AlgoRace
(Des)Racializando la IA

UNTOLD EUROPE UNTOLD EUROPE

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DecolonizingAI Lab: Impact of technology on (racial) surveillance capitalism

Alternative approaches to decolonising the concept and practice of digital rights

This document is provided within the framework of the UNTOLD Europe Project: Uncovering Neglected Truths and Outlining Legacies of Decolonisation.

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This document summarises key points from the event held on October 25, 2025, entitled **DecolonizingAI Lab: Laboratory on the decolonisation of AI and digital rights**, organised by AlgoRace with the support of Oxfam Intermón as part of the UNTOLD Europe project. A day of debate, reflection, and practice to explore the link between colonialism and the digital age.



At AlgoRace, we undertook to take on this task in line with the work we have been doing in recent years to unravel the colonial and racial logic behind the design and implementation of AI and algorithmic systems. These are socio-technical systems that automate segregation, exclusion, persecution, and in response to power inequalities inscribed in colonial, racial and gender hierarchies, among others.

The **DecolonizingAI Lab** was developed in Espacio Afro in Madrid city, a self-managed space that has recently become a focal point for Black, African, and Afro-descendant culture in Spain.

More than fifty people of diverse nationalities, immigration statuses, professions and ages attended the event to share their perspectives, knowledge and experiences in debates about the racial and colonial impact of technological systems implemented by public administrations and private entities, as well as alternatives to these systems.

The day was structured around three roundtables and a practical workshop:

- Roundtable 1: Racial Capitalism and Police Surveillance.
- Roundtable 2: Technology in the Service of Migration Control.
- Roundtable 3: Records, Systematization, and Algorithmic Combat.
- Workshop: Tools for Monitoring Systems and Technologies.

Table 1. Racial capitalism and police surveillance



The first panel was titled **Racial capitalism and Police Surveillance**. The panel addressed the interrelation of police surveillance and the digital technologies implemented for this purpose, particularly in relation to migrant and racialised communities. Drawing on their respectivests discussed how these dynamics unfold, who they impact and how, and the forms of resistance driven by civil society. The following is a summary of the panellists and their contributions:

"Control technology is promoted from an unrealistic idea of neutrality and objectivity. It is designed by minds that are shaped by historical power inequalities such as racism," Aliou Diallo.



The first to intervene was Aliou Diallo A researcher on institutional racism in the field of security and a professor at the University of Girona, he is an anti-racist and pro-housing activist with degrees in Law and Political Science and a master's degree in International Relations, Security, and Development. He is also a trainer in intersectional issues and has experience in managing social projects.

Diallo addressed the experience and analysis of technological surveillance and security in contexts of structural racism and poverty in Catalonia. He presented the findings of the report "Mapping pólice surveillance technologies in Catalonia", developed by the Black African and Afro-descendant Community of Catalonia and the project "Stop watching us, Black Data Excavators Barcelona".

This is a two-year exploratory project studying how racialised and impoverished people perceive surveillance technologies. Security cameras are a key focus of this study, often perceived differently depending on a person's social and economic context. In marginalised neighborhoods, for example, they are used as mechanisms of hyper-surveillance, whereas in more affluent neighbourhoods they are used to regulate traffic or maintain public order.

Diallo also highlighted how the historical link between the police and racial control remains present in the management of populations. He questioned the idea that surveillance and technological security are neutral and objective when, in reality, they are designed by people who perpetuate structures of power and racism. Diallo linked the history of colonisation and slavery to these technologies, which maintain a status quo that keeps racialised communities under more rigorous and visible control.

Finally, he examined how the perception of security differs among racialised individuals, who tend to favour greater security in terms of basic needs over increased policing. However, despite a general resistance to police security, technological surveillance is more readily accepted, albeit with nuances. Lastly, he criticised the instrumentalisation of fear in politics, whereby both right-wing and left-wing parties resort to insecurity and the criminalisation of certain groups to justify their policies. In response, he proposes neighbourhood and community organising as a form of resistance and self-defence.



"Growing up in a working-class neighbourhood means going out on the street and being subject to social media surveillance. If the police stop you, they can access all your data: your conversations, your photos, and they can see where you've been in the past" Kelly Marie Vaz Semedo.

