

Building a path out of "collusive transactions" between the field of academia and that of activism





# Marseille : plateforme technologique de gestion des données pour mieux anticiper les risques

Occitanie - Marseille - 29.11.2017

Marseille, le 29 novembre 2017 - Exploiter la richesse d'informations contenues dans l'ensemble des données disponibles sur un territoire, afin de garantir de manière plus efficace la sécurité et la tranquillité publique des citoyens. Tel est l'objectif de la Ville de Marseille qui confie à ENGIE Ineo à travers Ineo Digital, entité spécialisée dans les services numériques, la réalisation d'un projet unique, basé sur une plateforme technologique de gestion des données massives (Big Data). Cet outil inédit d'aide à la décision comportera un volet communication avec le citoyen, et montera en puissance afin d'être pleinement opérationnel fin 2020.



Contactez-

Vous avez un p

ENVOYER UN MESS

### **FOIA** requests



#### Délégation Générale Adjointe du Numérique et des Systèmes d'Information

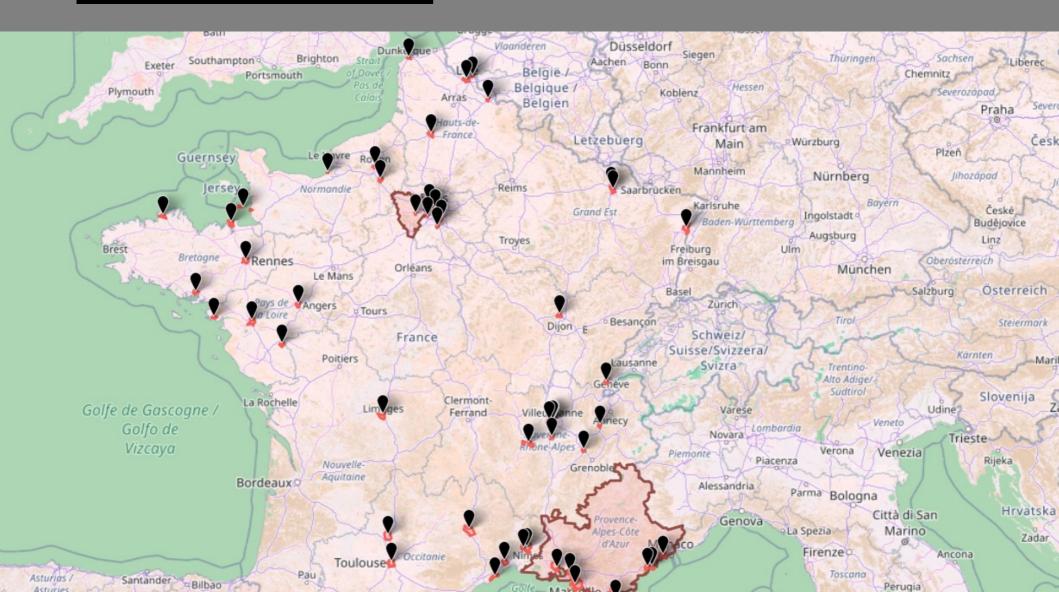
### Création d'un outil Big Data de la Tranquillité Publique et prestations d'accompagnement (2 lots)

