

Next Generation Internet 2025

Where next?



FOSDEM 2025

02-02-2025

FOSDEM keynote 2018





Non-profit set up in the eighties by pioneers of the European internet to support the creation of “an open information society”.





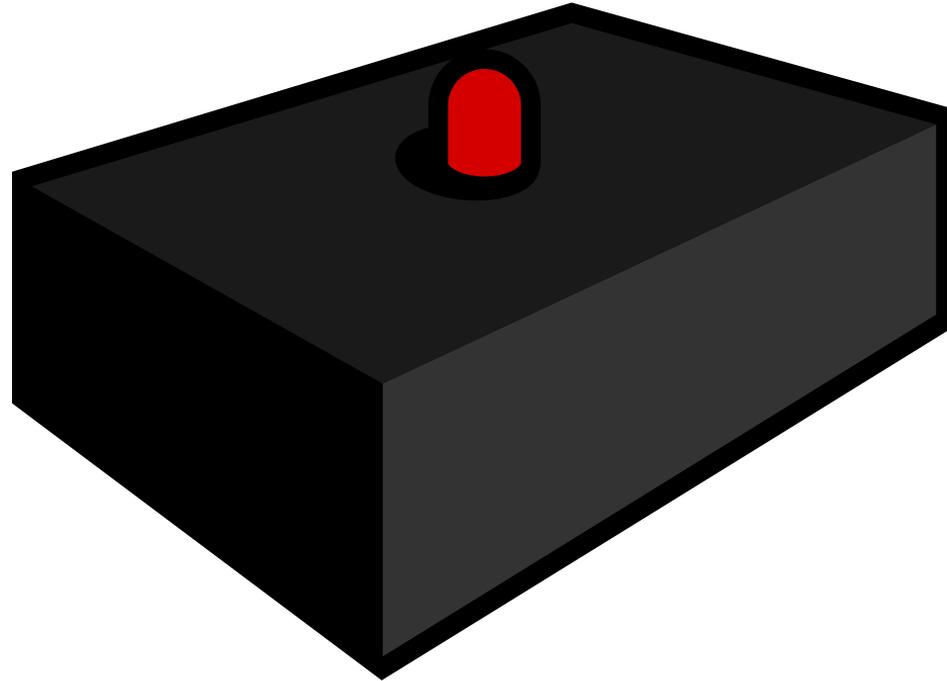
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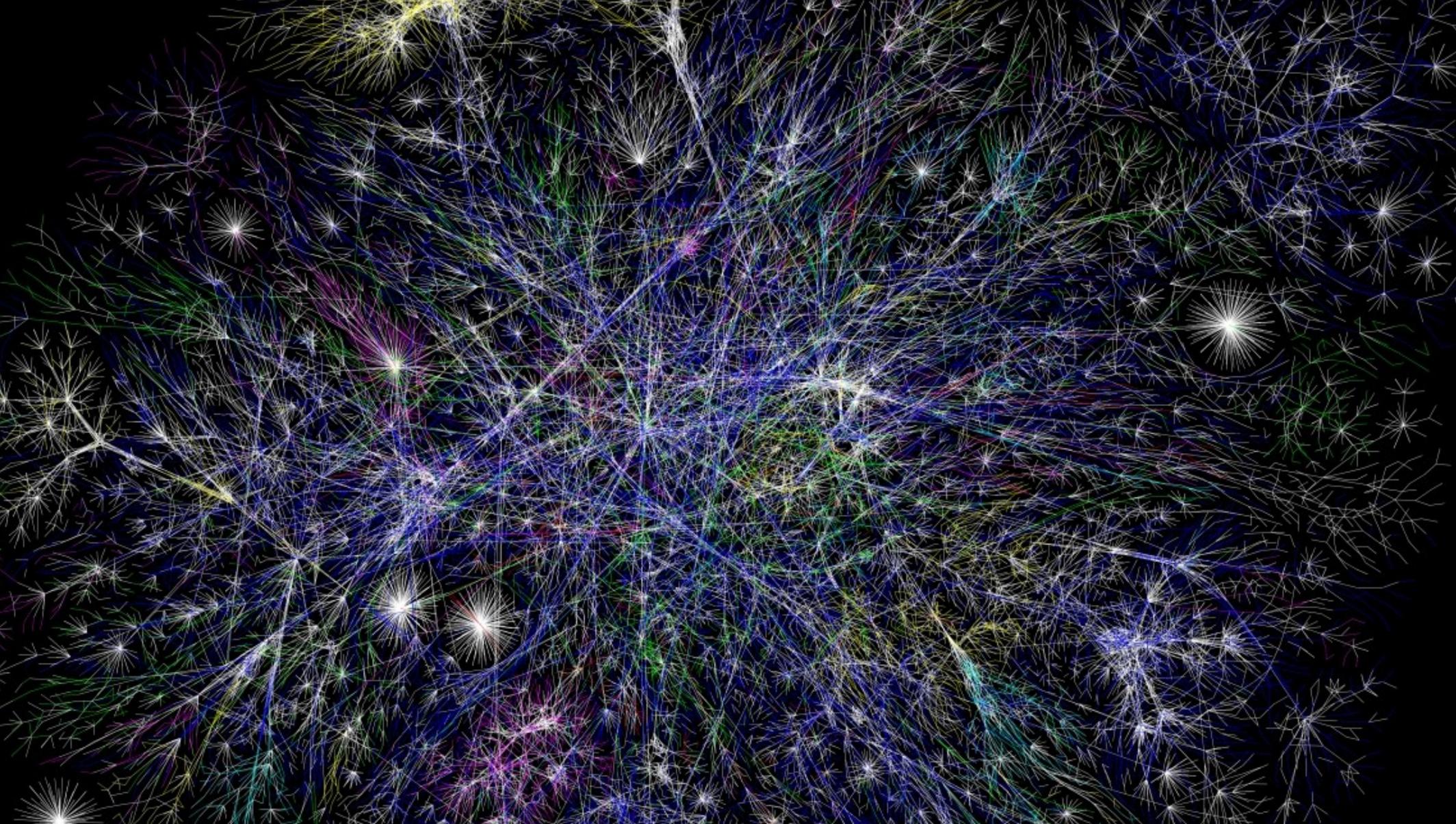


Research and advisory firm that is focused on trend analysis in information technology.



First Generation Internet





The internet is a network of independent networks.

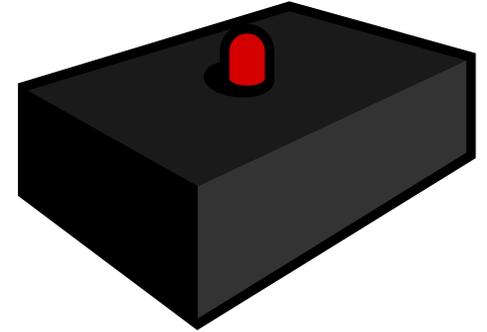
Not a coherent professional infrastructure but the sum of many independent networks, owned and operated by small and large organisations (and even individuals).

Plus some glue components:

.. like internet exchanges, owned by private organisations.

... like nameservers, also owned by private organisations.

... like spying equipment, also owned by private (and some public) organisations



So the internet is really layered...

Connections

- Physical links.
- Electrons. Light. Radio.
- Senders. Receivers.

Conventions

- Standards
- Protocols
- Operational practises.