Next, intervened Kelly Marie Vaz Semedo, trainee lawyer and member of GHETT'UP, an association dedicated to defending marginalised communities in working-class French neighbourhoods. It is also part of the Justice Equity Table network. Semedo is the author of "Connus de services de police (Known to the police)", a report that examines hyper-surveillance in impoverished neighbourhoods and its impact on racialised people through quantitative and qualitative analysis. The work focuses on peer training, supporting other organisations, and most importantly, empowering young people.

In his presentation, Vaz Semedo shared the findings of the report, 'Connus de services de police'. The study addresses hyper-surveillance in areas of Paris inhabited by racialised people. It focuses on how these communities, which are mostly of African and Arab origin, are subject to constant police surveillance through practices such as illegally accessing young people's mobile phones to read conversations and view photos without any judicial oversight. This digital surveillance, coupled with fines issued without direct police interaction with young people, creates a climate of fear and repression.

Semedo explained that young people in working-class neighbourhoods in France face excessive physical and digital surveillance. As well as facing fines and constant police harassment, they experience discrimination when leaving their neighbourhoods. Despite having valid train tickets or other documents, they are stopped by the police and asked about their ethnicity. Even going to school or carrying out everyday activities is subject to scrutiny, fuelling a police culture that associates suspicion with skin colour.
Finally, she explained how laws and technologies in France have facilitated police violence. This was evident during the Paris Olympics, when exceptional security measures and cameras were implemented. These measures have since become permanent, exacerbating conditions of surveillance and control, particularly for young people from marginalised neighbourhoods. She noted that the victims of police brutality continue to be predominantly racialised men, and that the problems stemming from these abuses continue to cause deep harm to communities affected by structural racism.



"The history of the persecution and surveillance of the Roma population did not begin with digital technology, but it exacerbates and modernizes it, turning it into a form of massive and systematic control," Benjamin Ignac.

At this table, we were finally able to count on the presence of Benjamin Ignac, a Roma academic and digital policy expert from Croatia. He holds a degree in geography and geographic information systems (GIS) from the University of Oklahoma, as well as a master's degree in public policy from the University of Oxford, where he specialised in big data and digital rights.

He previously worked at the European Roma Rights Centre in Budapest, later collaborating with the Open Society Foundations and the publisher Taylor & Francis on issues related to social justice, digital transformation, and the ethics of technology.

In his presentation, Ignac addressed the historical and current relationship between the Romani and Gypsy populations and surveillance in Europe. He highlighted three key points:

1 . History of persecution and surveillance:

The surveillance of Romani people began long before the advent of modern technology, with the creation of the 'Gypsy Book' in pre-Nazi Germany — a criminal database on Romani people. During the Nazi regime, extensive lists of personal data were compiled, including that of children, enabling systematic persecution. After World War II, communist regimes also implemented control policies through censuses and databases. These policies included forced settlement and the sterilisation of Romani women, decisions which were based on these records.

2 . Surveillance and discrimination in modern times:

Currently, surveillance remains common practice, both overt and covert. In countries such as Norway and Sweden, illegal databases on the Roma community, compiled by police forces for 'crime prevention' projects, have been discovered, exposing entire families. Attempts have also been made in Italy and France to create databases of Roma fingerprints, a practice that has been condemned by the European Parliament. Technologies such as facial recognition and biometrics allow law enforcement to identify and monitor the Roma population.

3 . The dilemma of invisibility and visibility in data:

The Roma community is easily identifiable for surveillance purposes, yet invisible in terms of rights and public policy. Although databases and surveillance technology make it possible to identify the Roma community, there is no clear data to inform integration and non-discrimination policies. While the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) prohibits the collection of data on ethnicity, it allows exceptions for 'public interest' or 'national security', justifying surveillance and perpetuating discrimination.

Finally, Ignac reflected on the power of those who control data, noting that large technology corporations and governments use this information to their advantage. He proposed data sovereignty as a solution, inspired by indigenous movements in Abya Yala that fight to regain control over data affecting them, deciding what is collected and for what purposes.