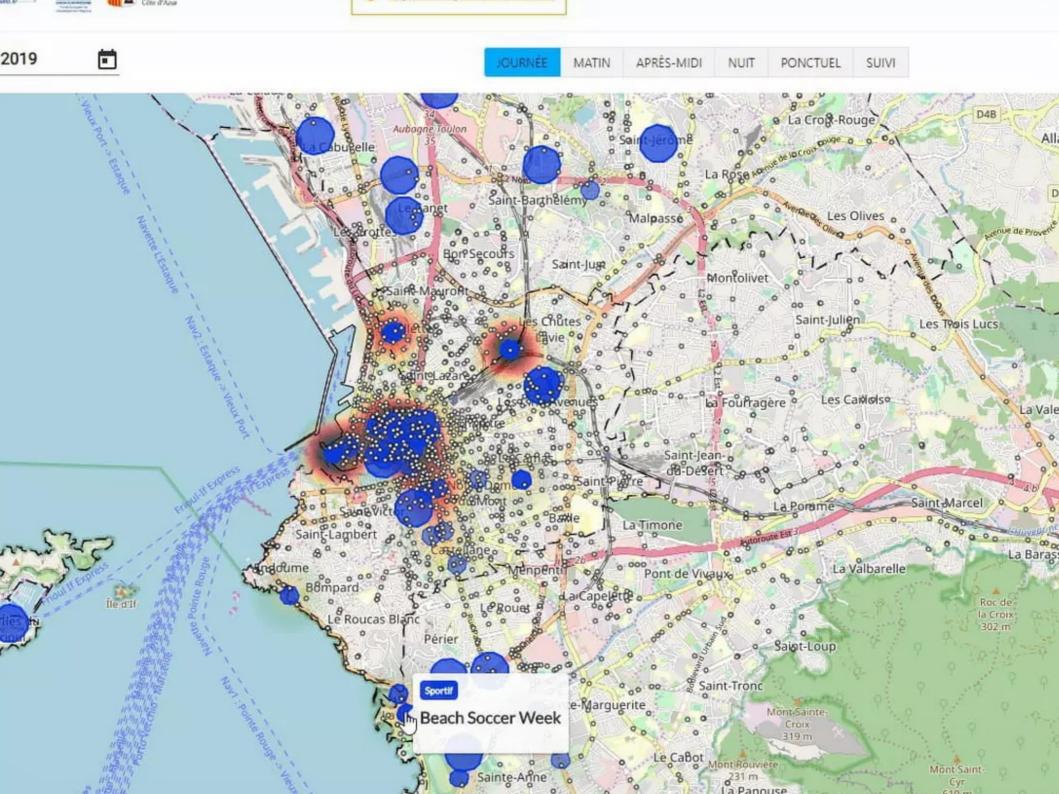
# Cahier des Clauses Techniques Particulières (CCTP)

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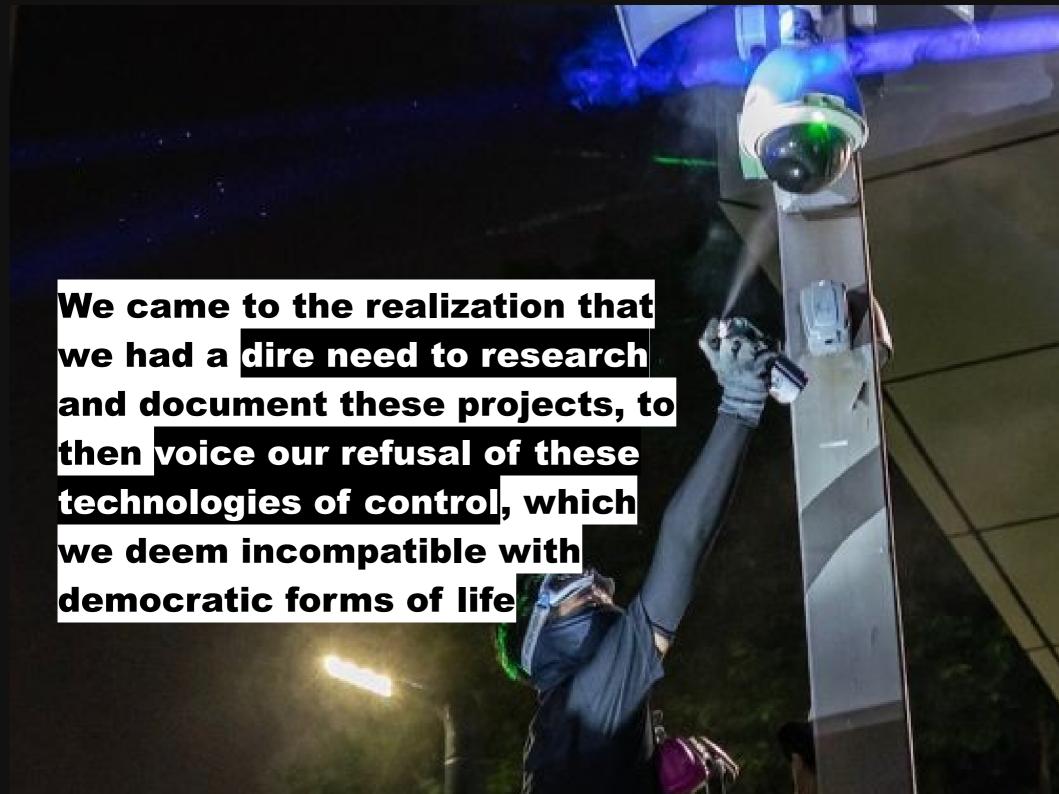
# The proliferation of Safe City experimentations