Code + commodity

- Ubiquitous code (Open source)
- A lot of legacy hardware
- Including your devices

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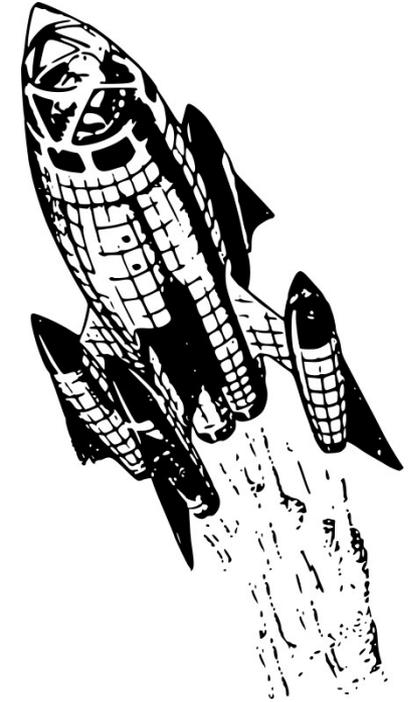
Code + commodity

- Ubiquitous code (Open source)
- A lot of legacy hardware
- Including your devices

Changing the core conventions of the internet means billions of (quasi-coordinated) changes across existing networks that have never changed that way before.

Moonshot ++ effort

- The internet is the **largest** and **most pervasive** technical construct ever made by humans
- And we need to change it with 3.5+ billion people 'on board'.
- High political stakes. High economic stakes. Highly critical users users. Overloaded with expectations. From everybody.
- Focus on what is **mission-critical**.



Our design goals

Establish the long term vision

Prioritisation and intervention logic

Help plan ahead

Create the main vision document for the Next Generation Internet initiative.

Evaluate the key funding priorities identified through our stakeholder consultation, as well as notions on how to (not) design and organise the overall processes.

Create a roadmap guidance document that will help to understand the relationships between the various activities



“Criteria for success”

Result-oriented

A first criterion is to ensure that the NGI research will bring the technologies to make the internet **free, interoperable and open**.

Lessons learned

The second criterion is that the study provides **double loop learning** by identifying blocking issues with historical ‘next generation internet’ efforts in these areas, and (per topic or across topics) propose **relevant new instruments and approaches** through which these may best be addressed.

Actionable

Thirdly the study should also establish if there are **significant interdependencies** that can be identified among the topics as well as **known dependencies** that need to be practically addressed – and how these are best dealt with, including the need for R&D efforts aimed at transitional technology. This may impact the **definition of priorities** and **timing** for specific parts of the NGI initiative (e.g.: some R&D results are a precondition to other R&D).

Inclusiveness

A fourth criterion for success is broad **recognition for the holistic approach** for our study methodology, among the very wide range of key actors and stakeholders.



Engaging the key communities



DIGITALEUROPE



Input from the member states

- Austria
- Iceland
- Latvia
- Norway
- Ireland
- Luxembourg
- Poland

Expertise in many different layers of internet

Privacy - Usability - Security - Social Science - Measurement - Freedom of expression - Security - Distributed computing - Startup - User perspective - Innovation - SME - Law making - Internet Governance - Law making - MEP (former) - Civil liberties - International relations - Diversity - LGTHI - Crime - Human rights - Network Stack evolution - Performance measurement - Academia - Security - IETF - delay/disruption-tolerant networking - Federation - Academia - Research - Identity - Mobility - Security - Innovation - Roaming - VPN - Feminist - Migrant - Refugees - Development - Art - DIY - Education - Whistleblowers - Anthropology - Philosophy - Anti-corruption - Legal - Messaging - Privacy - TLS - Research - Industry - Measurements - Public transparency - Hardware - Cryptography - Civil liberties - Privacy - User perspective - Security - Ipv6 - Future Internet Programme - Hosting - ISP - Privacy - Peering - Packet filtering - High availability - Open source - Network robustness - Mesh networks - IDS - Academic - Youth - TLS - Hosting - DNSSEC - Identity management - RTC - Ipv6 - Cryptography - AAA - Identity management - W3C - User experience - Aesthetics - Startup - Youth - Human rights - Privacy - Open source - Alternative infrastructures - Academic - Security - Privacy - Youth



NGI Vision: An internet of human values

“The overall mission of the Next Generation Internet initiative is to re-imagine and re-engineer the Internet for the third millennium and beyond. **We envision the information age will be an era that brings out the best in all of us.** We want to enable human potential and creativity at the largest possible scale. In order to preserve and expand the European way of life, we shape a value-centric, human and inclusive Internet for all.”

An internet of human values Resilient. Transparent. Sustainable.

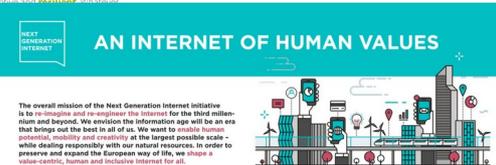
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These ambitions need a solid foundation to build on. The legendary robustness of the Internet must become actual reality in the Next Generation Internet. A massive global fleet of connected devices is on its way to enhance and control our homes, factories, offices and vehicles. Technology is embedded in concrete, circling in space and is increasingly entering the intimacy of our human bodies. The Next Generation Internet has to be highly adaptive and efficient. What was true for companies or parts of the network go down by some natural disaster, the rest of us should be close to zero.

There is another important dimension to trust, which lies in a **transparent** technological environment, that is trustworthy. This means that policies structure how entire societies and economies interact, speech and private enterprise and much more. The Next Generation Internet must avoid any bias or systematic abuse of global trust in the Internet. In order to rise above international politics and competition, it will strengthen the health and autonomy of our markets and societies.

The enduring success of the Internet lies in permission-free interoperability. The Next Generation Internet is set up to be open and decentralised, and grows the potential for disrupting the technical realm. The Next Generation Internet will reach for our cultures and economies, celebrating our values and protecting our privacy.

Let's re-invent Internet to reach the full human potential



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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



Key goal I: high resilience.

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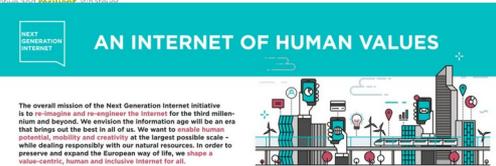
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Key goal II: Transparency and trustworthiness

An internet of human values
Resilient. Transparent. Sustainable.

AN INTERNET OF HUMAN VALUES

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Resilient. Trustworthy. Sustainable.

These important attributes need a solid foundation to build on. The Internet will be resilient if it is able to recover from natural or man-made disasters. It will be trustworthy if it is able to protect our privacy, our data, our freedom of expression, our health, our safety and our security. It will be sustainable if it is able to protect our environment, our resources, our energy and our well-being. The Next Generation Internet will be resilient, trustworthy and sustainable if it is able to protect our values, our freedom of expression, our health, our safety and our security. It will be resilient, trustworthy and sustainable if it is able to protect our values, our freedom of expression, our health, our safety and our security.

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GET INVOLVED

- EUROPEAN COMMISSION
- CONNECTIONS WITH US
- ACTIVITIES

www.nextgenerationinternet.eu

The enduring success of the Internet lies in permission-free innovation, openness and interoperability. The Next Generation Internet is set up to create wider choice. It fosters diversity and decentralisation, and grows the potential for disruptive innovation. This extends far beyond the technical realm. The Next Generation Internet will achieve a **sustainably open** environment for our cultures and economies, celebrating our values and promoting creativity and well-being.

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st, which lies above physical availability. We need a resilient, trustworthy, transparent and sustainable Internet. The architecture, governance and policies structure how entire societies and economies interact. By design it should protect free speech and private enterprise and much more. **The Next Generation Internet is to be designed to avoid any bias or systematic abuse of global trust in the Internet.** It shall be a true global commons, rising above international politics and competition. **It will guarantee the safety of citizens and strengthen the health and autonomy of our markets and societies.**

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Key goal III: Sustainably open.

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Situation analysis

What is missing/broken/a steadily ticking timebomb?

