ANNUAL REPORT 2017

CODING
RIGHTS

SUMARY
CODING RIGHTS
ANNUAL REPORT 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTRESS

Democracies worldwide have been placed at risk due to profiling and manipulation of citizens' data and beliefs. Women and gender non-conforming people, particularly, but not only, those who are more vocal in the Internet, and address issues about sexual and reproductive rights, class struggles, gender equality and social justice, have been progressively targeted by a wide variety of technology-enabled attacks. Social network data have been requested in order to allow (or block) people to cross borders, to apply for credit and even to get jobs. A radical polarization of views between bubbles and even addiction of "likes" and "shares" are causing mental distress and disrupting any feeling of community or sisterhood. Some would say that a few monopolistic companies have now more power to implement neocolonial policies, culture and behaviors than any given State have ever had before. While this all happens, data centers all over the globe are now responsible for high levels of CO_2 emissions, and the hype narrative of a "must have innovation", fed by planned obsolescence of electronic gadgets, has lead to an unrestrained consumption and massive production of toxic electronic waste. Trash that is dumped in the poorest countries, which were also exploited for mineral components used as source material for our electronics.

We could go on and on with this pessimistic examples, dismantling the shiny bright utopia once built around freedom and new technologies. Power relations and discrimination are being embedded in the way we are manufacturing, coding, using and regulating new technologies. And harmful consequences are growing exponentially, way beyond the Internet, as citizens, States and companies progressively dive into digitalization of all actions of our bodies and daily lives. But, are we doomed?

Absolutely, not. We still love innovations and believe they can be lead by better values. We still believe in humans, particularly those who work hard to deconstruct patriarchy, normativity and breathe for social justice. And the moment has never been more propitious for a shift in values. Changes are fed by awareness raising and promotion of critical views, collectively channeled into social movements. Remarkably, this is a moment of powerful coalition building of social movements, exactly due to more obvious overlaps in their agendas. After all, it was never so clear that what some have coined before as isolated "digital rights" were actually just about the same old fundamental human and environmental rights that we have been addressing for decades. The only difference is that these challenges are now pertained by the usages of technologies. This simple change in lenses and narratives sparkles promising synergies: geeks, hackers, artists and activists from "digital" and traditional civil rights movements now know they need to work way more closely than before.

Soon, we will enter a new phase of technological revolutions, a period in which artificial intelligence, virtual reality and biotechnology will merge computational power with our bodies and senses. What are the values that we want to bring to this trend? Coding Rights wants to promote **awareness** raising through research and storytelling; to **increase synergies** through capacity and coalition building; and to channel this powerful views towards **advocacy** and **technology development** for the construction of alternative feminist futures

JOANA VARON
Founder and Directress
Coding Rights

WHO WE ARE

We are a Brazil-based 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.

WHAT WE WANT

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.

WE BELIEVE

A sustainable and progressive development and adoption of digital technologies will only happen if critical Human Rights and globalperspectives – 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.

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 development and implementation of technologies.

WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE WANT AND BELIEVE

OUR AREAS

CODING OUR RIGHTS

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC POLICIESS

GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN THE DIGITAL AGE

EMERGENCIES CITIES, BODIES AND TERRITORIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE

ACTIVITIES

- *RESEARCH*
- *ADVOCACY*
- *STORYTELLING*
- *DEVELOPMENT OF TECH TOOLS TO HELP ADVOCACY STRATEGIES*
- *CAPACITY BUILDING ON DIGITAL SECURITY*
- *METHODOLOGIES AND FACILITATION OF COLLECTIVE BRAINSTORMINGS*
- *COMMUNITY BUILDING*

GENDER AND SEXUALITY
in the Digital Environment

Technologies are normally designed and embedded with subjective values from the ones who develop them. Therefore, the future is likely to replicate many of the inequalities that social justice movements fight against if we do not expose the intersectional power imbalances, pertaining race, gender and class, as well as the geopolitics, behind digital technologies. To redress this scenario, this area has the goal to map different expressions of patriarchy into development and usage of digital technologies, as well as to promote exercises of speculative futures and experimentation in which technologies can be developed under transfeminist values.

