



ANNUAL REPORT

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CODING
RIGHTS

WWW.CODINGRIGHTS.ORG

Message from the Director

Currently, the architectural and software features of ICTs - as well as core guiding principles for policy making addressing these technologies - are developed by a non-diverse group of people, mostly white men from the so called Global North. Developing code for software or legal codes are not neutral tasks, which means that these restrict group is ultimately shaping the manner on how digital technologies are used and what rights can be promoted or forgotten in the online environment. Therefore, a non-critical adoption of these tools or regulations can only replicate and increase all the socio-economic power imbalances that we already strive against.

At Coding Rights we believe that a sustainable and progressive development and adoption of digital technologies will only happen if critical Human Rights and global perspectives – particularly those of women and non-conforming gender/sexual groups from the Global South – are powerfully articulated in national, regional and global spheres, in order to influence decision making processes from public and private sectors.

That is why we have created Coding Rights: a Brazil-based women-run Think-and-Do tank with the mission to expose and redress the power imbalances built into technology and the policies related to it, particularly those which reinforce gender and North/South inequalities.

Besides this important socio-political mission, as a new and growing organization, we also face institutional challenges to have a sustainable financial model that can guarantee the future and the current independence of the organization, as well as a space for nurturing knowledge sharing and new skills among the team. We have been experimenting and, hopefully, innovating in our institutional arrangements to allow to do so.

In the following pages you will see activities that we have performed in order to achieve our mission and challenges with fun, creativity and solidarity, which we believe are key elements to engage and articulate a wider network of critical minds to question the status quo of technology development, especially in this context of institutional crisis that Brazil and other countries from the Global South (and the world?!) are facing.

Joana Varon
Founder and Director
Coding Rights

Who we are and what we do

Coding Rights is a social purpose company born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2015. We are a women-run organization working to expose and redress the power imbalances built into technology and its application, particularly those which reinforce gender and North/South inequalities.

As digital technologies are an interconnected phenomenon at global scale, we work with special focus in Brazil but connecting our projects with the common grounds of Latin America and the Global South.

Mission

The mission of Coding Rights is to expose and redress the power imbalances built into technology and its application, particularly those which reinforce gender and North/South inequalities.

Vision

Through activities and partnership with collaborators across Brazil, other countries in Latin American and at the global level, Coding Rights believes it can significantly contribute to a better use and implementation of digital technologies. Our vision is a world that protects and expands fundamental rights, is gender equitable and enables the expression of diverse perspectives to fully integrate the needs, approaches, priorities and experiences of individuals and communities in the Global South.

The work of Coding Rights focuses on four key areas:

Cities, Borders and Territories in the Digital Age.
Gender and Sexuality in the Digital Environment.
Coding Our Rights.
Response to Public Policies Emergencies.

In all these areas we work through:

Analyses: We monitor different issues in Brazil and Latin America, particularly those with implications for redressing power imbalances, including in-depth analyses on legal, socio-political, economic and other aspects. Also, we work on quick responses (through blog posts, social media feeding) about events threatening Human Rights in the digital context.

Advocacy and communications: We lead and collaborate in the design and implementation of coordinated advocacy campaigns in Brazil, Latin America and other Global South countries where our support is needed. One of our priorities is to find ways to provide substantive support to collaborators in other countries working to reduce power imbalances and address specific challenges for a more equitable use of technologies.

Tools: We develop useful tools for advocacy to visualize data and better map out and understand the field and its issues. Examples are tools for monitoring legislation and actions of power holders; tools to enable civil society to jointly comment on policy drafts; and data visualizations on our core issues.

Capacity building & networking/coalition-building: We offer trainings and workshops for women and activists in Brazil and the Latin American region, delivering information on policy and technology, analyzing its social impacts in the usages of technologies and ways to redress them.

All these activities are running with three important values for our team:

Solidarity, especially through the coordination and fostering of collectives and networks.
Creativity, an essential way to achieve a better public awareness and innovative research.
Diversity, key in a digital world dominated by white young men from the Global North.

Our team:

Coding Rights has a core professional team supported by several consultants working in different projects of the organization.