Table 2. Technology at the service of migration control



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The panel featured three speakers from southern European countries that receive populations directly from the Global South: Spain, Italy and Greece. Drawing on their respective areas of expertise and experience, the speakers discussed how these technologies are implemented, who they affect, their impact, and the forms of resistance developed by migrants and emerging civil society groups. Below is a summary of the speakers and their presentations:



"The use of surveillance systems at the Greek borders, including AI and the collection of biometric data, has led to serious human rights violations against migrants, including data loss and the trafficking of women, leaving them in vulnerable and precarious situations," Kostandina Menka.

Kostandina Menka is a member of both the Greek Forum of Migrants (GFM) and its second-generation youth group, as well as the Albanian Community in Greece. She works on issues related to migration, digital rights and human rights, with a focus on gender-based violence, access to rights and the inclusion of marginalised communities.

When it was her turn to speak, Menka described her experience as a migrant woman in Greece, highlighting the difficulties currently faced by migrants, particularly women, due to the Ministry of Migration's inefficient digital platform for renewing residence permits. Although this platform was introduced following the Covid-19 pandemic, it has caused significant delays, leaving many migrants unable to travel or work legally while they wait for their permits to be renewed. The once efficient bureaucracy now leaves migrants trapped in administrative limbo.

This situation also highlights how migrant women find themselves in an even more vulnerable position due to the combination of their status as foreigners, mothers, and workers. Often, they depend on their husbands' residence permits, which forces them to remain in abusive relationships so as not to lose their rights. Although there is a law that allows women to obtain residence permits as mothers of Greek children, the process remains complicated and does not guarantee women's autonomy in legal or employment terms.

Finally, she mentioned the problems with surveillance and control at the Greek borders, where the authorities use facial recognition technology and collect biometric data. These technologies are not only invasive, but also poorly managed, leading to the loss of crucial data and leaving migrant women, particularly victims of trafficking, in an even more vulnerable position. She stressed the urgent need to improve migrant women's protection and ensure the responsible handling of their data.



"Technologies such as interconnected databases and biometric systems determine who can cross borders, predict political and legal decisions, and automate exclusion. The asylum system further dehumanises people by denying them the right to be heard and by automatically denying them their rights." Leila Belhadj Mohamed.

Next to speak was **Leila Belhadj Mohamed** (Italy), a member of the board of directors of Privacy Network, where she deals with issues related to surveillance, racial discrimination, facial recognition, and spyware. Belhadj is a freelance journalist specializing in migration, human rights, digital rights, and geopolitics in Africa and the SWANA region.

She began her presentation by discussing the realities of migration and the influence of digital technologies on the control and management of migrants in Europe. She then focused on how Italy, along with other EU countries, has implemented surveillance and control systems to manage migration flows. By collecting personal and biometric data, such as fingerprints and photographs of faces, Italian authorities can automate the exclusion of migrants, which may impact their right to seek asylum, reside in the country, or work there.

Belhadj emphasised that migrants in reception areas such as Lampedusa are often pressured into signing documents in Italian and English without receiving sufficient information about how their data will be handled. Migrants who refuse to sign these documents are labelled 'non-cooperative', which has a negative impact on their asylum application process and their access to rights. This creates an environment of digital exclusion where European data protection laws such as the GDPR are not properly respected, leaving migrants vulnerable and without access to crucial information about their situation.

Another important point raised by Belhadj is the use of surveillance technologies at borders, particularly in the Friuli region on the border with Slovenia. Here, camera traps, mobile sensors and other technologies are used to monitor migrants passing along the so-called 'Balkan route'. Although these technologies were initially implemented to combat cattle rustling, they are now being used to track and deport migrants in violation of European asylum laws and the principle of non-refoulement, which prohibits the expulsion of migrants without due process.

Finally, she addressed the interconnection of biometric databases and systems, such as Office, which collect the fingerprints and other personal data of migrants. Although they were originally designed to monitor individuals classified as 'criminals', they now also include asylum seekers and people with residence permits. This practice not only generates discrimination, but also makes it more difficult to obtain visas or work permits. Furthermore, the report mentioned Sindaka software, which automates translation and asylum processes. This eliminates the human element in the evaluation of each case, exposing migrants to errors and biases in their access to fundamental rights.



"Automation and data collection at Europe's borders have led to migrants being controlled without being able to access their fundamental rights, resulting in a form of digital and legal exclusion," Carlos Lancho Bances.