PROJECTS

TRANSFEMINIST ALGORITHMS

In partnership with the MIT Codesign Studio, we organised an one-day-event in Rio de Janeiro entitled "Transfeminist Algorithms: a speculative exercise" to answer the question: "What would transfeminist algorithms look like?". We discussed algorithm design, crypto, decentralisation and the relation of all these elements with gender and non-binary possibilities.

HACKING HATE

Can creativity hack the hate? This project had the goal to develop methodologies to facilitate a fast production of creative artifacts, using irony and laugher as a strategy to both confront sexism, misogynous and racist attacks and create new references to amplify our feminist popular culture. The first experimentation of this methodology was in a meeting held in Chile (November 2017) that put together a network of feminists from different backgrounds (artists, grassroots activists and digital rights advocates/trainers) that came from Puerto Rico, Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia to develop pilot projects for creative responses to online gender violence.
**Access here the Tutorial for developing Feminist Stickers.**

CHUPADADOS

Chupadados, the Datasucker - hidden faces of our beloved technologies - is a project that uses art, reporting, and storytelling to reveal the insidious impact of surveillance capitalism in our daily activities, with a particular focus on gender dynamics. Launched in late 2016 in Portuguese and Spanish, the project was translated and released in English in 2017. Articles launched in 2017 focused on tracking and it's implication on gender roles, dating apps, credit scoring and targeted ads for kids in games and video streaming.