### A website (www.technopolice.fr)

to showcase our collective work, share documents, action guides and campaign kits



Actu

**Technologies** 

Villes

Forum

Se mobiliser

**TECHNOPOLICE** 

## A public forum (NodeBB on

forum.technopolice.fr) for monitoring, coordination, sharing tips, organising our refusal – gathering researchers, journalists, lawyers, activists and citizens of different backgrounds









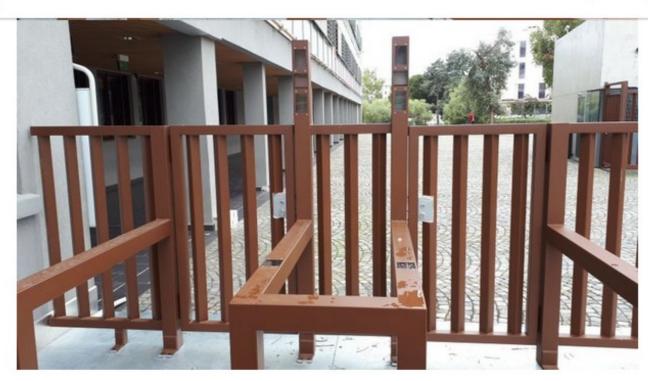






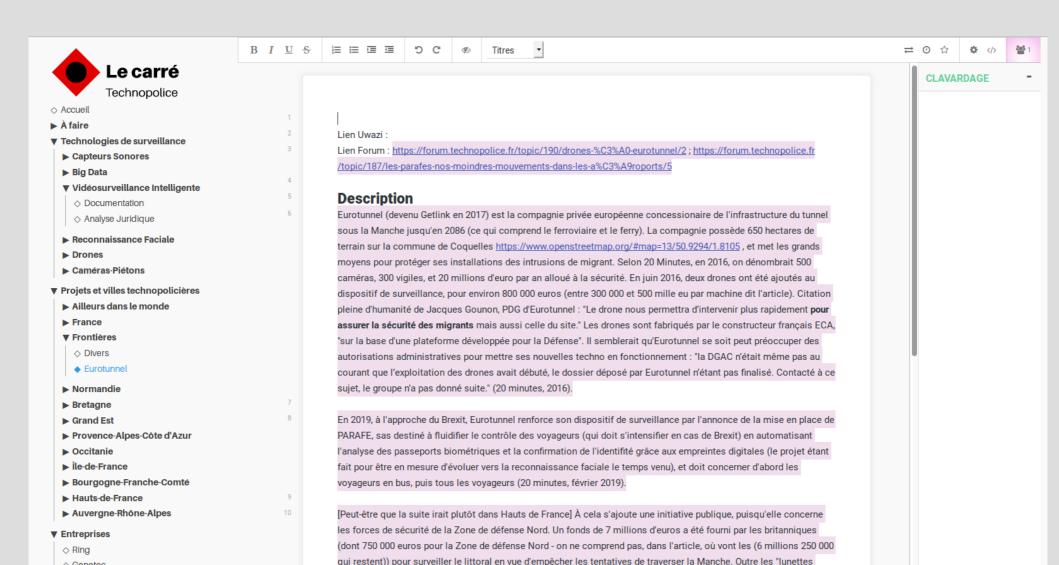






### Collaborative documents (custom

# Etherpad at carre.technopolice.fr) for working together in drafting texts and analysis



## A relational database (Uwazi on

data.technopolice.fr) for easy access to all documents we gather (e.g. through FOIA requests and whistleblowers)