Joana Varon, *Executive Director.*

Lucas Teixeira, *Chief Technologist.*

Natasha Felizi, *Project Management and Storytelling Strategist.*

Larissa Ribeiro, *Communications Strategist and Researcher.*

Raquel Rennó, *Consultant Senior Researcher.*

Flávio Siqueira, *Consultant Legal Researcher.*

Galatea La Llorona, *Consult, Designer.*

Sttefania Paola, *Consultant, WebDeveloper.*

The work of this team is also nourished by visiting fellows:

Dia Kayyali, *Privacy International Rapid Response.*

Claudio Vecna, *Open Technology Fund Fellowship.*

Collaborative Council:

Responding to our mission, vision and values, Coding Rights has a Collaborative Council composed only by women from different fields involved in the social developments of digital technologies. They are technologists, lawyers, social scientists, hackers, artists, journalists, and researchers, among others, providing creative ideas, critical approaches and strategic advice. The current members of our collaborative council are:

Allison Burtch, *Innovation in Speculative Hardware expert at UNICEF.*

Anja Kovacs, *Director of the Internet Democracy Project, Delhi.*

Camila Agustini, *Brazilian scriptwriter and consultant for audiovisual projects.*

Carly Nyst, *Human Rights lawyer and independent consultant. Formerly legal director at Privacy International.*

Carolina Rossini, *World Economic Forum Young Global Leader; Vice President for International Policy and Strategy at Public Knowledge.*

Deborah Brown, *senior project coordinator at the Association for Progressive Communications (APC).*

Fernanda Shirakawa, *designer, digital security trainer and member of MariaLab hackerspace.*

Fieke Jansen, *Project Lead on Politics of Data at Tactical Tech.*

Gabriela Agustini, *founder and director of Olabi Makerspace.*

Giulliana Bianconi, *journalist founder of the project Gender and Numbers.*

Juliana Nolasco, *researcher at the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee.*

Katarzyna Szymielewicz, *co-founder and president of Panoptikon Foundation.*

Marilia Monteiro, *MPP candidate at Hertie School of Governance, member of the Working Group on Consumer Law and Information Society of the*

Consumer Office of the Ministry of Justice Brazil (Senacon).

Marina Oriente, *filmmaker, photographer, visual artist.*

Paz Peña, *consultant on strategic communications for advocacy, formerly Advocacy Director at Derechos Digitales.*

Renata Avila, *Global Campaign Manager for the Web We Want initiative*

Tatiana de Mello Dias, *journalist and editor at Nexo Jornal.*

Veridiana Alimonti, *Brazilian lawyer specialist in consumers law, communications and digital, member of Intervozes.*

Vivian Caccuri, *sound artist.*

Yasodara Córdova, *Berkman Fellow, strategic designer and web specialist at W3C Brasil.*

Our community:

Networks and Partnerships:

Privacy International Network: Coding Rights is part of the international network of organizations coordinated by Privacy International, developing joint research projects focused in Brazil.

Tactical Tech Collective: Partnership for the outreach of its projects Security In A Box, Exposing The Invisible, and Me and My Shadow. This partnership includes organizing joint events, sharing methodologies and expanding the networks for training and capacity building.

Open Observatory of Network Interference (OONI): We are the Brazilian partner of OONI. This partnership entails: collect network measurements in Brazil by deploying lepidopteros (ooniprobe distribution for Raspberry Pis); contribute to the creation/review of .br country-specific list(s) of URLs for testing censorship and produce reports through blog posts or articles of main research findings about practices of internet censorship in partnership with OONI team.

Online community:

Oficina Antivigilância Newsletter: Designed and managed by Coding Rights, the Oficina Antivigilância Newsletter is a biannual thematic online publication that builds a Latin American perspective of pressing issues on the global debate about privacy and surveillance, through articles from a network of activists from Latin America. Last two editions were about “Online Gender Violence” (<https://antivigilancia.org/es/boletim-14-es/>) and “Smart Cities” (<https://antivigilancia.org/es/boletim-13-es/>) Accessible in Portuguese and in Spanish.



@codingrights 1652

@antivigilancia 1984



facebook.com/codingrights: 1142 page likes

(Data by October, 2016)

Funding information

As a young organization, Coding Rights is facing different challenges in its financials, mostly seeking for diversification of funders, as well as longer term grants in order to achieve sustainable growth. Institutional planning and organizational self-assessment to allow better governance, fund raising and sustainability have also been part of the activities in 2016, when we received support from OSF to host the consultant Stephen McCormick to outline an institutional strategy and “business plan”.

