



development talks

DEVELOPMENT TALKS 26 OCTOBER 2011

Internet and democratic change

Internet och demokratisk förändring

A full day conference at Stockholm City Conference Centre discussing the Internet and net activism, related to democratic movements.

ICT and support to net activism are prioritized topics within the Swedish development cooperation.

Bloggers and net activists discuss experiences, challenges and opportunities, with a special focus on the developments in the Middle East and North Africa.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

PARTICIPANTS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

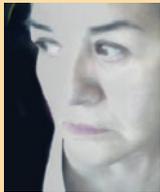
Scott Lucas



Scott Lucas is Professor of American Studies at the University of Birmingham. Lucas is one of the front-line sites for coverage of events in areas such as Iran, the Middle

East, and North Africa as well as the US. Making the most of the opportunities offered by social media, the site is hoping to expand to provide news and analysis of areas such as Latin America and China.

Anita Hunt



Anita Hunt is an enthusiastic and active supporter and advocate of human and civil rights on Twitter and various other social networking platforms. She has created many

online advocacy campaigns and websites, and is the author of several articles and guides for activists.

Jacob Appelbaum



Jacob Appelbaum is an accomplished photographer, software hacker and world traveller. He works as a developer for The Tor Project and as a staff research scientist

at the University of Washington Security and Privacy lab. He trains interested parties globally on how to effectively use and contribute to the Tor network.

Måns Adler



Måns Adler has founded the video service Bambuser that enable everybody to live stream video from mobile phone or webcam. He holds a master's degree in the

art of work science as well as a degree from the KaosPilots.

Stephan Urbach



Stephan Urbach is a German hacktivist. In spring 2011 he was involved in setting up modern internet connections, mirroring websites and providing information

for circumventing internet censorship to Egyptian protesters. This was done as project coordinator of Telecomix where he is involved in actions on a regular base.

Mahnaz Afkhami



Mahnaz Afkhami is founder and President of the Women's Learning Partnership (WLP), an international organization that empowers women by developing

culture-specific curricula and trainings on women's leadership, democratic participation and human rights. She has lectured and written extensively on women's human rights, women in leadership, and women, civil society and democracy.

Slim Amamou



Slim Amamou is a computer programmer, entrepreneur and blogger. He co-founded the web agency AlphaStudios in 1999 and ALIXSYS in 2008 as a web services

company for enterprise. His writings focus on the modalities and mechanisms for the emergence of new global society of the Internet. He is also known for his positions against censorship and intellectual property and fights for the neutrality of the Internet.

Salma Said



Salma Said was born in 1985 in Cairo, into a political family. She has been involved in the political movement in Egypt since the age of 15 and joined the Kefaya (Enough)

movement in 2005 when she discovered the Egyptian blogosphere. Salma is also an actress and has been working in the field of cultural management.

Hamza Fakhr



Hamza Fakher is currently the Communications Manager of London based Strategic Research and Communication Centre. The Centre provides research, analysis

and commentary on Syrian affairs to governments, academic institutions, and media outlets. Fakher also contributes to various international media outlets, such as Los Angeles Times, Voice of America, Daily Telegraph and Washington Post. During his stay in Syria before being forced to leave in July, Fakher was co-organizing demonstrations, providing a constant news stream from regime insiders, and coordinating entry of communications equipment to Syria.

Maryam Al-Khawaja



Maryam Al-Khawaja, from Bahrain, has played an instrumental role in the democratic protests taking place in the Pearl Roundabout in February, which

triggered a government response of widespread arrest, discrimination, and fear to suppress dissent and quell voices for reform.

EVENING DISCUSSION WITH JOURNALISTS

Sultan Sooud Al Qassemi



Sultan Sooud Al Qassemi is a UAE based columnist whose columns have appeared in publications within and outside the Arab Gulf region. His columns have appeared in The Gulf News, The National Newspaper, The Financial Times, The Independent, The Guardian, The Huffington Post, Foreign Policy, Open Democracy, The Hindu, The Globe and Mail, Gulf Business and Arab News amongst others. Sultan Al Qassemi is also a non-resident Fellow at the Dubai School of Government.

Neal Mann



Neal Mann is a Sky News journalist who specializes in using social media to cover breaking news. Working on Sky News foreign desk Neal has covered many of the major news stories of the last year including most recently the war in Libya. He was recently described by the Guardian newspaper as being a 'Twitter Colossus' and sees social media as being as important a broadcasting platform as TV, radio or online.