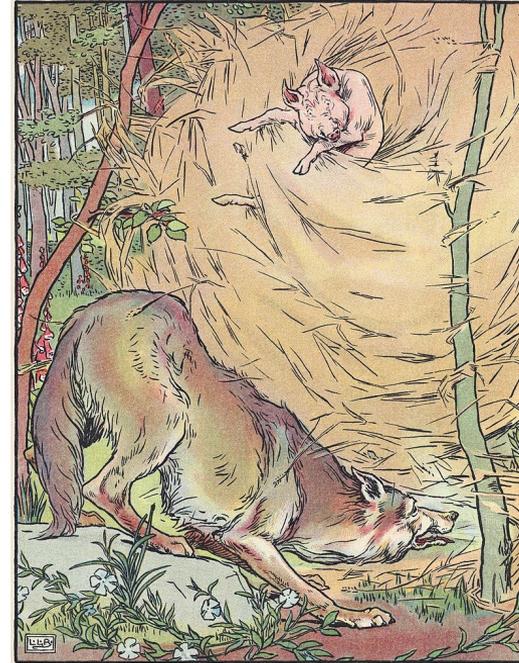
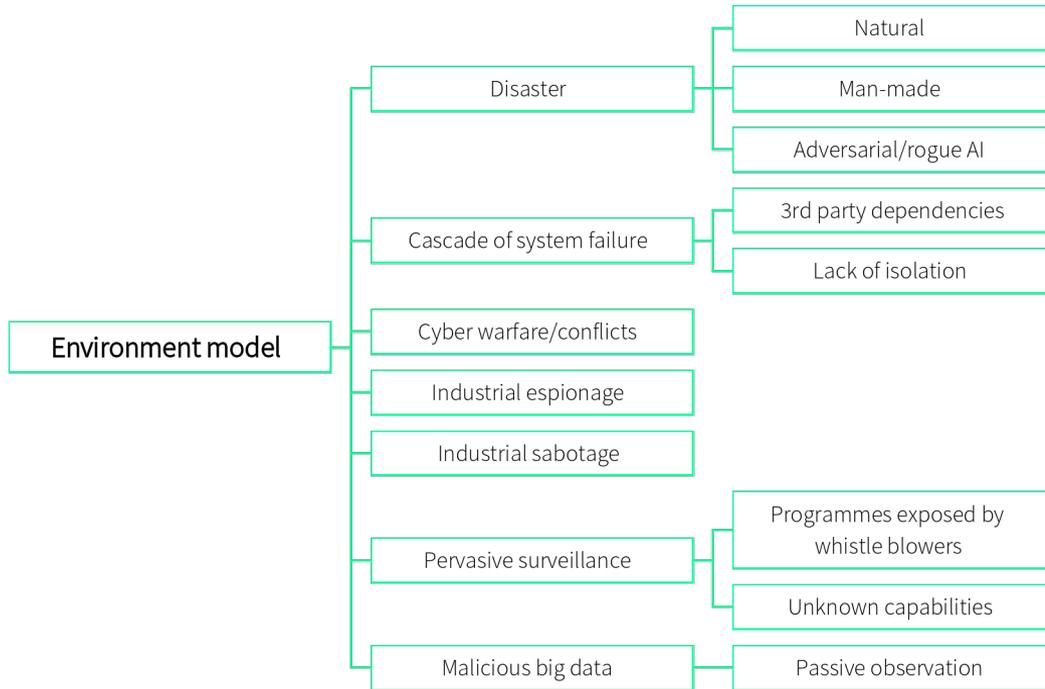
What needs to happen?



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Environment model



Establish sustainable operational conditions

Improving deployability and maintainability

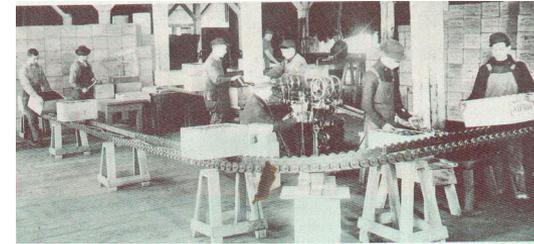
Solution integration and precompetitive bundling

Management of high volume of updates/ changes

Best practises and bundled expertise

Improving multilingual support

End-user service deployability



By Peter Craven - Prograde screen and 4 stockpile conveyors.
CC BY 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=25687509>

Building trust from the ground up



Decentralised internet-wide identity mechanisms

Distributed reputation mechanism(s)

Transport layer security

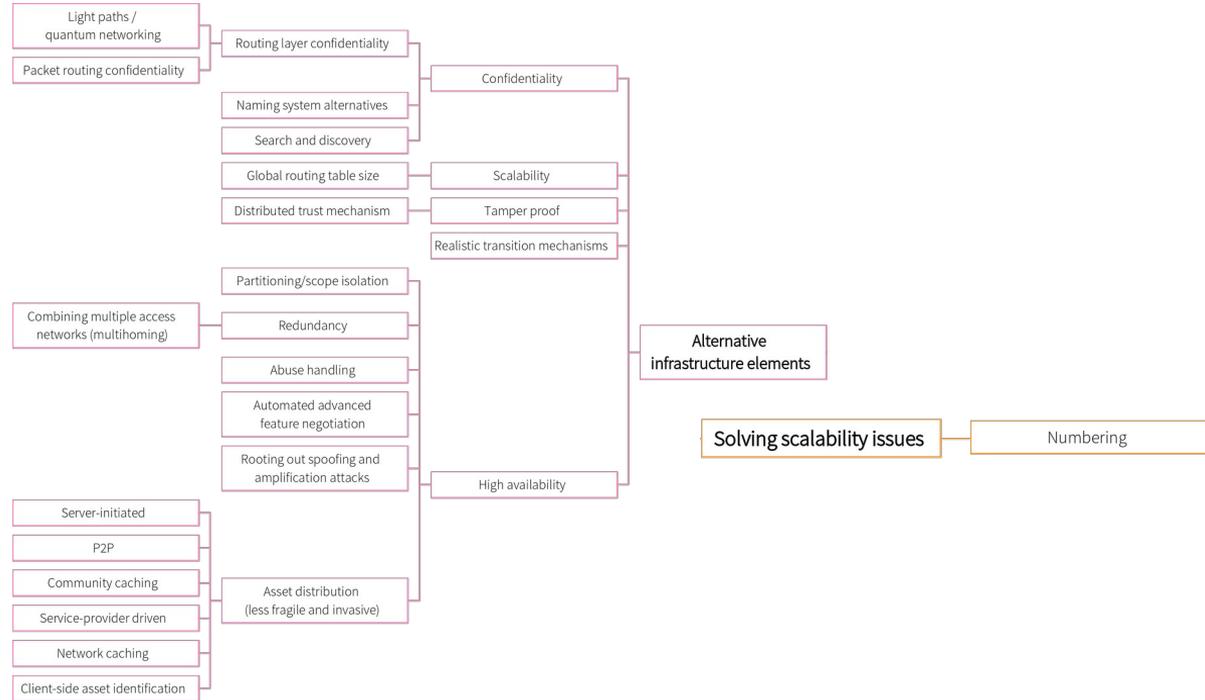
End to end confidentiality of traffic metadata