Over the last year (Sept 2015 to Oct 2016), Coding Rights has been funded by:



Cities, Borders and Territories in the Digital Age

Digital technologies are gradually integrating territories. From Smart Cities, facial recognition technologies, Big Data, Augmented Reality or drones flying over the frontiers, to new issues coming along with the cyber security of States: far of being an ethereal phenomenon, technologies are attached to cities, borders and territories.

With this thematic area Coding Rights wants to delve into how Human Rights are affected in context of cities, borders and territories where the presence of digital technologies is increasingly regular. In this year of life, this is what we have done to develop this area:

Big Data and Privacy Rights

As part of the Privacy International Network, Coding Rights launched the State of Privacy in Brazil (<https://www.privacyinternational.org/node/979>), to a country report of a series of briefings from several countries of the PI network. It is also producing policy briefings to assess challenges of Big Data and new technologies in the protection and promotion of privacy rights. Briefings will cover: "Street Level Surveillance in the Olympics" and "Citizen Login: Blockchain as a tool for governmental transparency about the usages of citizens ID". We also made a contribution evaluating the protection of privacy rights in Brazil for the Brazilian Universal Periodical Review of the Human Rights Council (https://privacyinternational.org/sites/default/files/UPR27_brazil.pdf).

Smart Cities in the Developing World

How the concept of Smart Cities is being incorporated in countries of Latin America? How this affects to privacy rights and the infrastructure of nations in this region? In a special edition of the "Antivigilancia Newsletter" (<https://antivigilancia.org/es/boletim-14-es/>), Latin-American activists from Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, Argentina and Brazil were reunited to have their vision about the challenges of Smart Cities in their countries. Based in this publication we have brought this discussion with activists from the Global South to several forums through events and seminars.

Chupadados - the hidden face of our beloved technologies

This project brings together stories from Latin America about how technological equipment and services have been used to collect, store and process data generated in our daily activities, from accessing the web to using transportation services, from using health apps for tracking your period to getting credit scoring in the bank, etc. We wish to produce evidences to show how a context in which data is extracted from our relations with our cities, homes, pockets and even bodies can ultimately lead to more inequality, segregation and to reinforce old power struggles, instead of delivering the promise of a better and "smarter" world framed by data processing of Big Data and the intelligence of algorithms.

The stories has being developed through a series of national and regional consultations with partners from Chile, Argentina, Mexico and Brazil to assess what could be interesting framing for building compelling narratives of privacy and surveillance without turning it into niche discourse or even using these wordings. For doing so, Coding Rights has carried out two workshops: one in Rio do Janeiro, Brazil and other in partnership with Derechos Digitales in Buenos Aires, Argentina. After that, stories have been developed using strategies

of investigative journalism, infographics, visuals and storytelling with the ultimate goal to help in awareness raising for advocacy strategies to enforce privacy rights in the region. The stories are available in Portuguese and Spanish at chupadatos.com

Challenges in this thematic area:

The delicate institutional crisis that Brazil is facing as well as the global shift towards conservative views reinforce the necessity to research and make advocacy actions on how surveillance practices are affecting Cities, Borders and Territories, especially for civil society organizations and other groups as activists, migrants and journalists.

In a context where democracies are constantly being jeopardized, we plan to produce local and regional research in this area, reinforce and create innovative ways to expose the findings and create awareness of privacy violations and digital security, as well as to coordinate advocacy efforts with civil society organizations from Brazil, the region and the globe to question potential Human Rights violations.



Gender and Sexuality in the Digital Environment

Virtual spaces, especially the mainstream platforms that dominate the internet nowadays, reflect the same inequalities we observe offline as sexism, racism and homophobia, threatening the rights of non-conformity groups to freedom of expression, information and safety. On the other hand, online platforms can be powerful tools for evidencing and fighting such inequalities through sharing knowledge, supporting and offering tools for women, transgender and queer people to occupy digital spaces with their own production.

In Coding Rights we believe that by uncovering the power structures that dominates digital technologies and its inner inequality, women and sexual minorities can re-appropriate digital technologies transforming spaces as the internet in a more diverse, fun and safe place. We have done the following to develop this area:

SaferNudes!