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.
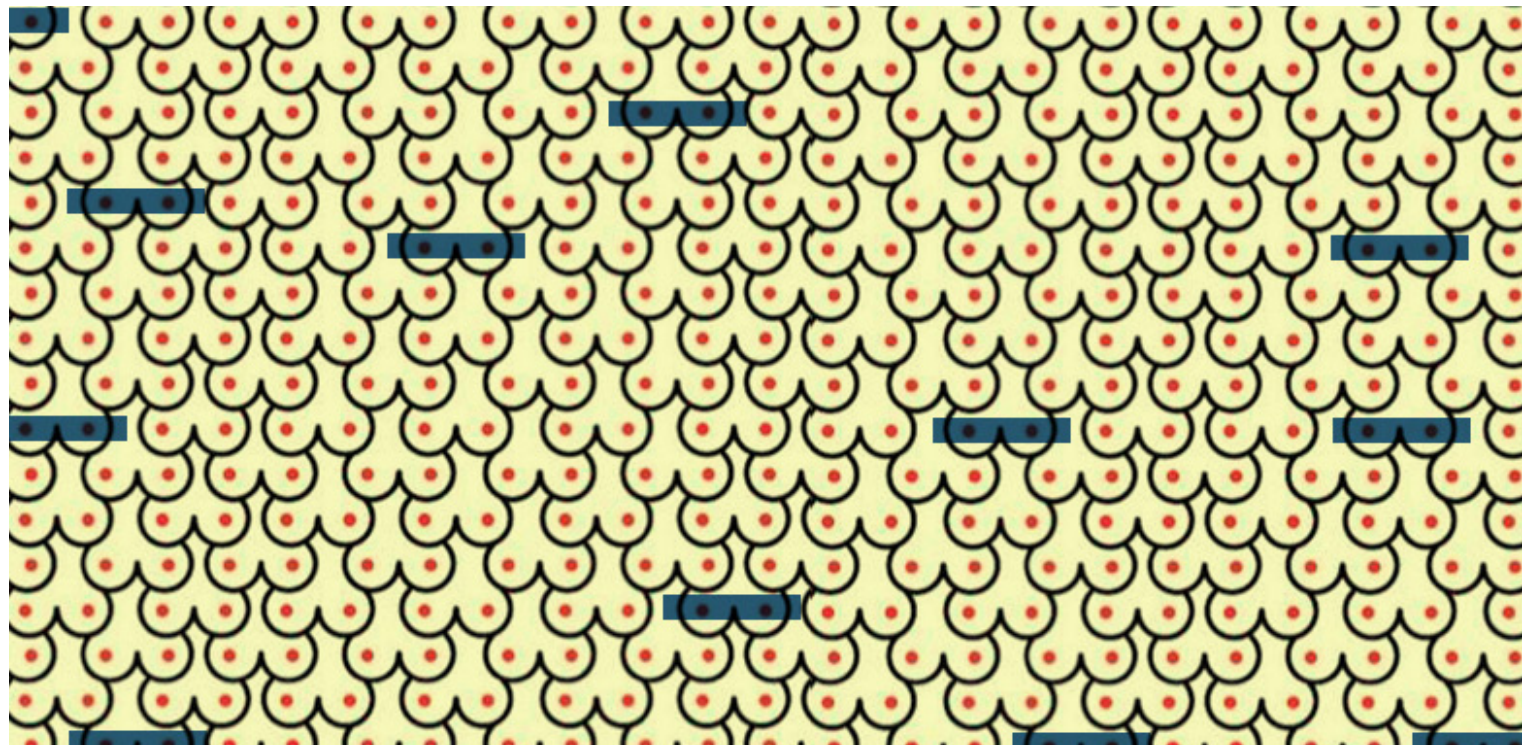
PROJECTS
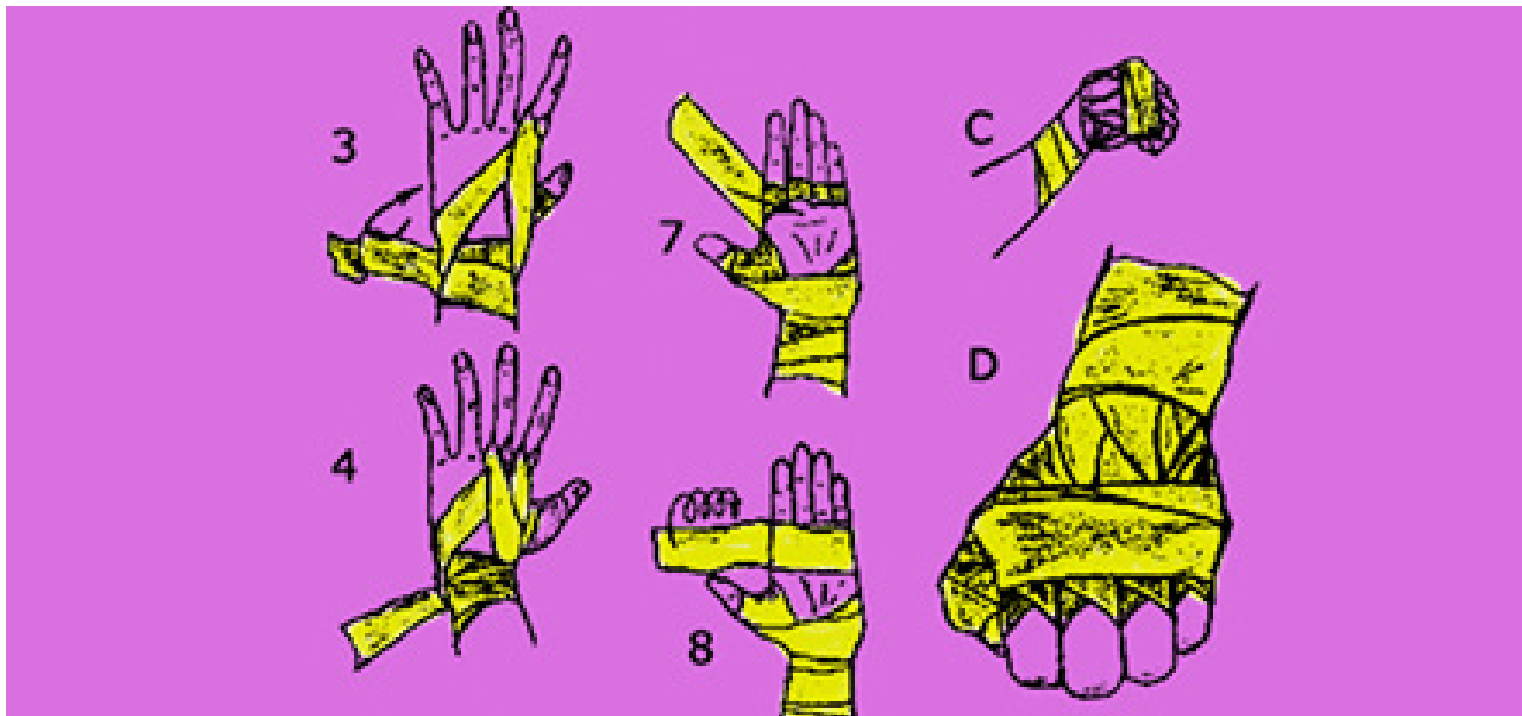
NET OF RIGHT

