

DATAFICATION OF POLICE WORK: UNBOXING THE CONTESTED SOCIAL PRACTICES OF PUBLIC SURVEILLANCE

[Anda Adamsone-Fiskovica](#) (Baltic Studies Centre, LATVIA)

[Vasilis Galis](#) (IT University of Copenhagen, DENMARK)

[Anu Masso](#) (Tallinn University of Technology, ESTONIA)

[Irena Nesterova](#) (University of Latvia, LATVIA)

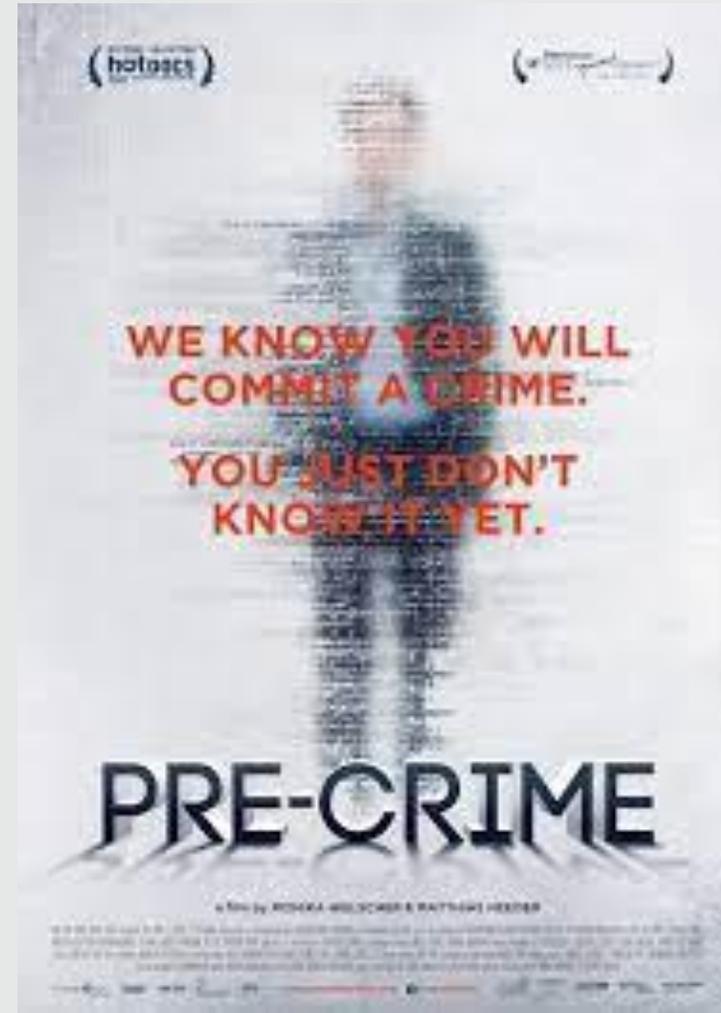
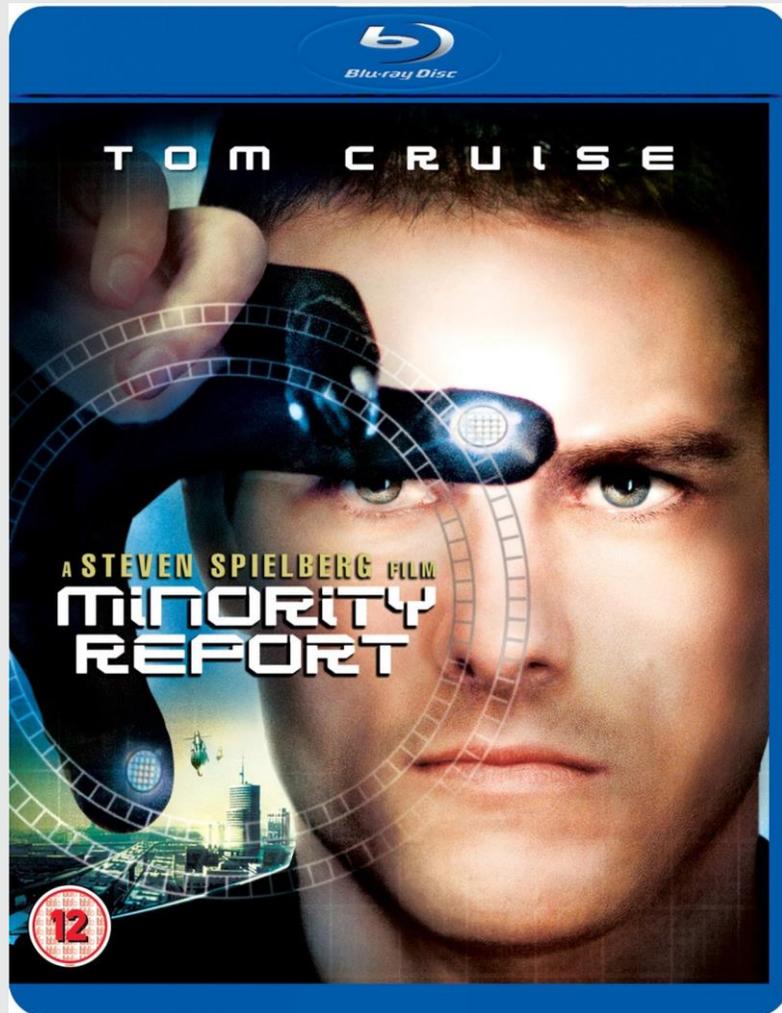
[Helene Oppen Ingebrigtsen Gundhus](#) (University of Oslo, NORWAY)

[Evie Papada](#) (University of St Andrews, UK)

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SCIENCE FICTION OR REALITY?