Finally, journalist and historian Carlos Lancho Bances took the floor. He is a researcher at the University of Navarra, where he is currently working on his doctoral thesis in journalism. His research focuses on the impact of algorithms on public opinion regarding migration. He also works at the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) as a press officer and collaborates with AlgoRace.

Lancho addressed the situation regarding borders and migration control in the Spanish state, focusing on the findings of the AlgoRace report, “Digital technology for migration control on Spain's southern border” (2024), of which he is a co-author. He explained that a digital control system has recently been implemented at the EU's external borders, including in Ceuta, Melilla and the Canary Islands, where tools such as cameras, sensors and facial recognition technologies are employed. These technologies not only control the movement of people, but also regulate the entry and exit of migrants to the country, even before political or judicial decisions are made.

He also emphasised the difficulty of investigating these control systems, highlighting the strong presence of the authorities in these areas. Interactions between the authorities and migrants in these areas are complex and opaque. In many cases, interviews and statements are digitally recorded, which reduces the possibility of humane and personalised treatment, making the process automated and exclusionary.

He also raised concerns about the privatisation of migrant centres and the funding of these surveillance systems. Private companies are involved in constructing and managing detention and surveillance centres, which raises concerns about the transparency and ethics of these contracts. He mentioned in particular that, despite receiving European funding, the systems used do not guarantee human rights, favouring punitive and exclusionary approaches.

Finally, he reflected on the impact of these technologies on the lives of migrants. This is a reality embodied in surveillance policies that include difficulty accessing basic rights, racial discrimination and constant violence. These policies treat migrants as numbers in a control system rather than recognising their humanity.

Table 3. Registration, systematization and algorithmic struggle



Finally, the third and final panel, entitled 'Registration, systematisation, and algorithmic combat', was held. This panel explored the various forms, tools and mechanisms of resistance against technosolutionism and surveillance capitalism. To this end, the panel addressed the opacity and lack of transparency that limit our understanding of how human and fundamental rights are violated while simultaneously reproducing a logic of exploitation operating according to different hierarchies.

The speakers shared the information and tools available to them to help unravel the workings of these systems, and to improve our understanding of their impact and the options available to us as a society to combat them.



"Intersectionality must be the framework for digital justice in order to understand how discrimination intersects with and affects people in diverse ways. "Technology should not alienate cultures, but rather enable people to participate and become visible on their own terms while preserving the integrity of their identities." Nadia Nadesan.

Nadia Nadesan re a researcher, designer and civic technologist whose work explores the sociopolitical frictions that arise when technology interacts with local contexts. She has a background in civic technology, urban governance and participatory design. Nadia's work focuses on community-driven approaches to digital infrastructures and the cultural dimensions of AI. She is a co-founder of **Design Justice Mediterránea** and collaborator on several international projects that explore alternative narratives of AI, such as **Small AI con AIxD,** and former scholarship recipient in AI governance with Open Future. As a contributor, Nadia provides critical perspectives on the social impact of AI systems, particularly regarding the arts, culture and governance.

Nadesan addressed the issue of intersectionality in relation to technology within the context of migration. She discussed how digital tools and algorithms can reinforce discrimination but also provide alternatives for marginalised communities. Emphasising the importance of defining identity from a personal rather than an imposed perspective, she explained that the use of algorithms can exclude certain groups if they are based on fixed and reductionist categories. She explained that people must be able to self-identify, and that this should be central to policies and technologies affecting migrant communities.

She also mentioned her work on a research project called 'Slow AI', which investigates small forms of governance through technology. The project aims to enable communities to create their own AI systems tailored to their specific needs and languages. The Masakane Project, for example, focuses on language processing in African languages. It highlights the fact that certain languages, despite being spoken by millions of people, remain underrepresented in technology, reflecting historical and political inequality. She also mentioned the importance of cultural preservation in the face of cultural appropriation, citing Māori communities as an example. They created their own language model to preserve their language and protect their cultural heritage. In this context, she also spoke about a project called 'Once Upon a Garden', which uses AI to predict how flower species will change due to climate change. This initiative reflects the need to use technology in a human-centred way without losing cultural ownership.