Our short documentary film about Human Rights considerations for standards and protocols, filmed at the Internet Engineer Task Force, has been presented in several meetings and the first RFC on the topic has been approved at the IETF based on the methodology that we have helped to craft **in the first Internet Drafts of the Human Rights Protocol Considerations Research Group (HRPC).**

RADAR LEGISLATIVO

This tool allows critical stakeholders to filter and analyze draft bills from the Brazilian National Congress that are related to digital environments and its intersections as gender, access, privacy and freedom of expression. Information about new draft bills, daily updates of tramitation, as well as how those bills are showing up in the weekly schedule of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies are also broadcasted by our telegram bot @tramitabot.

POLICY HACKING

We have developed a methodology to facilitate the conception of pilot projects using technologies to defend digital rights in Latin American region. Methodology was implemented in a meeting convened by Internews that invited partner organizations from Peru, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Brazil and Paraguay.

CITIES, BORDERS AND TERRITORIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Digital technologies are gradually integrating our bodies and territories. Terminologies such as Biometrics, Smart Cities, Big Data, A.I and VR are gradually showing up in public discourses as innovative solutions to improve public services and national security, but they can also pose a significant threat to citizen's privacy and cause issues on cybersecurity. What are the human rights implications of such technologies? How do we walk freely in a progressive surveilled territory?

"PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT"

PROJECTS

LEGADO VIGILANTE
We developed a research exposing the changes in the legal institutional framework that allows for surveillance practices in Brazil after the announcement of mega events, such as the Olympics and the World Cup. Through a set of infographics, we explored how these method implied threats for the general public in terms of information controls and data collection.

IDS AND INTERNET
A series of articles on the different kinds of identifications of Brazilian citizens (RG, CPF, Birth Certificate, and Work ID) analyzed the challenges and threats of digitalization of identification for accessing public services.

STATE OF PRIVACY, BRAZIL
Updates of the report about the state of privacy in Brazil, part of a series of country reports published by Privacy International Network.

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC POLICIES EMERGENCIES

Sometimes, shifts in the political context requires emergency actions of analysis for direct advocacy, therefore, besides sharing weekly updates from the legislative in Brazil regarding bills pertaining digital rights, we have also engaged in:

ONLINE GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: DIAGNOSIS, SOLUTIONS AND CHALLENGES

Joint Contribution to inform the work of the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women

- Series of Consultations for a Joint Contribution for the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women. The rapporteur is producing a report about technology which enables violence against women. Coding Rights, in partnership with other organizations, have lead a series of consultations with feminist organizations and collectives to produce both a national and a regional contribution to the rapporteur.

- Analysis, participation in public hearings at the National Congress and follow ups with Coalizão Direitos na Rede about different versions of the draft bills on data protection

- Technical analysis of the algorithm of the Supreme Court that was going to nominate a new rapporteur of "Operação Lava-Jato"

- Subscription to participate in the public hearing on cryptography at the Brazilian Supreme Court