CUPP project

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Critical Understanding
of Predictive Policing

2021-2023



OVERARCHING RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- ❑ What does **digitalised law enforcement** mean and how is it practiced in Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Norway, Sweden and the UK?
- ❑ How is effective upholding of **human rights, transparency, and public participation** ensured in the development, implementation and use of digital policing technologies?
- ❑ What **values, politics and affordances** are embedded in digital policing technologies, and how are these negotiated and transformed before and after implementation?



Case studies of digital and datafied law enforcement tools

DENMARK	General crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ POL-INTEL - Intelligence-led policing platform
NORWAY	Youth crime/gangs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Risk assessment tools
LATVIA	Road traffic safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Future Intelligent Transport Systems ❑ Unmarked police bus with a 360-degree camera, drones ❑ Police body-worn cameras ❑ Smartphone apps allowing citizens to report crimes and incidents
ESTONIA	Data instead of humans on the move	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Genetic engineering (CRISPR-Cas9) ❑ E-residency and digital migration ❑ Border control & smart city
SWEDEN	Enhanced policing power for security guards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Gothenburg's Brunnsparcken
UNITED KINGDOM	Urban public space policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ London's St Pancras

Methods: recent historiography + ethnographic investigation + interventionist analysis

SOME KEY CONCEPTS

PREDICTIVE POLICING - the use of analytical techniques to forecast potential violations of law (future crimes)

CRIME - any action that contravenes the laws established by a political authority

DEVIANCE - any action which does not conform to the norms or values held by most of the members of a group or society

SURVEILLANCE - the monitoring of the activities of some individuals or groups by others in order to ensure compliant behaviour

DATAFICATION - the process by which subjects, objects, and practices are transformed into digital data

ALGORITHM - a series of instructions that instruct software package to take a dataset and learn a model or discover some underlying pattern

GOVERNANCE - the way rules, norms and actions are structured, sustained, regulated and held accountable



SOME CROSS-CUTTING ELEMENTS

- I. Diversity of agents and objects of surveillance
- II. Demarcation of spaces of surveillance
- III. (Co)production of knowledge
- IV. (Re)definition of public and private space
- V. Shifting human and non-human agency and patterns of authority
- VI. Diversity of agentive experiences and responses to surveillance

(I) Diversity of agents and objects of surveillance

Agents

- Police officers
- Civilians (citizen-led/-assisted policing)

Objects

- Place/location
- Person
- Property

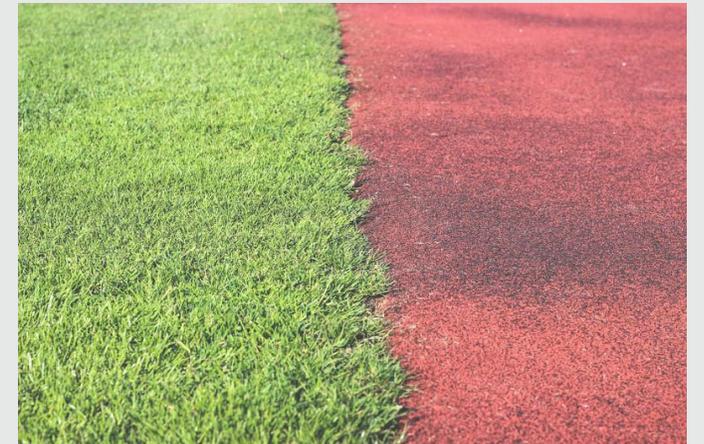
Hybridity of agents/objects

- Self-surveillance
- Counter-surveillance/sousveillance



(II) Demarcation of spaces of surveillance

- ❑ Public squares
 - ❑ Road infrastructure
 - ❑ National border
 - ❑ Risk areas/neighbourhoods/ghettos
 - ❑ Social media
-
- ❑ Hot-spots
 - ❑ Exceptional spaces
 - ❑ Legal geographies
 - ❑ Creation of visible and invisible borders in public spaces



(III) (Co)production of knowledge

- ❑ Co-construction of **crime** and criminals
- ❑ Impact of input data on **prediction outcomes**
- ❑ Elimination of human bias vs. reproduction of **prejudice**
- ❑ Social **biases** (race/class/age/gender and beyond)
 - ❑ Stigmatisation
 - ❑ Discriminatory profiling
 - ❑ Automating inequality
- ❑ **Automation** of human diversity



(IV) (Re)definition of public and private space

- ❑ Changing nature of **publicness** and public space
- ❑ Public security / **privacy**
- ❑ Hybridisation of law enforcement and **private security industry**
- ❑ Autonomy / sovereignty vs. **global governance** of data technologies
- ❑ Data **glocalisation** vs. cosmopolitan localism



(V) Shifting human and non-human agency and patterns of authority

- ❑ Digital tools and physical **artefacts**
- ❑ **Distributed agencies** of human and material elements
- ❑ From human-to-human to human-to-computer and computer-to-human **interactions**
- ❑ **Automated** decision-making
- ❑ **Performativity** of the data technologies



(VI) Diversity of agentive experiences and responses to surveillance

- ❑ Public **understanding** of policing
- ❑ User **acceptance** / negotiation / rejection
- ❑ Individual and collective forms of response and/or **resistance**
- ❑ Changing ways in which people **experience** public space
- ❑ **Disciplinary power** of digital surveillance



CONCLUDING REMARKS

- ❑ **Exploring** underlying ideologies behind digitalised law enforcement
- ❑ **Understanding** the internal workings and complexity of datafied policing systems
- ❑ **Advocating** for socially accountable use of technologies and data



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