“An AI registry in the public sector can help demystify AI, debunk claims of efficiency and neutrality, and provide civil society with resources to fight against questionable practices in the use of these technologies,” Jasmina Ploštajner.



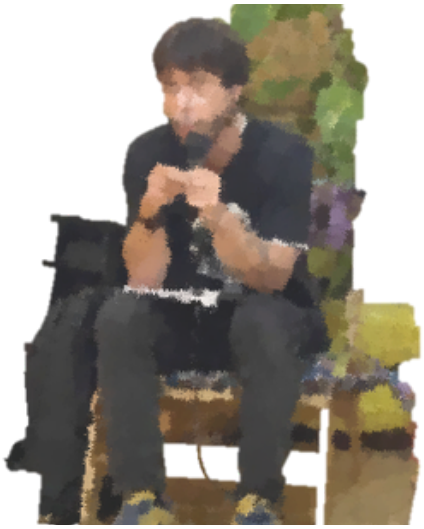
Next to speak was Jasmina Ploštajner, co-founder of Danes je nov dan, a Slovenian NGO working to defend fundamental rights and freedoms in the digital age.

As an expert in digital rights, Ploštajner focuses her work on the impact of AI systems on human rights and democracy, as well as issues related to the regulation of new technologies. She is also a UX/UI designer and holds a degree in Industrial Design from the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. She has over 15 years of professional experience and has received several awards for her work.

In her presentation, she emphasised the importance of transparency and registering AI systems in the public sector. These registries are centralised databases that allow AI systems and tools used by different organisations to be tracked, providing key information about their lifecycle, models, code and usage. While acknowledging that these registries will not solve all problems related to discrimination and opaque technology use, she emphasised their potential as a crucial first step towards increasing transparency and fostering public debate about the use of AI in public services.

She therefore called for oversight and control of AI systems that affect society. She emphasised that governments and public institutions are increasingly using AI but not providing the public with information about how and why it is being used. AI registries can demystify AI in this context, showing its real impact and opening the door to broader debates about the fairness and efficiency of automating public services. Ploštajner cited Slovenia as an example, where a lack of transparency regarding the use of AI in the public sector led to the creation of an AI registry. This allowed civil society, researchers and journalists to investigate and put pressure on public institutions to become more transparent.

This pressure led the government to pass a law establishing a national AI registry based on a proposal from civil society, opening the possibility to obtain more information and addressing potential harms that the systems may cause. An initial step that he considered a major advance in the fight for transparency and accountability in the use of AI.



"The awareness campaign that is being carried out seeks to increase public acceptance and understanding of the importance of transparency and protection against the risks that automated systems can bring to vulnerable communities," Javier Moreno.

Javier Moreno, a member of the Madrid Anti-Racist Assembly, closed this last panel discussion. He supports anti-racist social movements through his work as a lawyer. He is a member of the Legal Sol collective and Coordinadora de Barrios, with experience in strategic litigation in the area of borders and Foreigners' Detention Centers (CIE). He works as a lawyer for the TAS Observatory: Work, Algorithm, and Society Glovo project and work without rights: Opening avenues for informal delivery workers and eliminating algorithmic exploitation.

Moreno then emphasised how technology and automated systems can perpetuate structural discrimination, particularly when they are not managed transparently or subject to public oversight. He emphasised that algorithms and technological platforms can have harmful effects on the most disadvantaged communities when not properly controlled, as is the case with immigration control and surveillance systems. Consequently, these systems can further render invisible and exclude people in vulnerable situations.

He presented the work of the TAS Observatory, which analyses and studies the impact of algorithms used on various public and private platforms on vulnerable communities. The Observatory examines how technology platforms affect access to public services, employment, and social justice. He emphasised the need for rigorous oversight to ensure that algorithms do not exclude people. He called for the democratisation of technology and the creation of spaces for public participation, in which affected communities can contribute to decisions that impact their lives.

He also explained how his group is working to denounce the irresponsible use of personal data. He highlighted that many technology platforms do not manage privacy ethically, abusing personal information without proper user consent. He also pointed out that these platforms often fail to clarify how data is used or the impact of algorithms on people's lives. Through their awareness campaigns, they aim to demand greater transparency and accountability from the institutions that manage these technologies.