Digital security can also be fun. By appropriation of the meme “send nudes!” this project has the goal to spread the word about digital security for the average user, who relies on digital media for their communications, but are not necessarily tuned with the specifics of digital security debate. Also discussing post-porn aesthetics and strategies for combating gender inequalities on the web, it was thought to be more appealing to women and sexual minorities, since they are more easily exposed to online harassment, by practices such as revenge “porn”, doxxing, cyber bullying, among others. The fanzine is available in Portuguese, Spanish and English (<http://www.codingrights.org/send-nudes/>).

Antivigilancia Newsletter on hate speech and privacy

The Antivigilancia Newsletter has also dedicated a special edition on hate speech and online violence under the perspective of feminist and transgender activists, journalists, lawyers and hackers. It expose their visions on how to define and frame hate speech, the relevance of privacy and anonymity related to the freedom of speech, and also some tools and mechanisms to protect victims of online violence. This edition was released at the AWID International Forum in September 2016 and other relevant events on gender and minorities and is accessible at <https://antivigilancia.org/es/boletim-14-es/>.

Mapping gender specific networks

Coding Rights is currently creating a broad (national, regional and international) mapping of relevant actors on gender and sexuality under different perspectives: technological education, online activism, alternative media, assembly, etc. This will be key to develop a relevant network for future collaborations and also for having feedback on our actions from the target groups.

Mapping Brazilian Legislation on Gender and Digital

Advocacy on gender issues is still disconnected to the debates on digital rights. In order to find synergies, Coding Rights is mapping draft bills addressing gender issues that are being proposed in the National Congress. The mapping is available as one of the filters of the platform codingrights.org/pls.

Challenges in this thematic area:

There is a lot to explore in the overlap of agendas from the social movements focused on discussing gender and sexuality and the digital rights movement. The success of SaferNudes! was an important signal about this overlap, which had also led us to think about the importance to experiment in creative ways to produce compelling narratives about privacy and digital security in a context in which women and gender minorities tend to be the main target of different practices of online violence.

We plan to make partnerships with gender organizations in Brazil and abroad to increase the fanzine dissemination, deliver tailored digital security workshops focused on the issue of “revenge porn”, but also understand what are the next steps to address this overlap of rights movements.

In the same token, we expect to track and produce analysis of the legislation on gender and digital that have been proposed in the Brazilian National Congress to check if they address demands from gender and feminist movements, are aligned with digital freedoms and what kind of conversations need to be fostered for an holistic approach to fight against patriarchy and defend digital rights.



Coding Our Rights

This thematic area takes the policy hacking dynamics into its core seeking to address the challenges to merge the communities working in technological tools and those working on advocating for protecting Human Rights in the digital environment. The goal is that they can work together to provide better tools and analysis that will help in the policy debate, the social practices around technology and the development of an ethical code.

Therefore, this area is more focused on capacity building, awareness about the social implications of technologies and promotion of interactions within different knowledge fields in order to experiment possible manners in which we can translate our rights into code, and vice-versa. This is what we have done to develop this area:

Net of Rights

Without taking Human Rights into account while developing protocols, the Human Rights-enabling characteristics of the internet are at risk. This short documentary film (<https://hrpc.io/net-of-rights>) made in partnership with Article19, aims to highlight the relevance of addressing this issue within the technical community and Human Rights defenders, and also to feed into the work of the Human Rights Protocol Considerations research group (HRCP) in the Internet Research Task Force (IRTF).

Analytical Database of the Legislative on Digital

As the helm of digital starts to pertain all the socio-economic fields of human interactions, increasingly draft bills are being proposed by different sectors of the Brazilian Congress to address and regulate the challenges emerging of a digital society. Some of those initiatives are threatening Human Rights, ignoring core architectural aspects of the network, blocking innovation, conflicting with each other or even with current legislation.

Mapping and following these proposals represent a challenge for civil society representatives active in the field. Therefore, Coding Rights is developing an organized, automated, searchable, comparable and up-to-date database of bills and draft bills (codingrights.org/pls) concerning access to information, freedom of expression, privacy and gender issues regarding the digital helm. The use of scraping, data/text mining, exploratory data analysis and, eventually, machine learning, associated with linked data and semantic techniques applied to legislation and draft bills from the Legislative could serve as an important tool in the current scenario, allowing civil society representatives to be informed and prepared to analyze and intervene.

WSIS+10

Coding Rights led coordination activities within civil society organizations and attended international meetings for engagement with decision-makers and civil society representatives in order to promote the Human Rights in the process of review for the 10th anniversary of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS+10). Additionally, the organization developed a beta version of a platform (<http://wsislatam.codingrights.org/>) to receive comments and coordinate submissions of civil society representatives from Latin America.