Verifiability of routing paths

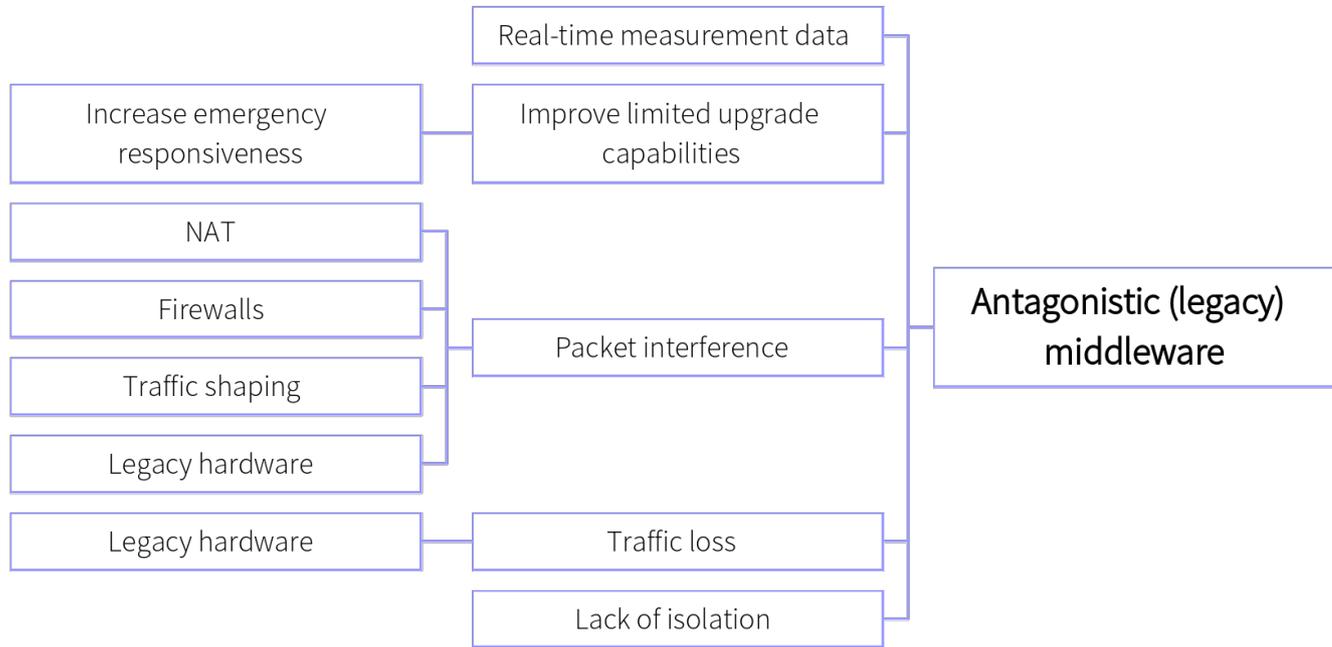
Security transparency

Engineering Trustworthiness

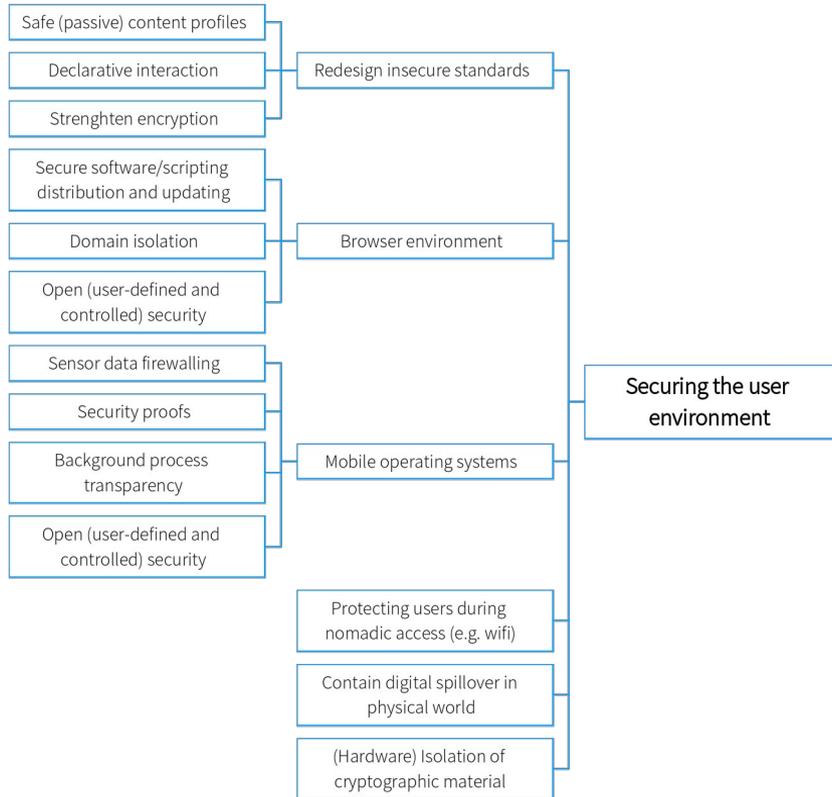
Alternative infrastructure



Dealing with legacy middleware

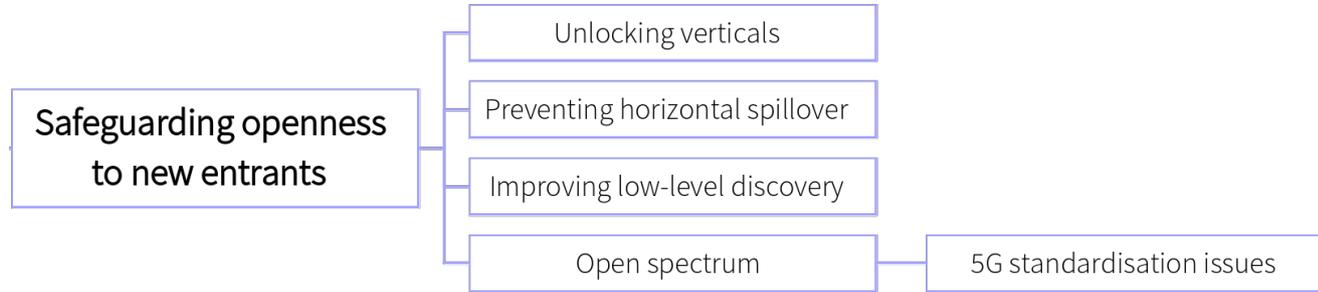


Empower and protect user environment



By Damien.cook.frog (Own work) [CC BY-SA 4.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Use commons to counter proprietary dominance



Green is the new gold

"Greening" internet
technology

Need to improve efficiency

Lack of transparency of
environmental cost

Blockchain waste



And some procurement and legislation suggestions



- Follow best practices w.r.t. overall system impact
- Steer away from monoculture
- Design for robustness and autonomy
- Lead by example

Public Procurement

Legislative aspects



Dealing with negligence w.r.t. maintenance as a threat to the whole ecosystem

Modernise over-invasive copyright to allow non-commercial sharing

Right to have insight into big data gathering

Right to encryption

Duty to update/mandatory open sourcing at EOL

Net Neutrality

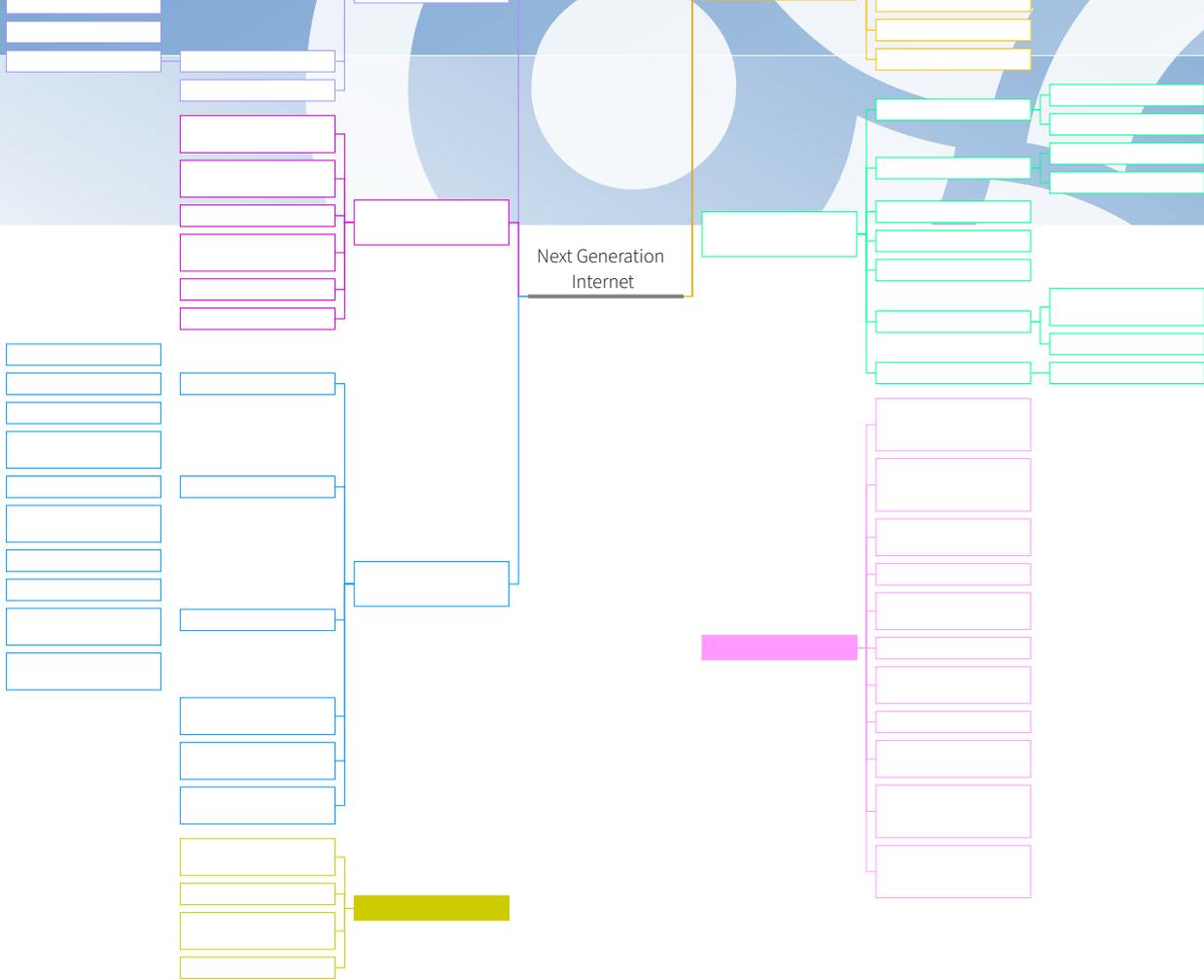
Right to be IoT offline (including environment)