In conclusion, Moreno emphasised that the fight for human rights and social justice must include technological transparency. He stressed that, in addition to identifying and highlighting discriminatory practices, it is crucial to establish a platform through which communities can actively contribute to the design and governance of the technological systems that impact them. In order to achieve a fairer and more equitable society, he said that technologies must be more accessible, transparent and accountable without exacerbating existing social inequalities.

He ended his speech by urging continued efforts to promote democratic participation in technology and create more inclusive cities.

General conclusions drawn from the interventions described:

1. Technological and police surveillance is not neutral. It perpetuates structural racism and social control, disproportionately affecting marginalised communities.

2. Hypervigilance combines physical and digital control, normalising illegal and discriminatory practices that generate fear, repression and systematic violations of rights.

3. The surveillance of racialised communities has a long history and has been used by different political regimes to persecute, control and discriminate.

4. These communities are easily traceable for surveillance purposes, yet invisible to public policies, which reinforces discrimination. Data sovereignty emerges as a form of resistance.

5. Migration control technologies in the EU and Spain automate exclusion by regulating the movement of migrants before political or judicial decisions are made, thereby violating fundamental rights such as the right to asylum, residence and work.

6. A lack of transparency, the privatisation of systems and the dehumanisation of migration processes reinforce punitive practices, treating people as data and risks rather than as subjects of rights.

7. Administrative digitisation has created a legal limbo that makes migrants' lives precarious, particularly affecting women, whose autonomy is limited by legal and social dependencies.

8. If algorithms and technologies are based on rigid categories, they reinforce exclusion and discrimination. Self-identification and intersectional approaches by affected communities are key to empowerment and protection of rights.

9. Creating community-based and culturally diverse technologies, as well as public registries of AI systems, demonstrates how transparency, data sovereignty and citizen participation can generate social justice and responsible oversight.

10. Ensuring ethical, inclusive, accountable and non-discriminatory technological systems requires the democratisation of technology and the active participation of affected communities.

Workshop: "Recording Technologies"

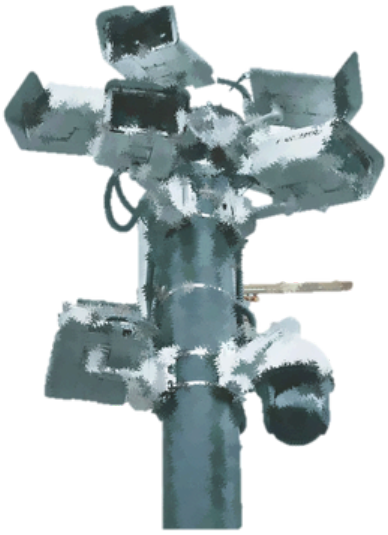


The day ended with a workshop focused on developing tools to monitor the systems and technologies used by public and private administrations that reinforce racism and the colonial logic to which they adhere. This workshop was a continuation of the presentations given at the various round tables. The workshop emerged from the similarities and needs identified in the three panels, namely opacity and a lack of transparency as the main barriers to citizen participation and social scrutiny.

The workshop provided an opportunity to consider the ways in which civil society can propose alternatives and combat algorithmic injustices resulting from deeply rooted logic. The focus was on a **public registry of technological systems** as a monitoring tool.

The large number of participants at the event enabled collective reflection and the creation of a prototype registry of technologies used in contexts related to police surveillance, migration control and border management. These are systems that escape public scrutiny by falling under the umbrella of 'national security' and 'migration control', which have a tangible impact on racialised and migrant communities.

The workshop's objective was not to develop a final product, but rather to collaboratively design the logic and structure of a systems registry based on a series of pertinent questions:



1. What information should it contain?
2. Who should it serve and how?
3. How can it be useful for researchers and affected communities?

Answering these questions involves considering other equally important questions, a fundamental process that allowed for a broad space for debate and reflection.

The workshop was structured around different stages of development:

A. Identification of systems:

The first phase addressed the various systems and rationales discussed during the morning roundtables, answering the following questions:

1. What technologies used in migration control, policing or border management reinforce racism or colonial hierarchies?
2. How are these technologies implemented (e.g. biometric databases, predictive policing, facial recognition and risk assessment)?
3. Who develops, finances or implements them (public administrations, private providers, EU agencies, etc.)?