- Cryptography in the G20

- Digital Security for Journalists with Casa Publica

- Digital Security of collectives working on sexual and reproductive rights

- Open Letter from Latam civil society representative on the concerns around the discourse about fake news and elections.
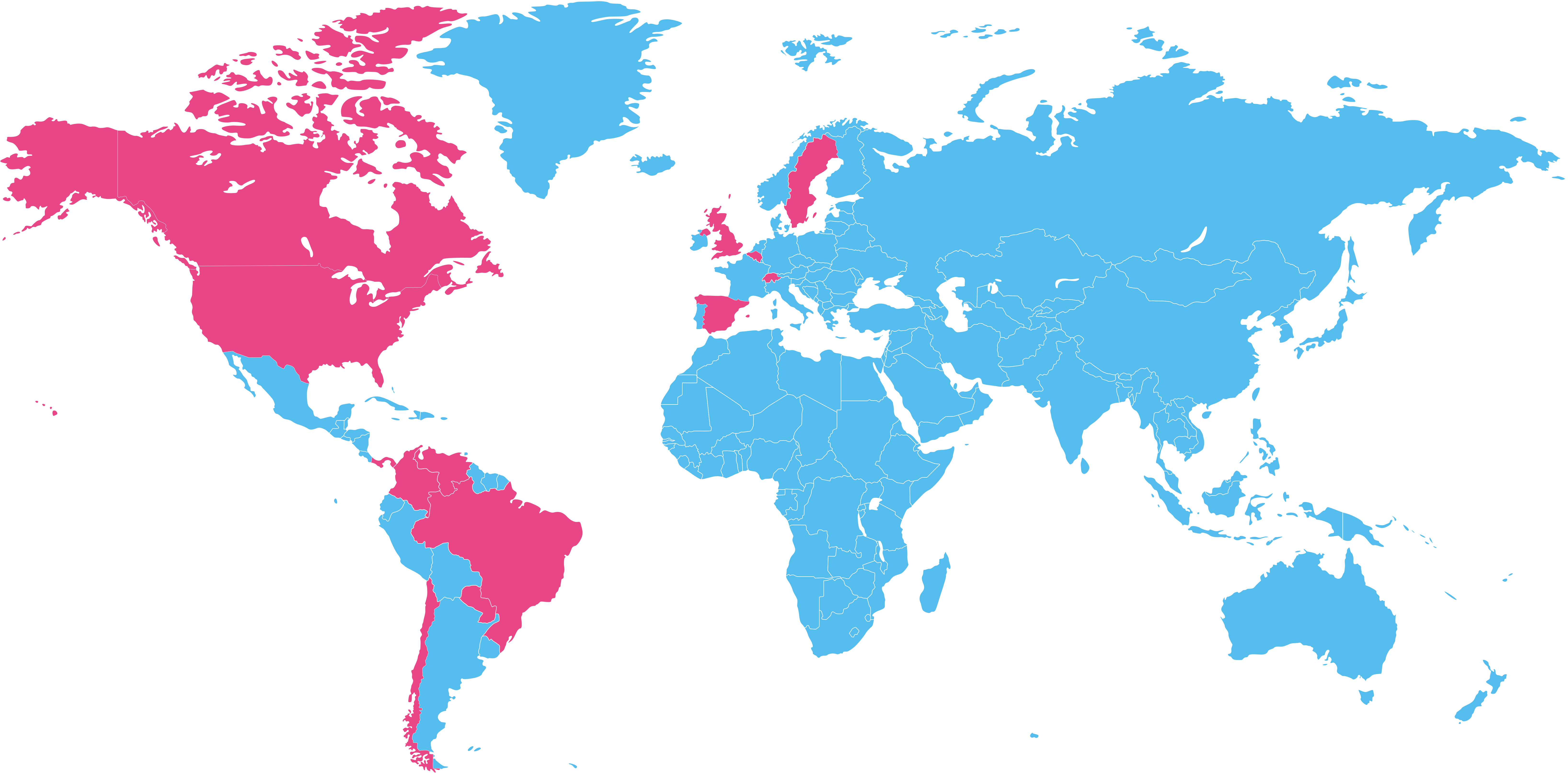
PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

