CALL FOR PAPERS

The Network of Latin American Studies of Surveillance, Technology and Society (LAVITS), the University of Chile and the Fundación Datos Protegidos:

V International Symposium LAVITS: "Surveillance, Democracy and Privacy in Latin America: Vulnerabilities and Resistance" (29 and 30 november, 01 december 2017)

I. Objectives of the Symposium

The main goals of LAVITS' symposia has been the creation of an arena to stimulate critical analysis and debate crucial issues that surrounds the idea of surveillance in societies, with a specific focus in Latin American countries.

It seeks to consolidate a space of multidisciplinary collaboration between researchers, communication workers, social and artistic movements, and activists focused on the research and debate about the processes involved with the concepts and practice of surveillance and control in our societies.

II. Theme of the 2017 Symposium

The theme of the Fifth Symposium will be structured around the impacts of surveillance technologies (through digital platforms, mobile devices, institutional and others) on the exercise of democracy and fundamental human rights such as privacy, highlighting their vulnerabilities in the Latin American context and the possibilities of resistance against attempts to control social movements by the state and large corporations.

The increased capacity for surveillance over populations reveals the asymmetry of power among different groups in society. In this scenario where corporations and states invest in the collection of personal data, we understand as vulnerable, all groups of people susceptible to massive surveillance that deepens inequalities or impedes the full exercise of citizenship.

In Western democracies, the right to privacy is protected and guaranteed on the basis of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states: "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his private life, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks" (Article 12).

However, in the last decades the notion and experience of privacy has been stressed and complicated by the increasing use and massification of information and communication technologies (ICT) such as the Internet, social media and social networks, and not only as a space for the exercise of freedom of expression as self-expression, but also as a space that conforms public opinion and allows the emergence of other narratives, in dispute with traditional powers: press and media, governments and authorities, elites.

The problem arises with the increasing activation of online services that collect data and personal information or are associated with online monitoring systems, which allow the analysis of behaviors and/or motivations in topics such as preferences and purchase decisions, political positions or other mundane situations of everyday life. In this way, social networks and mass online services are constantly changing their privacy policies, in order to accumulate more and more information about users around the world.

In many occasions, these data - or part of them - are also requested and collected by national governments or national and international intelligence services, in the name of national security or the public interest. At the same time, surveillance technologies - such as drones, for example - begin to be used in different cities and territories throughout Latin America as alternatives to strengthen anti-crime or anti-terrorist surveillance, generating new conflicts, for their implications in relation to the use of personal data or images. In addition, current "smart" management models of large cities invest heavily in systems for collecting and viewing data on territories and populations, expanding the margins of control and surveillance over urban space in general, as well as control and violence practices of the state on people living in the poorest regions of the city. Furthermore, both data collection and the use of surveillance technologies are being used to cover up government operations targeting activists, journalists and social communicators in a broad sense. The functioning of biometric systems (fingerprint or facial recognition systems) is also being gradually applied as devices for controlling access, verifying identity or improving security in work or institutional spaces. In all these cases, it is not uncommon for surveillance and control technologies to affect certain social and ethnic groups (poor, women, African-American and indigenous people) more intensely, reinforcing inequality in terms of guaranteeing human and civil rights in Latin American democracies.

These diverse backgrounds support the choice of the theme of the impact of surveillance on democracy and privacy as the focus of LAVITS 2017. It aims to be a space for gathering, dialogue and debate between researchers and academics, communication workers, social and artistic movements, activists, leaders and representatives of civil society organizations on themes, methodologies and collective strategies that problematize the processes related to monitoring and technological control in our societies. For this reason, we believe this event can be a place to share results of academic or applied research, buts also the exchange of concrete experiences carried out from social and territorial work.

III. LAVITS Symposium Background

The first International Symposium "Surveillance, Security and Social Control in Latin America", held in 2009 at the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná (Curitiba, Brazil) was a milestone in the

founding of the LAVITS Network. Co-organized by researchers from universities in Brazil (UFRJ, PUCPR and Unicamp), Mexico (UAEM) and the United Kingdom (University of Newcastle), the event was supported by Fundação Araucária (Brazil) and the Surveillance Studies Network. The 2nd International Symposium was held in 2010 at the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México (Toluca) and brought together researchers on the theme "Identification, Identity and Surveillance in Latin America". This Symposium resulted in the joint development of the research project "Social Effects of Data Processing and Personal Regulation in Latin America", funded by the International Development Research Center (IDRC-Canada).