Data retention

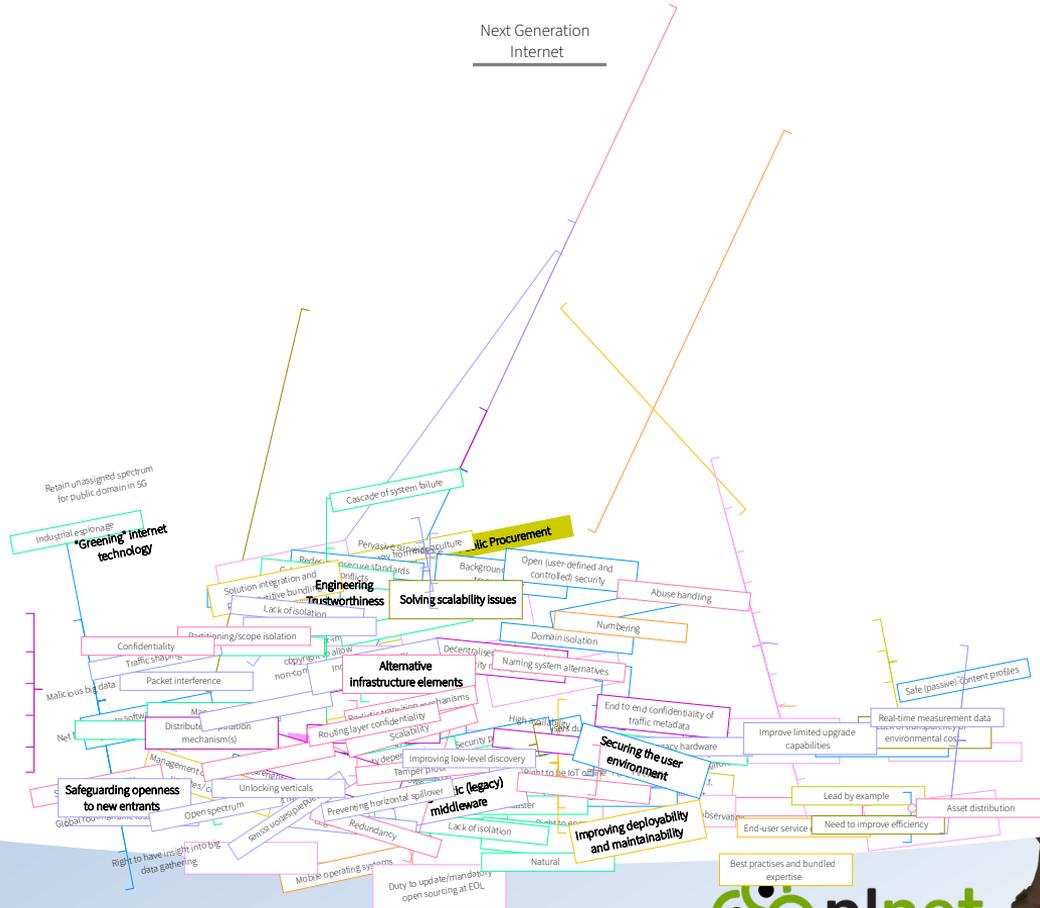
Retain unassigned spectrum for public domain in 5G

Stricter maintaining of existing laws and regulations protecting users

Mandatory hard switches for embedded cameras and other devices



Next Generation Internet



Consultation

- Technical community
- Operational community
- Civil society
- Industry
- Citizens
- ...

Draft Topic analysis



Expert workshop

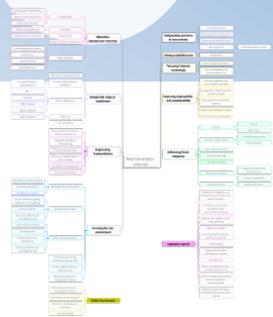


Interim report

Initial draft vision

An internet of human values
Resilient, Transparent, Sustainable

Topic analysis



Clustering

Proposed vision

An internet of human values
Resilient, Trustworthy, Sustainable

Pre-NGI (H2020)

- Call I: Internet maintainability
- Call II: Technology trustworthiness
- Call III: Architecture renovation

NGI Flagship (after 2020)



NGI Flagship

Access
techno-
logies

Internet
Defense
&
OpSec

IoT

Quality
of life

Inclusive-
ness

Fintech
&
block-
chain

...

Internet Applications & verticals

Internet Core

AI



Prioritization criteria

The prioritization process of the technology topics to be included in the NGI work programme is important for the success of the whole effort – not just novelty or popular topics.

There are many cross-links and interdependencies that make the traditional funding problematic.

- If the rocket doesn't fly, the whole effort is moot.
- If the rocket explodes, the whole effort is moot.
- If the rocket is hacked, the whole effort is moot.



Policy categories

General, financial and institutional matters	External relations
Customs Union and free movement of goods	Energy
Agriculture	Industrial policy and internal market
Fisheries	Regional policy and coordination of structural instruments
Freedom of movement for workers and social policy	Environment, consumers and health protection
Right of establishment and freedom to provide services	Science, information, education and culture
Transport policy	Law relating to undertakings
Competition policy	Common Foreign and Security Policy
Taxation	Area of freedom, security and justice
Economic and monetary policy and free movement of capital	People's Europe

Digital Agenda



Benefits

- Establish a secure technological base that can be assumed reliable for all purposes.
- Convergence mechanism for all NGI subprojects to establish quality and deliver proven solutions to others.
- Transparency about guarantees on business continuity and social connectiveness.
- Contributes to professional culture required for internet as a mature strategic infrastructure.
- Systematic and comprehensive approach re-enables trust in the system.

Communities/problem owners

- Computer science (Software engineering, Security,
- Software quality, Formal proof, Code generation, Testing, AI) Hardware
- Kernel communities (Linux, OpenBSD, FreeBSD, etc)
- IRTF/ISOC/W3C
- Static/Binary Analysis
- (National and sectoral) CERT
- ENISA
- MITRE
- FOSSi, OpenCores
- FSF/FSFE/APRIL/..

Resource planning

Phasing  Required effort 

NGI Drivers for change

Resilience / Reliability		(5/5)
Transparency/ Trustworthiness		(5/5)
Sustainability/ Openness		(2/5)
Creativity and human potential enabler (user centricity,...)		(1/5)

Number of drivers impacted: 4

Overall impact on change: 13

Research topic I

Establish trustworthiness



The original core architecture has been exposed as rather fundamentally untrustworthy. A key rationale for creating a Next Generation Internet.