Dima Khatib



Dima Khatib is Palestinian-Syrian and was born in Damascus. She is working for Al Jazeera since 1997 as a news and programme producer

and reporter. She has worked out of Qatar, Hong Kong, Beijing and since 2005 out of Venezuela as the Latin America Bureau Chief for Al Jazeera. She has represented Al Jazeera in over 20 countries around the world. She is the first and only female bureau chief in Al Jazeera Arabic, and first Arab reporter to seek a base in Latin America to report to the Arab World. She has been very active on Twitter covering Arab revolutions and was featured in Forbes Middle East Magazine as an influential Arab twitter-reporter.

MODERATORS

Joachim Beijmo



Joachim Beijmo is Director of Communications at Sida (Swedish International Development and Cooperation Agency) and part of the senior management group.

He is responsible for overall communications and information in Sweden about Swedish development cooperation. Joachim Beijmo has run his own communication enterprises, including upstarts in web communications and online marketing, with a continued interest in international development.

Yasmine El Rafie



Yasmine El Rafie is a Swedish journalist with editing and reporting experience from various press, radio, news agencies and TV outlets. She has curated the Arab

Spring on Twitter and Facebook and has featured as a commentator on the Arab Spring in Swedish media. Her first professional contact with Egyptian social media came when she interviewed Egyptian activists for an Uppsala university report on ICTs and democratization. This was on April 5th 2008.

Marcin de Kaminski



Marcin de Kaminski is a sociologist and doctoral candidate at the Dep. of Sociology of Law at Lund University. His research focuses on social movements on

the Internet and the clash between legal and social norms on the net and away from keyboard. Marcin is also a long time net activist, currently involved in the pro internet think tank Juliagruppen (The Julia Group), and has been co-founder, coordinator and facilitator of many progressive projects and campaigns related to Internet freedom issues.

DEVELOPMENT TALKS 26 OCTOBER 2011

Internet and democratic change *Internet och demokratisk förändring*

Conference program

When: October 26, 2011, 09.00–20.30 hrs

09.00 Start: Online broadcast www.sida.se

09.00–09.15 Welcome

- *Charlotte Petri Gornitzka*, Director General, Sida

09.15–09.30 Introduction

- *Marcin de Kaminski*, The Julia Group

09.30–10.10 Keynote

New Media in the New World of the 21st Century

“Gatekeepers”, both in politics and in the media, have been brought down.

“New media” offers a window on the changing landscape of negotiation, and it is also the location where much of that negotiation takes place.

- *Scott Lucas*, Professor, Birmingham University (UK)

10.10–10.40 Coffee break

PARALLEL PROGRAMME

10.40–11.20 Net activism, analysis

Effective use of social networks to support social activism

- *Anita Hunt*, Social Media Curator for Human Rights (UK)

Internet surveillance, censorship, and avenues of resistance with anonymity

- *Jacob Appelbaum*, Researcher and Hacker, The Tor Project (USA)

PARALLEL PROGRAMME

11.30–12.10 Net activism, practice

Watching the watchers – democratized real-time video broadcasting

- *Måns Adler*, CEO, Bambuser (Sweden)

Revolutions from the couch

- *Stephan Urbach*, Hacktivist, Telecomix (Germany)

12.10–13.30 Lunch

13.30–14.10 Net activism, cases

Virtual Activism, Real Change: Women & Democratic Transition in the Middle East

Among other questions, we need to consider how do we further empower women in the Global South to make more expanded use of technology to gain knowledge, experience, and to develop networks of solidarity and how to eliminate the gender gap in the use of technology in the Global South.

- *Mahnaz Afkhami*, Founder and President, Women’s Learning Partnership, WLP

PARALLEL PROGRAMME

14.20–15.00 Net activism, cases

Hacktivism, Anonymous and their role in the revolution

- *Slim Amamou*, Computer programmer, Entrepreneur and Blogger (Tunisia)

Popular uprising or Internet revolution?

- *Salma Said*, Political blogger (Egypt)

15.00–15.40 Coffee break

PARALLEL PROGRAMME

15.40–16.20 Net activism, cases

ICT and the revolution: A grassroots movement case

- *Hamza Fakhr*, Activist (Syria)

Social media and the revolution

- *Maryam Al-Khawaja*, Human Rights Activist (Bahrain)

16.30–17.00 Closing remarks

- *Hanna Hellquist*, State secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Moderators:

Joachim Beijmo, *Yasmine El Rafie* and *Marcin de Kaminski*

19.00–20.30 Discussion

In the crossroads between traditional journalism and social media

Sida brings together three of the Internet’s most prominent social media journalists/analysts that all have worked with coverage of the MENA-uprisings and acted as Twitter nodes and informal news agencies in social media.

Journalists and bloggers:

Neal Mann, *Dima Khatib* and *Sultan al-Quassemi*

Moderator:

Yasmine El Rafie