In 2015, with the general theme "Surveillance, Technopolitics and Territories", the 3rd Symposium returned to Brazil and took place at the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro. In this edition, the symposium expanded significantly both in the number of participants and in the diversity of activities as well as co-organizing institutions and supports. The 2016, the 4th Symposium "New Surveillance Paradigms? Insights from Latin America" was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, with the organization of the Fundación Vía Libre and the Faculty of Social Sciences of the Universidade de Buenos Aires. These two last symposia were supported by the Ford Foundation in the framework of the project "Latin American network of studies in surveillance, technology and society/LAVITS: intersections between research, action and technology".

This time the Symposium moves to Chile to be organized by the Instituto de la Comunicación e Imagen – ICEIof the Universidad de Chile and Fundación Datos Protegidos - a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and advocacy of privacy and personal data in Chile - in order to encourage the creation of an environment of academic exchange between activists and journalists at the national level regarding the issues commonly addressed by LAVITS, but also to support LAVITS to expand its network of actors and partners in Latin America.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

A. **THEMES**

We invite researchers (independent or from academic institutions and research centers), scholars, activists and representatives of civil society to submit abstracts of intended presentations in some of the following thematic axes.

I) Surveillance of communities, workers, communication professionals and activists, including issues and tactics of resistance tactics that affect:
   - Indigenous peoples and other vulnerable social groups
   - Journalists, audiovisual professionals and social communicators
   - Network human rights advocates
   - Labour and monitoring

II) Space and territory:
   - Smart cities and control rooms
   - Big Data and the neoliberal city

- Geopolitics of public security: borders, exception and militarization of urban space
- Air space and verticalization of control: from satellites to drones
- Surveillance infrastructures: policies of (in)visibility

III) Online space and extended surveillance:
- Social media
- Connected objects
- Mobile apps
- Cyberdefense/Cybersecurity
- Algorithms, artificial intelligence and machine learning

IV) Economics of Surveillance:
- Big Data and Surveillance Markets
- Capitalism of Surveillance and Social Inequality

V) Bodies and Surveillance:
- Health and care
- Biometrics, sensors, scanners
- Biosurveillance and Biosafety

Abstracts can be sent to: lavits2017@datosprotegidos.org by August 20th, 2017 at 11:59 pm (Santiago/Chile Time Zone: UTC-3h)

B. **TYPES OF ABSTRACTS**

Papers or panels can be presented on research, projects and academic, activist or artistic works. Proposals can be submitted in Spanish, Portuguese or English.

PAPERS
Maximum extension of 400 words (including title), in doc, docx, odt or rtf format. Up to 3 authors per presentation are accepted. It is not allowed to submit more than one proposal per author.

Abstracts should follow the following structure:
a) Title of the presentation.
b) Full name of authors.
c) Institutional or organizational affiliation. If independent, please indicate.
d) Email.
e) Thematic axis (indicating title and number).
f) Type of work: academic/scientific paper, artistic practices, experience report(s)
g) Main text or abstract

PANELS

Panels will present discussions proposed by coordinators/organizers.

The maximum extension of the abstract will be 1,000 words (including title), in doc, docx, odt or rtf format. Up to 4 summaries per panel will be accepted. Organizers should also propose a moderator. It is not allowed to submit more than one proposal per author.

Structure of the summary:
a) Title of the panel.
b) Name of the proponents.
c) Institutional or organizational affiliation. If independent, please indicate.
d) Email.
e) Thematic axis (indicating title and number).
f) Main text or abstract (should include the general description and a brief description of each presentation)

C. SCHEDULE

The call will remain open until August 20th, 2017 at 23:59 hours (Santiago/Chile Time Zone: UTC-3h) and abstracts must be sent by email to: lavits2017@datosprotegidos.org

Proposals will be assessed by the Academic Committee and select those that will be presented in the symposium.

Decisions will be made and announced by October 30th, 2017 until 23:59 (Santiago/Chile Time Zone: UTC-3h).

D. PUBLICATION

Papers/panels accepted and presented during the event will be included by the organization in the Symposium proceedings and in the book that will collect accepted contributions. Papers accepted but not orally presented during the event will not be published.
Format for full version of the papers will be announced soon.

E. SPONSORSHIPS