As one interviewed expert succinctly put: “we need trust built from the ground up”. Every technical primitive from the current internet needs to be re-evaluated in terms of the complete threat catalog.

Benefits

Establish a secure technological base that can be assumed reliable for all purposes.

Convergence mechanism for all NGI subprojects to establish quality and deliver proven solutions to others.

Transparency about guarantees on business continuity and social connectiveness.

Contributes to professional culture required for internet as a mature strategic infrastructure.

Systematic and comprehensive approach re-enables trust in the system.

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IRTF/ISOC/W3C

Static/Binary Analysis

(National and sectoral) CERT

ENISA

MITRE

FOSSi, OpenCores

FSF/FSFE/APRIL/..

- (and more)

Establish Trustworthiness

Resource planning

Phasing



Required effort



Research effort	✓
Development effort	✓
Maintenance and QA	✓
Standardisation effort	✓
Requires new policy measures	No
Significant educational effort required	-
Existing policy subject impacted	8 Competition policy 13 Internal Market 15 Consumer Protection 19 Freedom Security 20 People's Europe Digital Agenda

Research topic II

Service portability and data decoupling



The availability of quality generic alternatives for all important classes of internet services will provide an enormous boost towards development and user mobility. Users need to be able to separate their content and data from internet-based software and services.

Service portability and data decoupling

Resource planning

Phasing



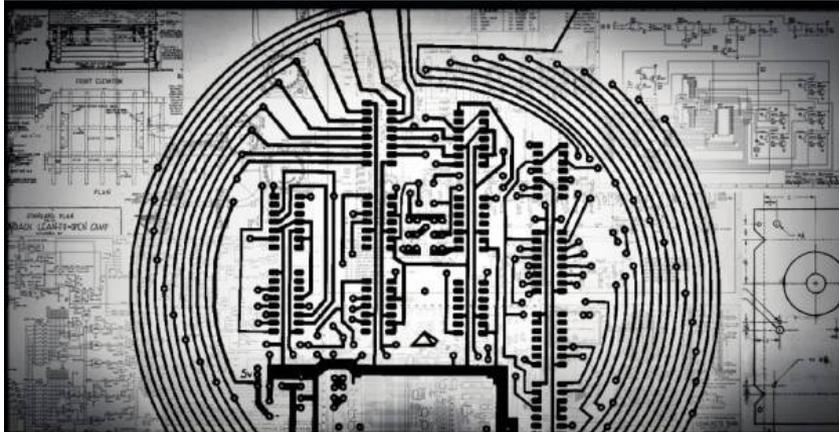
Required effort



Research effort	✓
Development effort	✓
Maintenance and QA	✓
Standardisation effort	✓
Requires new policy measures	Yes
Significant educational effort required	-
Existing policy subject impacted	8 Competition policy 13 Internal Market 15 Consumer Protection 19 Freedom Security 20 People's Europe Digital Agenda

Research topic III

Architecture renovation



The ability to re-engineer and/or replace core protocols known to be unreliable or untrustworthy, to structurally increase the resilience and robustness at a systemic level. This would provide a **lasting answer** to the threats from the threat catalog, for instance changing the whole dynamics of currently ‘undefeatable’ threats such as distributed denial of service by botnets and mass surveillance. **Open the path to introducing exciting new capabilities to further evolve the internet.**



Architecture renovation

Resource planning

Phasing



Required effort



Research effort	✓
Development effort	✓
Maintenance and QA	✓
Standardisation effort	✓
Requires new policy measures	No
Significant educational effort required	-
Existing policy subject impacted	15 Consumer Protection 19 Freedom Security 20 People's Europe Digital Agenda

The internet is a system

It is essential to increase the flexibility and responsiveness of the internet as a *system*; no secure system is able without “convenient mechanisms and procedures for maintaining it”

Additional dimensions/topics

Resilient Internet Services

Creating a modern Internet infrastructure with connections and services intelligent and flexible enough to be able to avoid, repair and mitigate broken dependencies.

Through practices such as connectivity redundancy (e.g. multi-homing), partitioning and smart asset distribution, the real-time dependency on a limited number of actors is reduced. The goal is to ensure high availability, resilience, openness and disruption tolerance.

Resilience / Reliability	■■■■■	(5/5)
Transparency/ Trustworthiness	■■■■■	(0/5)
Sustainability/ Openness	■■■ ■■	(3/5)
Creativity and human potential enabler (user centricity,...)	■■ ■■■	(2/5)
Number of drivers impacted: 3	Overall impact on change:	10

Additional dimensions/topics

Resilience / Reliability	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(3/5)
Transparency/ Trustworthiness	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(5/5)
Sustainability/ Openness	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(4/5)
Creativity and human potential enabler (user centricity,...)	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(4/5)
Number of drivers impacted: 4	Overall impact on change:	16

Unbiased and privacy-respectful discovery of content and services

Enabling unbiased and privacy-respectful discovery of content, services and metadata on the Web, also in a real-time local context. This will lead to higher trustworthiness of the Internet for the users, more openness of content and enhancement of creativity and human potential through alternative access to various types of content and services. Allowing for bottom-up means of fine-grained discovery as well as shared metadata and other forms of enrichment and aggregation of content and services is essential to create alternatives. By making low-level discoverability an essential characteristic of the edges of the system, rather than something controlled by intermediaries,

Additional dimensions/topics

Internet Hardening

Achieve a trustworthy internet infrastructure that solves the fragility, lack of trust and confidentiality, and generally weak defence characteristics of the first generation internet. The goal is to ensure high availability, resilience, openness and disruption tolerance by providing a resilient, robust and secure routing and transport layer. Ubiquitous availability of tunnelling mechanisms can be provided to protect end users as an alternative to providing direct safe connections at the edges.

Resilience / Reliability	■■■■■	(5/5)
Transparency/ Trustworthiness	■■■■■	(4/5)
Sustainability/ Openness	■■■	(3/5)
Creativity and human potential enabler (user centricity,...)	■■	(2/5)
Number of drivers impacted: 4	Overall impact on change:	14

Additional dimensions/topics

Resilience / Reliability	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(4/5)
Transparency/ Trustworthiness	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(5/5)
Sustainability/ Openness	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(4/5)
Creativity and human potential enabler (user centricity,...)	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(4/5)
Number of drivers impacted: 4	Overall impact on change:	17

Securing end-user rights,
protection and reputation

Trust is the key driver for human interaction. Identity and reputation are characteristics which should be an intrinsic part of the internet infrastructure, yet any such unbiased shared infrastructure is lacking. In order to secure end-user rights, the NGI needs to create decentralised internet-wide identity mechanisms, distributed reputation options and ensuring viable means of extending end-of-life of software and software-enabled devices.

Additional dimensions/topics

Verification, accountability and automation mechanisms for NGI

The NGI initiative presents an unprecedented challenge of providing efficient accountability and security mechanisms for the operational NGI initiative with tamper-proof technical solutions such as security proofs, risk protection tools, as well as whistleblowing options and accountability mechanisms. These solutions should ensure high availability of the NGI, counter issues such as sabotage or surveillance, and provide distributed trust mechanisms to remove single points of failure. Security solutions could also include mechanisms to encourage automating incident- and abuse-handling to further secure safe Internet use during operations. The goal is to improve the trustworthiness, reliability and sustainability of the Internet, enabling innovation.

Resilience / Reliability	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(4/5)
Transparency/ Trustworthiness	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(5/5)
Sustainability/ Openness	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(2/5)
Creativity and human potential enabler (user centricity,...)	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	(2/5)
Number of drivers impacted: 4	Overall impact on change:	13

Additional dimensions/topics

Resilience / Reliability		(3/5)
Transparency/ Trustworthiness		(5/5)
Sustainability/ Openness		(2/5)
Creativity and human potential enabler (user centricity,...)		(4/5)
Number of drivers impacted: 4	Overall impact on change:	14

Provide end user friendly

transparency mechanisms

Providing user-friendly accesses to transparency mechanisms, such as transparency on the security situation of a connection, background processes, data collected and observed or data retention.