Participation in workshops and conferences

LATIN AMERICA

Fórum Nacional pela Democratização da Comunicação, Brasília, **Brazil**

LAC Internet Governance Forum, Panama City, **Panama**

Gender and Tech Institute, Panama City, **Panama**

Gender and Technology workshop, Asunción, **Paraguay**

CryptoRave, São Paulo, **Brazil**

IAMCR, Cartagena, **Colombia**

Escola do Sul de Governança da Internet, Rio de Janeiro, **Brazil**

Public Hearing on International Transference of Data, Chamber of Deputees, Brasília, **Brazil**

Seminário de Privacidade from CGI.br, São Paulo, **Brazil**

Policy Hacking Workshop, Bogotá, **Colombia**

Mana Pirata, Rio de Janeiro, **Brazil**

Fórum da Internet, Rio de Janeiro, **Brazil**

ColaboraAmerica, Rio de Janeiro, **Brazil**

Coda.br, São Paulo, **Brazil**

Network of Centers Artificial Intelligence and Inclusion Symposium, Rio de Janeiro, **Brazil**

Lavits, Santiago, **Chile**

Hacking Hate, Santiago, **Chile**

Primavera Hacker, Santiago, **Chile**

Igarapé Institute round table on Fake News and Elections, Rio de Janeiro, **Brazil**

NORTH AMERICA

Mozilla All Hands, Austin, Texas, **USA**

MIT Stories of Surveillance, Boston, **USA**

Public Knowledge Meeting on Cibersecurity and OAS, Washington DC, **USA**

CitizenLab Summer Institute, Toronto, **Canada**

EUROPE

Stockholm Internet Forum,Stockholm, **Sweden**

Privacy International Network Meeting,London, **UK**

Rightscon, Brussels, **Belgium**

Mozfest, London, **UK**

Latin America in a Glimpse, **Geneva**

Internet Governance Forum, **Geneva**

Data Investigation Camp, Montenegro, **Spain**

Gender and Tech Institute Curricula Planing, Barcelona, **Spain**

Internet Freedom Festival, Valencia, **Spain**

AWARDS

Though only in its second year of existence, in 2017 our work have been recognized both regionally and globally through the award of two prizes focusing on the work we have been doing on gender and on storytelling about data capitalism.

AWARDS

PREMIO FRIDA - WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY
This award, managed by LACNIC, awards women-led organisations dedicated to technology issues with proven impact on gender equality. We were selected because our innovative approach and our effective role as connectors between the Latin American feminist circuit and the global tech community.

ACCESS NOW - INTERNET HEROES 2017
We were portrayed by Access Now as Interet heroes for our work with Chupadatos, our platform dedicated to the research on surveillance through storytelling. The criteria for this award was our impact in the field, our values of promotion of human rights and against surveillance, the diversity component, our connection with users and risk and our relevance within the RightsCon community, among other factors.

FELLOWSHIPS

INFORMATION CONTROLS FELLOWSHIP FROM OPEN TECHNOLOGY FUND

In 2017, Coding Rights was the host organization of OTF fellow Claudio Agosti, who developed an extended version of trackography during his fellowship, launched as Invi.sible.link. His code is currently being used internally for research experiments with websites from Latin America.

MOZILLA MEDIA FELLOW

Mozilla has also granted our Executive Directress and Creative Chaos Catalyst, Joana Varon, as Media Fellowship for further developing stories and outreach strategies for the chupadados project. During the fellowship the platform was translated to English, more stories were added with a particular lenses on gender and data and currently, tools are being built to help us tame the Chupadados and have a more immersive user journey in some of the articles.

MEDIA

2017 was full of sharing knowledge about digital rights, data, legislation, gender and sexuality, harassment and surveillance in the digital age with press media and blogs that looked for us.

Below, we present some highlights of what were published last year:

BBC BRASIL
'How 'herd behavior'allows manipulation of public opinion by fakes'

BBC BRASIL
'As their tanned, 'congrats' and even sung give credibility to fakes'

VICE BRASIL
'How the lucrative online stereotype market works?'

GIZMODO | UOL
New brazilian legislation wants to guarantee unrestricted access to citizen data for military police officers

BRASIL DE FATO
Is it safe to use menstrual cycle monitoring apps?