NetGovMap

Initiative that comprehends a beta version of an interactive visualization (<http://netgovmap.org/>) of Internet Governance processes. It will be further developed to work as a visual database and thus enabling policy makers and activists to visualize the big picture of the playing field.



Challenges in this thematic area:

This thematic area is pivotal for the Coding Rights, as we believe coding can help in the promotion and protection of fundamental rights. Therefore one of the main challenges for our work in this area is producing and improving tools for advocacy, such as adding advocacy features for our Database and the design of data visualizations for awareness raising, advocacy and storytelling, particularly on legal political framework, but also to unveil hidden practices of data tracking and algorithm manipulation.

Response to Public Policies Emergencies

Coding Rights is concerned about how Human Rights are affected or reinforced by public policies addressing digital technologies. Coding Rights has opened an especial thematic area focused in legal and technical analysis as well as advocacy actions to respond to local public policies that can be a threat to our fundamental rights. This is what we have done in this area:

Cybercrime against Human Rights

In the context of Brazilian institutional crisis, local lawmakers presented several cybercrimes proposals in the CPICIBER (Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry on Cybercrime) which are threatening the Internet Civil Framework and other laws protecting privacy and freedom of expression. Coding Rights created a repository (<https://cpiciber.codingrights.org/>) of legal and technical analysis of the work of this Commission, a platform that is also used to coordinate joint presentations by civil society organizations regarding the monitoring of the proposed bills.

PL Espião!

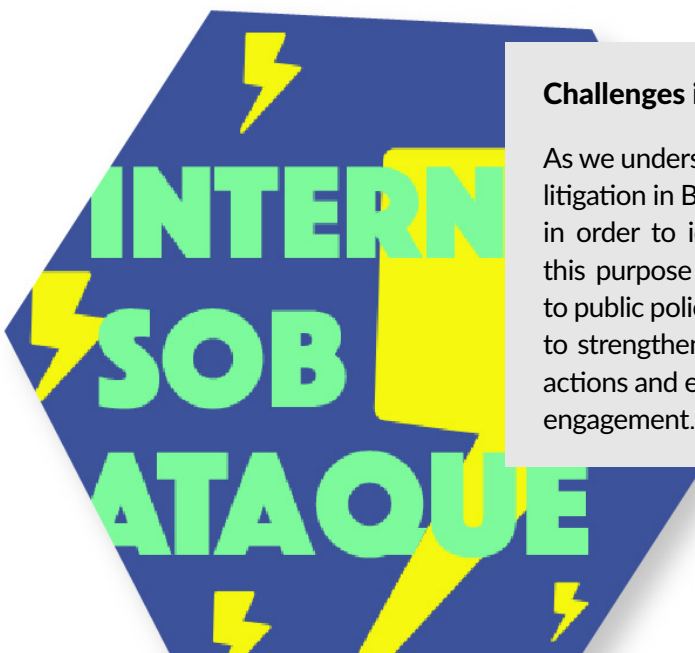
The PL215/2015, a bill soon known as #PLEspiao (the Spy Law), was made to establish “greater rigor crimes against honor taking place on social media”. A coordinated civil society campaign in Brazil, in which Coding Rights was part making legal analysis (<https://antivigilancia.org/pt/2015/09/pl215/>) and an online campaign (<http://plespiao.tumblr.com/>), could achieve major changes in the bill. However, after its approval in October 2015, the text still poses big problems for Human Rights.

Coalizão Direitos na Rede

Due to the severe political crisis in Brazil, a group of national civil society organizations have joined forces to create a Coalition for Rights in the Internet. Coding Rights is part of this Coalition and, besides policy analysis, it has been providing the group with support on communications by developing powerful and creative communication pieces (gifs and images) and on the mapping of the legislative with our automated Draft Bills Database.

Challenges in this thematic area:

As we understand the necessity to advance in the strategic litigation in Brazil, we are currently working in partnerships in order to identify, document and design strategies for this purpose in mid-term. In order to respond effectively to public policies threatens, with this thematic area we plan to strengthen our strategic communications for advocacy actions and ensure our political impact and the community engagement.