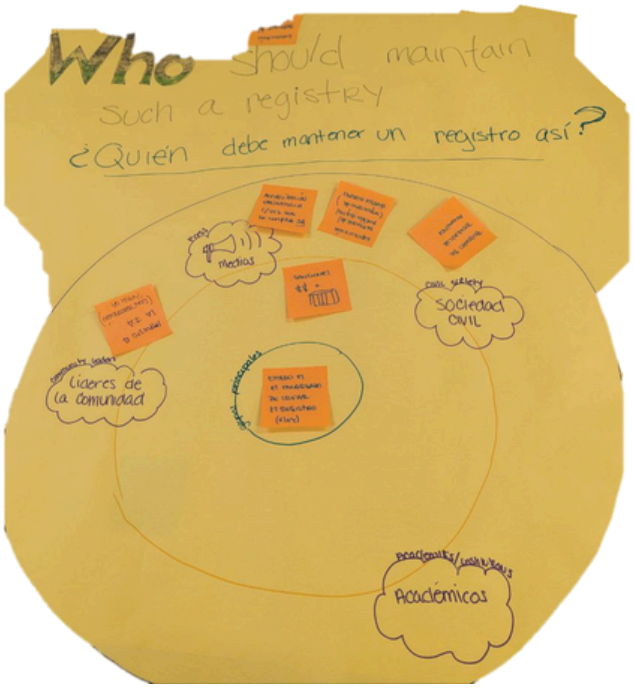
B. Making them visible:



B. Making them visible:
This second phase addressed the challenges, difficulties and opportunities involved in creating a systems registry. The following questions were answered to this end:

- Why is it difficult to track or identify these systems?
- What would make it easier for people to identify these systems? Media coverage, apps, websites, etc.?
- What forms of opacity (technical, bureaucratic or legal) prevent public accountability?
- What information already exists (e.g. news, reports, leaks, legal cases, activism and testimonies)?

C. "Designing" the registry:



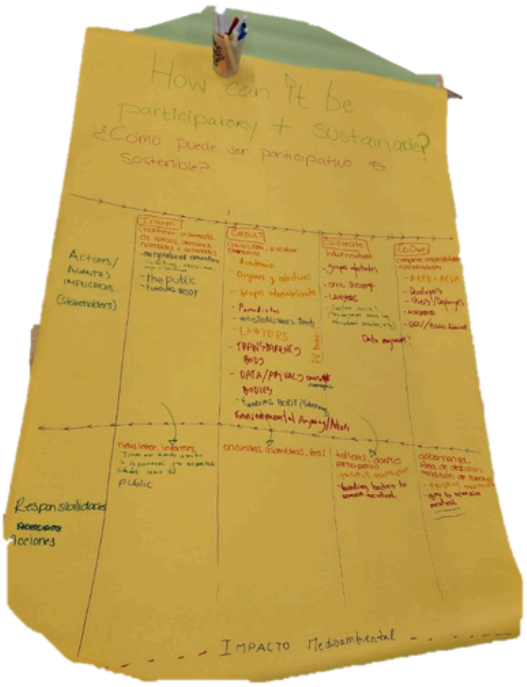
Next, a more practical phase began, in which the participants designed a prototype registry. This involved imagining a 'data sheet' or entry for a system, based on the following question: What information should it contain to be useful and accessible?

Establishing the following key points:

- Name of the system/project.
- Institutions involved (developer, financier, user).
- Stated purpose/objective.
- Communities affected/actual impact.
- Type of technology (AI, database, surveillance tool, etc.).
- Source of information (media, NGO report, requests for information—transparency portals, etc.).
- Level of transparency (open/secret/under investigation).
- Identified risks (bias, data exploitation, human rights concerns).
- Forms of resistance or challenge (legal action, campaigns, research).

The debate was further enriched by other equally important questions:

- What information is essential to include?
- How can we represent uncertainty or missing data?
- How can we balance technical accuracy and accessibility for affected groups?