Get support

Demo

Portfolio

Blog





ES

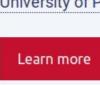
### How Uwazi is being used

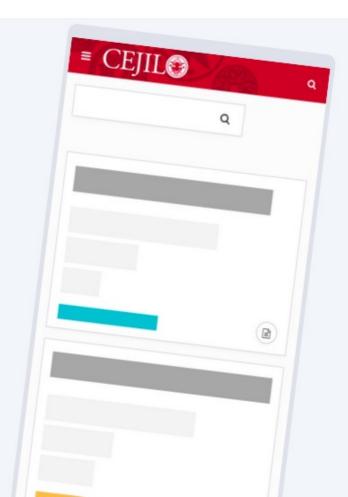
#### Make important, public information more accessible

Human rights defenders rely on information from many sources in order to do their work effectively – from government budgets to UN Human Rights Council member voting records to human rights case law. Uwazi empowers those who rely on this information, to organise it in whatever way is most useful for them.

See how Uwazi was implemented for:

The Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL) >> University of Pretoria Centre for Human Rights >>





# An online dropbox to invite people in public administrations or private corporations to securely leak documents



# SECUREDROP

Share and accept documents securely.

SecureDrop is an open source whistleblower submission system that media organizations and NGOs can install to securely accept documents from anonymous sources. It was originally created by the late Aaron Swartz and is now managed by Freedom of the Press Foundation. SecureDrop is available in 18 languages.

Get SecureDrop at your organization >









# Protests and coalition building

(Global Security Law, 2024 Olympic Games...)







# Seeding local groups to foster local actions, expertise, solidarity



### Strategic litigation...

### RECONNAISSANCE FACIALE : UN RECOURS POUR FAIRE BARRAGE À LA SURVEILLANCE BIOMÉTRIQUE

19 février 2019

SAFE CITY À MARSEILLE : PREMIER RECOURS CONTRE LA VIDÉOSURVEILLANCE AUTOMATISÉE

20 janvier 2020



### LES GOÉLANDS ABATTENT LEUR PREMIER DRONE

18 mai 2020

Quatre et la Fé recour

autoris



NOUS ATTAQUONS LA RECONNAISSANCE FACIALE DANS LE TAJ

7 août 2020

# Articulating local and transnational advocacy...



one million signatures

against biometric mass surveillance

## Successes

#### We helped:

- document Technopolice projects
- raise public awareness and build a political discourse against these technologies
- stop some of these projects (e.g. facial recognition in high schools)
- bridge activists scenes, helping make these issues part of the anti-police violence, anti-tech, "right to the city" agenda in France
- articulate local-national-European advocacy against police technology

## Challenges

#### We found that:

- it's been hard to reach out to racialized communities
- it's difficult to give "proof of harm"
- we have little knowledge on how to build grassroots mobilizations
- we've been hindering but in some ways also driving a process of legalisation by people much more resourced than us

# On links between academia and activism

### PROS:

- The resources we put out inspired/empowered researchers (and journalists) to work on the issue (politicization as enabler).
- Complementary methodologies: activists are not as constrained and can resort to more "adversarial methods" (that would fail to pass an ethics committee review)
- In turn, as activists, we have benefited from useful reviews of our publications and work, been pointed to research key to help us build our oppositional stance.
- Although more established researchers tend to run in the same hurdle of institutional opacity, daring and more junior researchers can get impressive access.

# Links between academia and activism

### CONS:

- Conflicting temporalities and commitments: e.g. long-term research data collection vs. need for activists to release data early.
- Politicization can reinforce secrecy: It can lead already opaque and secretive institutions close off even further
- nequality: Precarious, often unpaid activists helping moreresourced researchers who are also less interested in social change (or risk facing the career drawbacks for their activism).
- Objectification: As activists, we are often "studied" as "actors in the controversy" and sometimes trust and openness on our part gives way to the feeling of being researchobjectified.

## Solutions?

Being out front and laying out the framework for collaboration early on?

Question of whether funding for the "third sector" of research will really benefit activist groups in a context of growing liberal authoritarianism