Most Relevant National and International Events

Abrelatam <i>November, 2-4th</i> Bogotá, Colombia "Smart mobility, centralización de datos y exclusión en Latinoamérica"	Instituto de Género y Tecnologia <i>June 20-25</i> Quito, Ecuador I Conferência Brasileira de Jornalismo de Dados Launching Freenet (documentary) <i>May 19th, 2016</i> Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.	Dia Mundial da Internet Segura 2016 - Por uma internet mais positiva <i>February 9th, 2016</i> Google Hang Out organized by ONG Safernet.
Htmilles <i>Nov 3rd-6th, 2016</i> Montreal, Canada	VI Fórum da Internet no Brasil <i>July, 11-13th 2016</i> Porto Alegre, Brazil "Tecnologias Cívicas na Regulação da Internet"	Emergencias Internet como Espaço Público <i>December 7-13th, 2015</i> Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Exhibition of the SaferNudes Zine at StudioXX art gallery	re:publica TEN <i>May 2-4th 2016</i> Berlin, Germany. -Digital colonialism: a global overview -Safer Nudes and Deep Nudes. -Recepies for digital revolutionaries: flavours from the south -A deeper frontier of freedom: the state of the deepweb	Consumers International Global Congress <i>November 18th, 2015</i> Brasilia, Brazil
Roundtable with Exhibitors at McGill University	Internet Freedom Festival <i>March 1-6th 2016</i> Valencia, Spain. -Launching Net of Rights. -Malware Against Political Dissidence in Latam -Smart cities: networks of people, networks of vigilance? -Producing guides and self-learning resources for tackling gender-tech based violence: What is there and what is needed? -Violencia de género en línea. Discusiones en torno al hate speech, el danger speech y los distintos contextos de violencia contra la mujer	Data and consumers rights; practical ways to advocate for consumer data protection (with Tactical Tech)
"Workshop SaferNudes" at McGill University		IGF 2015 Joao Pessoa, Brazil. <i>November 10-13th, 2015</i> - Disco-tech event (hosting by APC, Coding Rights and Tactical Tech) - Joana Varon's speech representing civil society at IGF2015 Opening Ceremony - Cuts Right Across: Consent in the Digital Age - Political dissent & online anonymity in developing countries
AWID Forum <i>Sept 8-11th 2016</i> Bahia, Brazil "Cuts right across: Consent in the digital age"		
Workshop: Health, Sexuality and Algorithm Society <i>September, 13th 2016</i> Rio de Janeiro, Brazil		
CryptoRave 2016 <i>May 6-7th, 2016</i> Sao Paulo, Brazil.		
CitizenLab Summer Institute <i>July, 6-8th 2016</i> Toronto, Canada "Legacy of Mega Events: Information Controls and Surveillance Technologies"		
<i>May 21st 2016</i> Sao Paulo, Brazil "Dados digitais, vazamentos e privacidade"		Launching film "Exposing the Invisible" (Tactical Tech) <i>October 26- 28th, 2015</i> Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Most Relevant National and International Media Presence

Nexo (Brazil)

Os aplicativos sobre ciclos menstruais e a exposição de dados pessoais das usuárias
Oct, 3rd, 2016

Folha (Brazil)

Alvo de polêmica pokemon go pede menos dados que facebook
August 5th, 2016

Gizmodo (Brazil)

Falta de limites sobre balões vigilantes nas Olimpíadas põe privacidade da população em xeque
August 5th, 2016

Motherboard (Brazil)

Como o Brasil aprimorou seu aparato de vigilância social para as Olimpíadas
July 27th, 2016

O Globo (Brazil)

Não é possível interceptar, afirma especialista sobre dados do Whatsapp
July, 20th, 2016

UOL Convergência Digital (Brasil)

Iniciativa lista lista PLs sobre privacidade e liberdade de expressão na Internet
July, 12th, 2016

Der Spiegel (Germany)

Sexy? Aber sicher!
May, 4th, 2016

Carta Capital (Brazil)

Olimpíadas no Brasil premiam a indústria da vigilância
February 12th, 2016

The Intercept (UK)

Brazilian Cybercrime bills threaten open internet for 200 million people
April 26th, 2016

Brasil Post (Brazil)

Cidades Inteligentes, uma ideia burra
April, 7th, 2016

El Español (Spain)

Cómo enviar selfies de desnudos (y a salvo) por internet
March 18th, 2016

El Diario (Spain)

