



Critical Approaches to Humanitarian Technology

Day 1: Accountability, Decision-Making and New Actors

ACADEMIC SEMINAR - PROGRAM

Date: Thursday, 28 November 2013

Venue: PRIO, Philosophers Hall

Welcome and Introduction	
Time	Activity
09.30-10.00	Welcome and Coffee/Tea
10.00-10.10	Introduction: <i>Humanitarian Technology - A Critical Research Agenda for Humanitarian Studies?</i> Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO)
10.10-10.55	Keynote Speech: <i>The Human Trace - The Rise of Cyber-Humanitarianism</i> Mark Duffield (Professor Emeritus, University of Bristol, School of Sociology, Politics and International Relations)
10.55-11.00	Questions and Comments Chair: Kristoffer Lidén (PRIO)

The Critical Approaches to Humanitarian Technology Conference is a collaboration between PRIO and the Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies, as part of the Critical Humanitarian Technology Project.

Protection of Civilians as a Data Protection and Privacy Issue

What are the challenges and existing best practices, and what are future needs?

Time	Activity
11.00-11.05	Chair: Rozemarijn van der Hilst (PRIO)
11.05-11.30	<i>Aiding Surveillance, Aiding Privacy</i> Gus Hosein (Privacy International)
11.30-11.55	<i>Principled Humanitarian Action and Privacy: Meeting Needs and Respecting Rights</i> Simon O'Connor (Norwegian Red Cross)
11.55-12.20	<i>Constructing Consent: Ethical Challenges to Information Innovation in Humanitarianism</i> Christopher Wilson (The Engine Room)
12.20-12.45	<i>How STS Insights Can Deepen Our Understanding of the Role of New Technology in Contemporary Refugee Management</i> Katja Lindskov Jacobsen (Metropolitan University College)
12.45-13.15	Questions and Comments Chair: Rozemarijn van der Hilst (PRIO)
13.15-14.00	Lunch

Humanitarian Operations: Managing Decision-Making Software

The desire to gather more and better data is a key driver in current humanitarian programming, yet what are the implications for accountability and transparency in humanitarian decision-making? Do humanitarian agencies have adequate operational standards and competence to properly and effectively deal with Big Data? As algorithms are developed to respond to socio-cultural indicators of crisis, is there any critical reflection on how the indicators are produced?

Time	Activity
14.00-14.05	Chair: Rocco Bellanova (PRIO)
14.05-14.30	<i>Making Technology-Supported Emergency Preparedness and Response Work in Developing Countries</i> Christian Webersik (UiA)
14.30-14.55	<i>Digital Dilemmas: Professionalizing Digital Volunteerism in Humanitarian Action</i> John Karlsrud (NUPI)
14.55-15.20	<i>Warning and Information System for Humanitarian Emergency Strategies</i> Michel Maietta and Marcella Corduas (Save the Children International)
15.20-15.45	<i>The Digitalisation of Resilience - Rationales, Actors and Accountabilities</i> Mareile Kaufmann (PRIO)
15.45-16.05	Questions and Comments Chair: Rocco Bellanova (PRIO)
16.05-16.15	Coffee/Tea/Fruit/Snacks
16.15-17.00	<i>Discussion: Cyber Humanitarianism and the Future of Accountability</i> Kristin Bergtora Sandvik (PRIO)
17.00-17.30	Wrap-Up and Closing Remarks
20.00	Dinner for Presenters