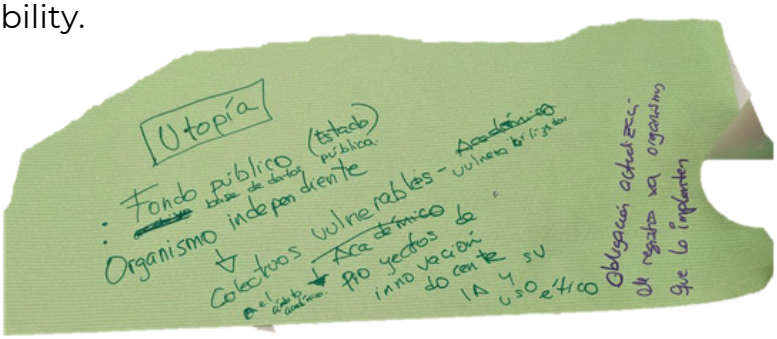
D. Governance and use:

Finally, the discussion turned to how the tool should be governed, how accessible it should be, and what role it should play in defending rights.

- Who should maintain this registry?
- How can it be participatory and sustainable?
- How can it contribute to advocacy, journalism, litigation, and grassroots organising?

Initially, we started with some expected outcomes, which were structured as follows:

- A common understanding of which systems should be monitored.
- A draft model or template for a 'log entry'.
- Ideas about information flows, responsibilities and the use of logs.
- A sense of collective ownership of this project as a tool for resistance and visibility.



Conclusion: A public and participatory registry of AI systems

The proposal of a registry of AI systems is seen as a key tool for ensuring transparency, accountability and the protection of fundamental rights. The aim is to raise awareness and identify systems implemented by public administrations and private entities, as well as their potential impact on rights. It will provide comprehensive information on their use.

Particular attention should be given to systems used in areas such as national security, counterterrorism and migration control. These contexts often permit high levels of secrecy and limited public oversight, leading to the disproportionate and uncontrolled use of technologies with profound effects on people's lives, particularly those belonging to migrant and racialised communities.

The registry must contain clear, accessible information about each AI system, including its purpose, scope of application, target population, training data, user data processed, and, where possible, relevant code information. These obligations apply to both developing companies and supplying or contracted entities.

The registry must be updated based on shared responsibility. Public administrations and implementing companies are obliged to keep the information up to date. On the other hand, the active participation of academic institutions, the media, civil society organisations and representatives of the affected communities should be encouraged. This participation should not be limited to a subsequent review; it should begin with the design of the registry itself, enabling the affected groups to influence its results effectively.

To ensure the registry's effectiveness, a specific public supervisory body should be created and coordinated with entities such as the Spanish Data Protection Agency (AEPD) and the Spanish AI Supervisory Agency (AESIA). These entities have the power to impose sanctions for fraudulent use, unreported systems, a lack of information or negative impacts. An anonymous complaints box is also envisaged to enable the detection of unregistered systems or harmful practices in operation.

Supervision complements, rather than replaces, other essential mechanisms such as participatory processes, compensation for damages, and access to free and effective justice for affected individuals and groups. The registry could also collect information on broader social consequences, such as job losses resulting from the implementation of AI systems, and the support available to those affected.

In terms of economic sustainability, it is proposed that the registry be financed through a tax levied on companies developing and implementing technological systems. This model would ensure the registry's maintenance without reliance on unstable resources.

The registry would be complemented by external audits and periodic public environmental impact assessments, which would include information on data centres and resource consumption. All of this must be accompanied by awareness-raising and social literacy initiatives, as well as surveys, assemblies and public forums that encourage participation and informed debate.

This approach is committed to **AI governance based on transparency, participation, accountability, protection of rights and institutional neutrality, while also taking a critical view of its environmental and social impact.**
We refer to it as a public registry because it should not be understood solely as a technical or administrative tool. Rather, it should be seen as a political and collective space. Through research and organisation, it is possible to develop a better understanding of the intellectual and political terrain in which we find ourselves. When conceived in this way, the registry becomes a living instrument of **knowledge, participation and democratic action**. This allows civil society to play a central role in technological decision-making and to move towards **AI governance based on social justice, transparency and public accountability.**



From AlgoRace, we would like to thank everyone who attended our event and contributed their knowledge and experiences to create a diverse and valuable space. This is not the end, but rather a continuation of the activism and social struggles that we have been carrying out on different fronts.

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