

Newsletter PIlab January 2018



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News:

Privacy Award for Bart Jacobs & IRMA

De Awards-jury prijst de ontwikkeling van IRMA vanuit de academische wereld als algemeen bruikbare *privacy by design* toepassing voor zowel de private als de publieke sector. Als middel voor privacyvriendelijke authenticatie spreken het grote innovatieve vermogen van de gehanteerde open-source techniek, de directe inzetbaarheid en de potentiële maatschappelijke impact van IRMA de jury enorm aan. IRMA is door de jury daarom unaniem gekozen als winnaar van de Nederlandse Privacy Awards 2018.

[Read more](#)



New Member: Cor Veenman

Cor Veenman is senior scientist data science at the Data Science department at TNO, The Hague. He received the MSc degree in computer science/AI from the Free University in Amsterdam and his PhD from the Delft University of Technology in Delft in Data Science and Computer Vision.

Visit his profile [here](#)

New Member: Paulus Meessen

Paulus Meessen studied Mathematics and Philosophy at the University of Groningen and has a MSc Computing Science from the Radboud University Nijmegen. Currently Paulus works as a PhD student on the DECODE project (<https://decodeproject.eu/>) at the Radboud University.

Visit his profile [here](#)



Reflections on the Smart City by Mireille Hildebrandt & Masa Galic

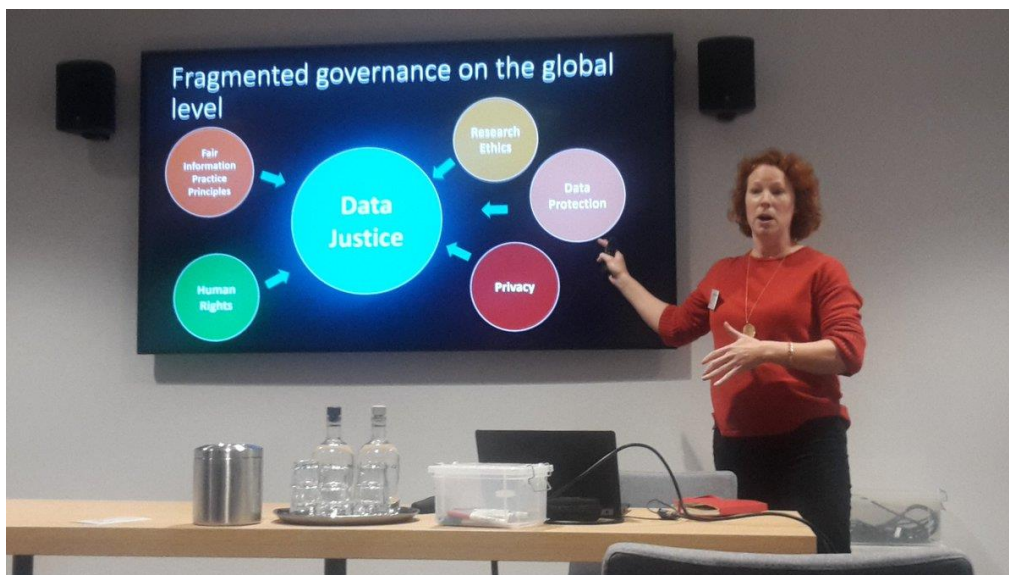
Stel je een willekeurige Nederlandse gemeente voor. Bij de gemeentegrens staat onder het blauwe naambord in kleine letters: ‘Door deze gemeente te betreden gaat u ermee akkoord dat we u met camera’s en sensoren volgen, uw gedrag meten en zo nodig bijsturen.’ De ophef over zo’n bordje zou niet mis zijn. Maar hoe zou zo’n stad eruitzien?

Read full article [here](#)

Highly successful Conference

The annual conference of the PI.lab took place December 7th in Utrecht. Theme of this year’s conference was ‘GDPR countdown’. The conference started with a keynote presentation by prof Mireille Hildebrandt and ended with a keynote by prof Ronald Deibert. ‘In between’, two sets of parallel sessions covered the way organisations are working on the GDPR, the coming referendum on the Dutch law for intelligence services, the construction of privacy by design, the concept of personal data and a discussion of how to create and enforce data justice.

Read more [here](#).



New Scientific Director PIlab

After 2 years, Jaap-Henk Hoepman has ended his term as scientific director of PIlab. During his time in office, PIlab has grown in terms of numbers, events and outreach and Jaap-Henk has managed to put the Privacy & Identity Lab on the agenda of policy makes, academics and journalists, among others by regularly contributing to newspapers, panels and radio programmes. PIlab is thankful for his efforts so far and is grateful that Jaap-Henk has agreed to remain active within the team. Bart van der Sloot (TILT) will follow in Jaap-Henk’s footsteps.



Blogs:

Karine e Silva: Notes on cybersecurity vigilantism and data protection risks

The spread of Mirai, the first large-scale IoT botnet made public, spawned a turmoil in the cybersecurity community in 2016. IoT devices had long been reported as a ticking bomb: the level of security embodied in the technology was questionable. Even then, the repercussion and strength of Mirai was greater than envisioned; in less than a year, Mirai had already compromised a total of 5 million devices (Costello, et al. 2016). Mirai emerged as a powerful, remote network affecting cameras and routers, causing massive disruptions worldwide. The insufficient security mechanisms deployed in mass IoT devices were captured by botherders and used to perpetrate potent DDoS attacks.

But in April 2017 an interesting development was spotted. Security researchers at Radware identified a PDoS (permanent denial of service attack) aimed at corrupting the storage of specific IoT devices and therefore incapacitating their functioning permanently (Radware 2017). Four versions of BrickerBot were released in the wild (BrickerBot.1, BrickerBot.2, BrickerBot.3, BrickerBot.4) in a short interval, disabling close to 2 million devices according to their creator (Cimpanu 2017). Described as a grey hat (Radware 2017), vigilante hacker Janit0r was allegedly motivated by the idea that unsafe IoT devices should be removed from the Internet (Millman 2017).

Read more [here](#)

Bart Jacobs: Reason yourself out of blockchains

Elektronisch cryptogeld, zoals bitcoin, heeft de laatste jaren sterk tot de verbeelding gesproken. Aan de basis hiervan staat de blockchaintechnologie. Het heeft geleid tot een waar geloof in het vermeende revolutionaire karakter en de onvermijdelijkheid van deze nieuwe technologie: geen enkele organisatie zou zich kunnen veroorloven die te missen. Tegenover deze bluff your way into blockchains biedt dit artikel enig tegenwicht.

Eerder dit jaar meldde een student zich bij mij met het verzoek of ik zijn afstudeerscriptie in de informatica wilde begeleiden. Hij had al enig voorwerk verricht en kwam zelf met een voorstel voor een afstudeeronderzoek bij een gerenommeerd Nederlands ICT-bedrijf. Daar had hij al mee gesproken en daarbij was hem blockchains als onderzoeksonderwerp gesuggereerd. Ik zal hier de naam niet noemen van het bedrijf – en ook niet van de betreffende student.

Read more [here](#)



Organisation:

Quarterlies:

Quarterlies will presumably be organised in March, June and September on Fridays. More to follow soon.

Roundtables:

Plans are to organise 2 or 3 roundtable workshops this year, after the highly successful events with Mireille Hildebrand and with Lokke Moerel and Corien Prins last year. More to follow soon.

PIlab Conference:

The PIlab Conference will be held in December 2018, the location will be the same as this year, In de Driekhoek, Utrecht, Netherlands. More to follow soon.



