harvard Law School.

The twelve-week distance learning deals with copyright laws in the US and encompasses content and live classes conducted by the ITS Rio team.

In 2015, the Institute also had the opportunity to perform, along with the UERJ and the Sciences Po University, a course for master students on relevant aspects of intellectual property, ministered by ITS Rio members together with some of the most renowned French researchers in the matter. For the coming years, we hope to establish new national and international academic partnerships, always innovating in the methodology of courses and offering students a solid multidisciplinary training focused on the discussion of practical problems.
Since the beginning of its work as a think tank, ITS Rio has accumulated more than 30 own publications resulting from studies on topics that have recently been on the agenda, under dispute or that still keep being discussed on civil and political spheres. ITS Rio makes an applied research. It dialogues with the contemporary context, with the current demands of a networked society and the daily lives of thousands of Brazilians and foreigners.

Most publications are available on the online platform of the Institute and licensed under Creative Commons. ITS Rio deems accessible and open knowledge as an urgency rather just as a trend. Get to know below the most recent productions of the Institute.

Publications

For the ITS Rio team, writing articles is not enough. The research and the knowledge production in network can and should echo formats beyond traditional papers.
Understanding Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights

ITS’s Public Submission to Data Protection Act Draft Bill

Multistakeholder as Governance Groups: New Study by Global Network of Internet and Society Centers

Connected Schools: Quality and Equity in Brazilian Schools

Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights (Atlas Editor)


Global Censorship: Shifting Modes, Persisting Paradigms

What is Creative Commons?

UNESCO’s Legal Position on the Right to be Forgotten

Stakes are high: Essays on Brazil and the Future of the Global Internet

Connectivity at risk

Fighting Spam in Brazil and the management of Port 25 TCP/IP

MAM Seminars: intellectual property in the contemporary creative field

Brazil’s Internet Bill of Rights Regulamentation

The IRPC Charter of Human Rights and Principles for the Internet

Internet Rights & Principles Coalition

Carta de Direitos Humanos e Princípios para a Internet
ITS Rio on the Media and Networks

The media spaces that ITS Rio continually occupies, such as social networks and journalistic news platforms, unveil that the public that dialogues with our experts and contents recognizes the Institute as a reference in the debate and research of the themes that are among the fields of law, society and technology. The scope, the engagement and the influence of the communication made by ITS Rio are relevant, as depicted by some data gathered in the following info graphic.
When the instant messaging application WhatsApp was suspended in Brazil in December 2015, vehicles worldwide sought ITS Rio as an expert source. Altogether, the Institute featured in fifteen media coverages on the case.

In 2015, the ITS Rio team was interviewed or quoted in:

>150 coverages in the national press

>25 coverages in the international press

Where can you find ITS Rio?

Facebook figures:

>40 thousand followers

>6,500,000 users

In June 2015, the text “O dia em que o Facebook saiu do armário” (The day when Facebook came out of the closet), published in the column that ITS Rio maintains on HuffPost Brazil, was an audience hit: in just over 24 hours, it had about 5,300 likes and 350 shares on the social media.
Words from the Board

A path of maturation: for the sake of a fairer world

The trajectory of the Institute for Technology and Society of Rio (ITS Rio) coincides with transformations: be they the alterations that technology promotes in society or the evolution of the organization, ensued from the structured action of a restless team. The world needs changes as well as a lot of concern.

When I was invited to the Advisory Board, I was encouraged by the opportunity to make the necessary bridge between the human rights field and the world of technology. By hitherto tracking the development of the Institute, I have redoubled my bet: the world’s technological development is worth only if it contributes to a more just and democratic world and country.

The projects of ITS Rio seek exactly that and can implicate a wide range of issues related to the legal, social, economic and cultural impacts of technology in various sectors of society. For its achievement, the Institute has several national and international partners, which increases its influence ability and fosters the maturation of the sector.

Since its inauguration, the quantity of the Institute’s projects has rapidly accrued, similarly to its investment and team size. Its leaders are committed to the organization’s structured and responsible growth and to the outcome of their projects. This reflects the increasing importance given to guide their activities by the same values and vision of society.

Responsibility also entails the zeal when measuring the impact and use of financial resources – which includes embracing the service of an independent external audit.

We have achieved and learned a lot in these almost three years. Moreover, we perceive that the challenges are plentiful. In order to conquer them, we must be ambitious, committed, restless and responsible. Only in this way will the opportunities emerged by technological advances be seized by all and translated into more effective rights and democracy.

Lucia Nader
Human Rights Activist and Currently Fellow of Open Society Foundations
ITS Rio, a window and portal for the near future

The Institute for Technology and Society of Rio was born in 2013 with an enthusiastic goal: to ensure that technology exerts a positive impact on society, especially with regard to developing countries. This mission permeates all the various ITS Rio projects. The Institute has consolidated and expanded the work of more than 10 years of its founders, becoming an institution that is a national and international reference for issues relative to technology policies. These issues include the protection of internet rights, the promotion of connectivity for all, the endorsement of innovation and digital entrepreneurship, the governance of the internet and the insertion of Brazil and developing countries in major global debates concerning technology.
Think of a top theme that draws out challenges for society as a whole. ITS Rio is keeping an eye on it. Examples comprehend cryptographic currencies, blockchain and other initiatives with the potential to generate major social impact. Now think of “classic” themes of Internet regulation, such as the issue of privacy, the promotion of digital inclusion and the routine legislative debates involving the network. ITS Rio is present in them as well.

We live a momentum that we have dubbed “The Fourth Industrial Revolution”. Regardless if there is exaggeration in the use of the term, the fact is that the technological advances we are witnessing today will continue to transform the ways of life. These moves no longer take decades to disseminate socially. They spread quickly. In this context, one must be prepared and aware of these changes, tasks that are part of the daily work of ITS Rio.

For the year of 2016, in addition to all the themes above mentioned, we will continue working in areas that are essential to the present and the near future. Among the critical fields that ITS Rio conducts is, for example, the development and the application of civic technologies, i.e. tools capable of qualitatively increasing forms of public participation in democracy, thereby deepening it. Another crucial issue concerns the various uses of data science, which unfold on matters such as the recent advances in artificial intelligence, the practice of machine learning, and the substrate for all these activities, which are the large volumes of data, called “Big Data”.

Equally important for 2016 is the understanding of the role that innovation and entrepreneurship can play in the development of Brazil. For this, we are conducting interviews as more than 100 experts, taking into account the multiple sectors that make up society (government, private sector, civil society etc.), and the diversity of social and economic profiles. We will then set forth initiatives, activities and structural changes that can cause Brazil and other countries of the Global South to build new avenues for development in a sustainable manner, hence transforming knowledge into productivity.

For a long time we have accredited ITS Rio as a window. A place where it is possible to discern what happens in the present and envision – with seriousness and responsibility – trends that will determine the future. However, by analyzing what we did during the last three years; we realize that we are not only window, but also a portal. An organization that is committed to opening conceptual and practical paths still unexplored, capable of engendering positive changes. This is another way of stating what our mission is.

Ronaldo Lemos
Founder and Director of ITS Rio
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