These mechanisms can also provide tweaking options empowering the user to define the security levels. This will lead to higher trustworthiness of the Internet with the effect of enabling innovation and creativity.

The short version

- Resilient Internet Services
- Unbiased and privacy-respectful discovery of content and services
- Internet Hardening
- Securing end-user rights, protection and reputation
- Verification, accountability & automation mechanisms
- Provide end user friendly transparency mechanisms
- Promote freedom of use
- User empowerment through freedom of choice
- Greening the Internet
- A maintainable Internet
- Optimisable, reusable and reliable open hardware

Intermediaries will play a (very) critical role

Provide a light-weight and confidential application procedure that providing adequate insight into technical capabilities as well as the urgency, relevance and relative cost effectiveness of the projects proposed.

.. using a staged approach which identifies and amends missing or inadequate aspects of the proposals prior (and conditional) to the start of a project.
+ pursue (or enforce) QA and promote best practices





EC started putting out funds via subgranting to different consortia acting as intermediaries – so called Research and Innovation actions. **Our programmes are all called NGI Zero (or short version: NGI0)**



All outcomes of the current projects have to be published under a free and open source licence so everyone equally benefits – **public money, public code.**



Currently hundreds of ongoing efforts , working on a great diversity of technologies – from libre silicon toolchains, alternative boowsers, software supply chain analysis to open hardware mobile networks.



10 layers of technology in NGI

Decentralised solutions, including blockchain/distributed ledger



Trustworthy hardware and manufacturing

Data and Artificial Intelligence



Open License

Software engineering, protocols, interoperability, cryptography, algorithms, proofs

Services and Applications



Operating Systems, firmware and virtualisation

Vertical use cases, search and community



Measurement, monitoring, analysis and abuse handling



Middleware + identity

incl. DNS, authorisation, authentication, distribution/deployment, operations, reputation systems



**NGI
ZERO**
Est. 2018

TAURI

TAURI

**NGI
COMMONS**

Krill

TAURI

TAURI

TAURI

TAURI

TAURI

**NGI
ZERO
COMMONS FUND**

AEROGRAMME

XMP

TAURI

TAURI

TAURI

TAURI

TAURI

TAURI

TAURI

NGI ZERO PET 2018-2022

Privacy & trust enhancing technologies

NGI PILOTS 2024-2027

NGI TALER - Fediversity - MOBIFREE

NGI ZERO DISCOVERY 2018-2022

Search, discovery & discoverability

NGI ZERO ENTRUST 2022-2025

Trustworthiness and data sovereignty

NGI ZERO REVIEW 2022-2025

Services (e.g. accessibility, sec audits, etc)

NGI ASSURE 2020-2024

A strong chain of technical assurances

NGI ZERO CORE 2023-2026

Internet architecture renovation

NGI ZERO COMMONS 2024-2027

Digital commons

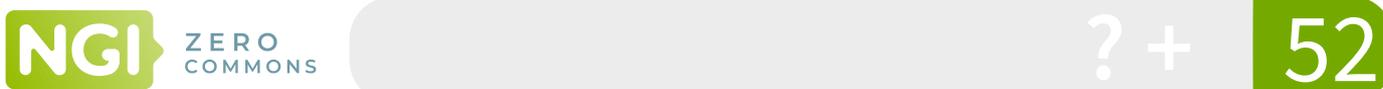




meanwhile



many  projects





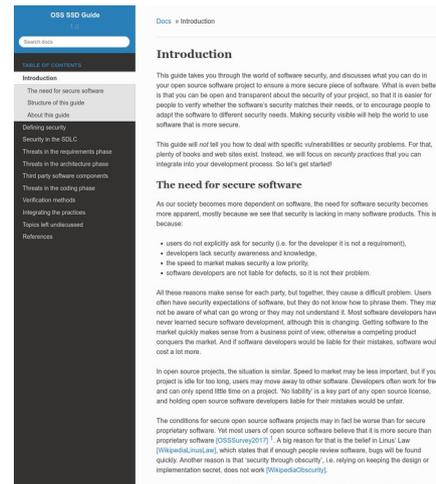
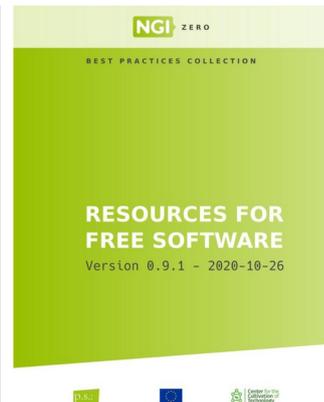
Not just financial support but also help with:

- Accessibility
- Security audit
- Community building and mentoring
- Diversity and inclusion management
- Packaging
- Copyright and license due diligence
- Internationalisation, translation and localisation
- Non-profit business models
- Standardisation
- Testing
- User Experience/usability
- Technical writing
- ...

Best practices

There is some accumulated knowledge which you might benefit from

<https://nlnet.nl/NGI0#bestpractices>



Lesson in humility

We learned/reconfirmed
an important lesson

What worked best are not detailed top down programmes but simply **open calls** that work bottom-up.

Don't fool yourself that you can think of more useful or more timely efforts than developers that actually understand the problems and care...

THE VISION OF NGI ACTUALLY WORKED WELL...

Having an opinionated overall mission for the Next Generation Internet initiative was very useful to provide scope to our programmes, and gave a clear anchoring point.

An internet of human values
Resilient. Transparent. Sustainable.

The overall mission of the Next Generation Internet initiative is to re-imagine and re-engineer the Internet for the next generations third millennium and beyond. We envision the information age will be an era that brings out the best in all of us. We want to enable human potential and creativity at the largest possible scale. In order to preserve and expand the European way of life, we shape a value-centric, human and inclusive Internet for all.

These ambitions need a solid foundation to build on. The legendary robustness of the Internet must become actual reality in the Next Generation Internet. A massive global fleet of connected devices is on its way to enhance and control our homes, factories, offices and vehicles. Technology is embedded in concrete, circling in space and is increasingly entering the intimacy of our human bodies. The Next Generation Internet has to be highly adaptive and **resilient**. Whatever companies or parts of the network go down by some natural or other disaster, the effects on the rest of us should be close to zero.

There is another important dimension to trust, which lies above physical availability. We need a **transparent** technological environment, that is trustworthy. The architecture, governance and policies structure how entire societies and economies interact. By design it should protect free speech and private enterprise and much more. The Next Generation Internet is to be designed to avoid any bias or systematic abuse of global trust in the Internet. It shall be a true global commons, rising above international politics and competition. It will guarantee the safety of citizens and strengthen the health and autonomy of our markets and societies.

The enduring success of the Internet lies in permission-free innovation, openness and interoperability. The Next Generation Internet is set up to create wider choice. It fosters diversity and decentralisation, and grows the potential for disruptive innovation. This extends far beyond the technical realm. The Next Generation Internet will achieve a **sustainably open** environment for our cultures and economies, celebrating our values and promoting creativity and well-being.

