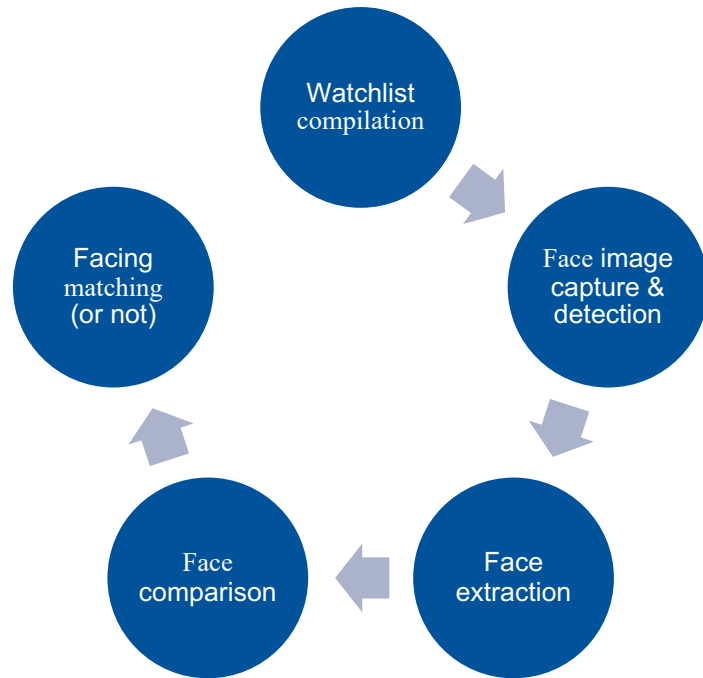




Saving Face? Recent Developments in Public Surveillance in the UK

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Geography & Sustainable Development.

Facial Recognition Technologies



Retrospective, live and operator initiated





From analog to digital identification and social sorting

- Anthropometry (body measurement), fingerprinting and iris or retinal scans
- Displacement of agency from humans to machines
- Autonomy, democratic accountability, individual privacy
- Surveillance capitalism and Big Data

Methods and places

2021-2022

Review of regulatory instruments

25x Interviews

Field visits

15x FOI requests

Westfield Shopping Center

Oxford Circus + Leicester Square

Croydon



Surveillance over space

- Individualist' privacy vs collective possibilities
- Spatially precise discrimination
- Lack of transparency on the choice of location justification.
- 'Zones of Recognition (CoP)
- Spaces transgressed: their 'openness is breached' as 'principles/regulations are violated'
- The result is an unprecedented assault on public space from overlapping layers and sequences of data practices.



Recent trends

- NPL equitability study 2023
- Police tripled retrospective FR
- ‘on street’ intelligence tool- nationwide roll out (Neoface)
- Increased use in retail environments
- Investigatory Powers Act
- ICO principles based approach

Thank you!