NEXO
How dating apps can violate users privacy

2017 FINANCIAL

REVENUE

FORD	30,89%	
OSF	29,30%	
GLOBAL PARTNERS	7,52%	
PRIVACY INTERNATIONAL	5,32%	
HIVOS	13,09%	
DERECHOS DIGITALES	1,44%	
APC	1,35%	
MOZILLA	10,82%	
CR (RENDIMIENTOS)	0,26%	
TOTAL	100.00%	
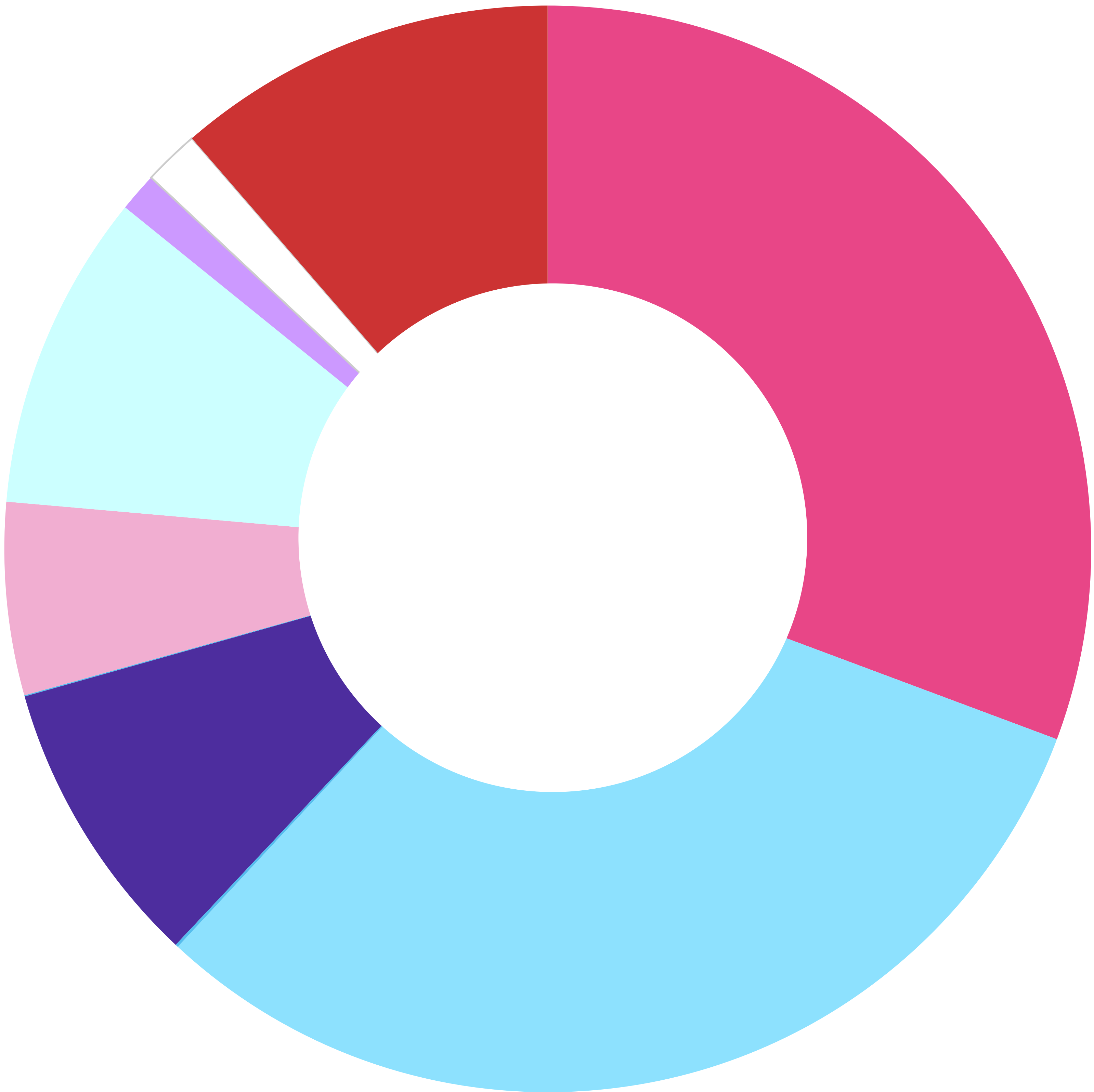
OUR TEAM
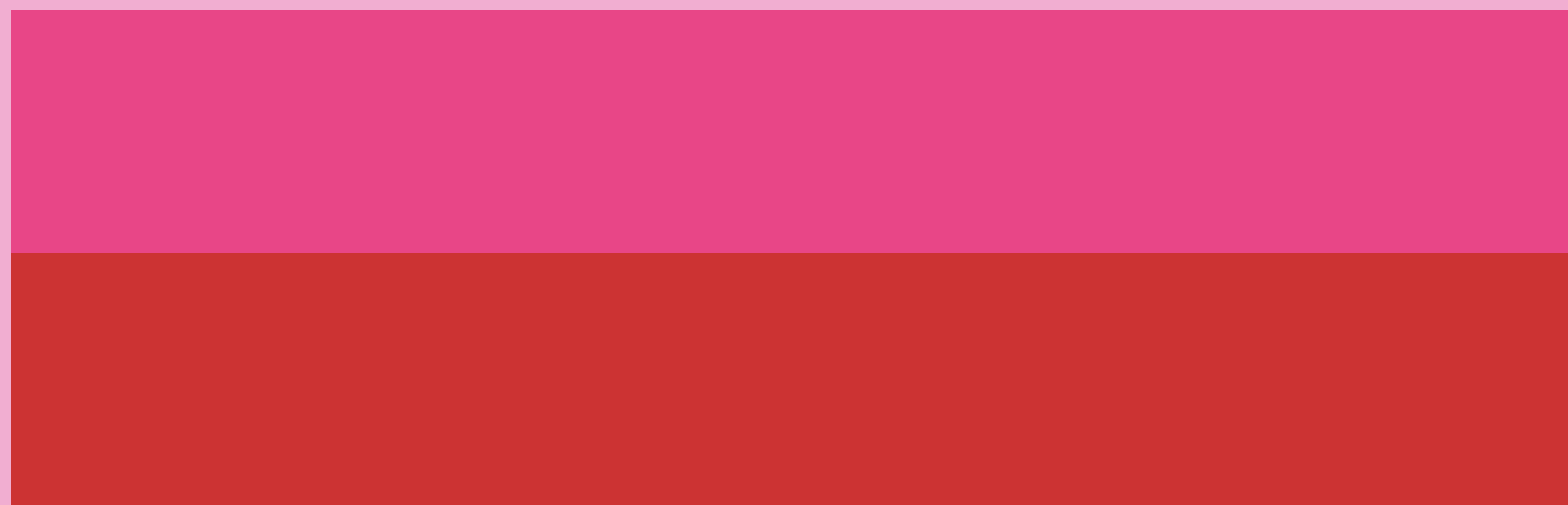
CORE TEAM 2018

JOANA VARON *(Executive Directress and Creative Chaos Catalyst)*
LUCAS TEIXEIRA *(Chief Technologist and Entropy Bender)*
CAROL MONTEIRO *(Communications Strategist)*
DANAE TAPIA *(Project Management Director)*
BRUNA MARTINS DOS SANTOS *(Researcher and Advocacy Strategist)*
MAX HOLENDER *(Financial Director)*
CLARA JULIANO *(Designer)*

GLOBAL COLLABORATIVE BOARD

Allison Burtch, USA

Anja Kovacs, India

Camila Agustini, Brazil

Carly Nyst, UK

Deborah Brown, USA

Fernanda Monteiro, Brazil

Fernanda Shirakawa, Brazil

Fieke Jansen, Germany/Netherlands

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Veridiana Alimonti, Brazil

Vivian Caccuri, Brazil

Yasodara Córdova, Brazil

PARTNER CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORKS

COALIZÃO DIREITOS NA REDE

PRIVACY INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

GENDER AND TECH INSTITUTE