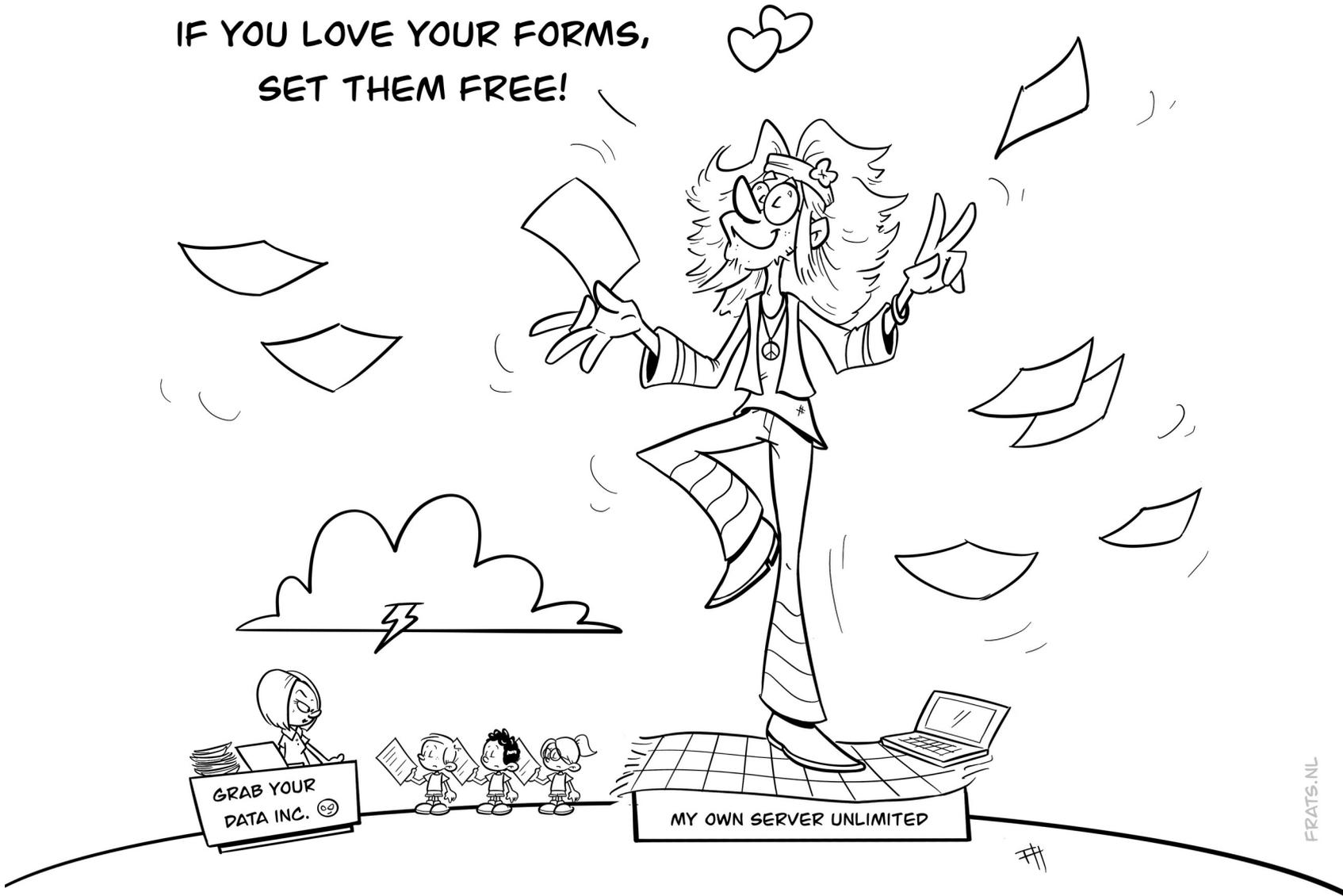
Let's re-invent Internet to reach the full human potential, for all generations.

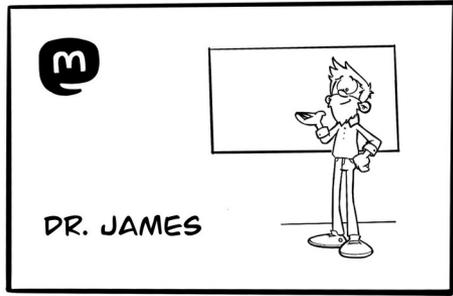


One more
important thing
you probably missed...

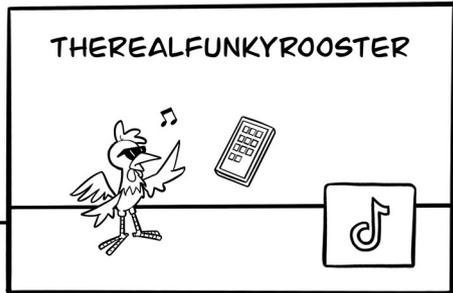
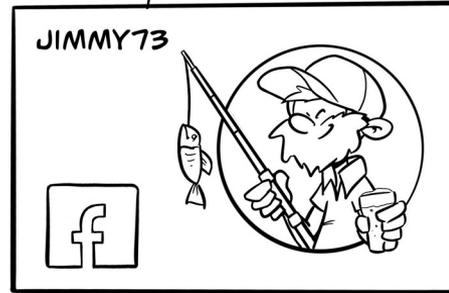
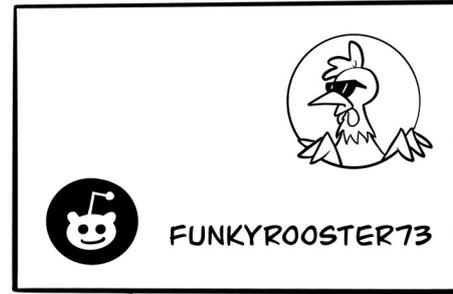


IF YOU LOVE YOUR FORMS,
SET THEM FREE!





WHO AM I
TO MANAGE
ALL THIS?!
LUCKILY I
SPECIALIZE IN
CHAOS THEORY...



#



\$382,941 raised
of \$100,000 goal

382% Funded!

<https://www.crowdsupply.com/mnt/mnt-reform-next>

The elephant in the room



Next Generation Internet

EU apparently set to end open source programme

The EU's Next Generation Internet programme has supported free, open source software for years. But now a silent death seems to be looming: An internal document suggests that financing may soon end. Developers are surprised and call for the programme's survival.

18.07.2024 um 11:38 Uhr - Maximilian Henning - in Demokratie - keine Ergänzungen



Next Generation Internet – no more. – Public Domain [Pexels](#) / [Andrea Piacquadio](#)

The European Union does many good things that nobody notices. One of those is the “[Next Generation Internet](#)” programme (NGI). With this programme, the European Commission supports the development of free, open source software, as an alternative to commercial, surveillance-based applications. A noble endeavour – with a catch: The Commission seems to be set on quietly ending the financial support.

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That was last year. Meanwhile...

No official news really,
negotiations still pending.

Many people and organisations
spoke out in favour of NGI.

Thank you so much!

- The EC sued its own data protection supervisors for saying that their use of Office 365 is not compliant with regulations
- The USA elected new leadership
- Owners of some big foreign tech companies start interfering with democratic processes in Europe



First: to reassure

This affects the future

There is currently still significant budget available at our end to grant new projects.

Obviously, we do need to replenish regularly to have budget to provide new grants.



The signal we derive from this...

The name NGI is/was on a trajectory to become deprecated

There is likely still going to be budget at the EC level, but perhaps with another name and potentially with different rules.



So what to do next?

Europe needs to steer its way out of the funnel leveraging its wallet, its brains and its ethical compass. This needs coordination and effort. Is there any other realistic opportunity to tackle the many problems we have in another way than through challengers from the FOSS domain?



In other news...

**October 14, 2025 is the
End-of-Life Date For
Both Windows 10 and
Windows 11.**

Is there a playbook anywhere to escape from this endless loop of lock-in renewals, which is bleeding away public money that could be used to bolster Europe's competitiveness - and is at the same time creating obscene wealth elsewhere in such volumes that it is threatening to our democracies?

Nobody every got fired for buying Microsoft...

Isn't it about time we start doing just that when people choose for big tech?

If your suppliers grow to be the richest individuals on earth – despite commodisation. Could it be you are overpaying?

- BTW: it is really not true
 - There have been many corruption scandals inside and outside of Europe, and obviously in some cases these corrupt people have been fired



FOSTER —
DEMOCRACY

...there is
no Freedom
as-a-Service





BRING OUR

BITS

BACK HOME

NGI ZERO

TODAY WE CREATE THE
INTERNET
OF TOMORROW