Guerra sucia contra los disidentes latinoamericanos en internet
March 1st, 2016

Libération (France)

Au Brésil, un guide pour envoyer ses photos de cul en securité
December 10th, 2015

Global Voices (International)

"Manda desnudos" por internet y defiende el derecho al consentimiento
November 23th, 2015

Wired (Germany)

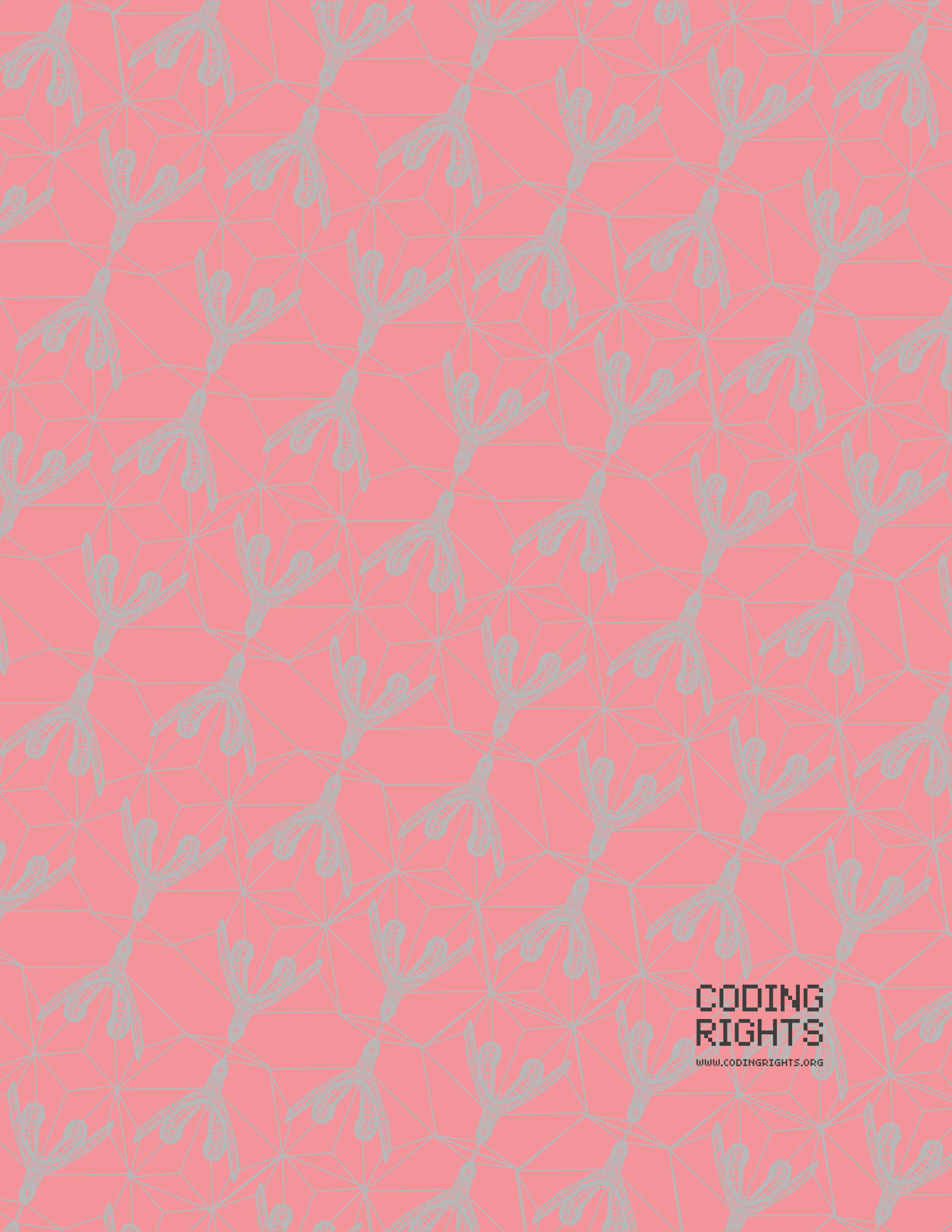
Safer Sexting, denn wir lieben Nacktbilder!
November 16th 2015

Brasil Post (Brazil)

Manda Nudes - Guia Sensual de Segurança Digital
September 8th, 2015

Brasil Post (Brazil)

Viva a igualdade, com diversidade
July 16th, 2015.



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