

Access Copy:

<http://meltionary.com/access/blackbox-accesscopy.pdf>

. . . for later:

Video:

<https://youtu.be/hPFQ1wsA>

<https://youtu.be/kWku8PZG1E0> >> from 11:33 to 16:50

### **Blackboxes to melt:**

- access to mental health coverage in germany. depending on the area, the only professionals with capacities often don't have an agreement with health insurance (yet) and compile "access" documents with the steps to basically "complain" yourself into the costs being covered by health insurance. that a.o. involves confirmations from other professionals that they have no capacity, creating more work for everyone.

- A grey box has been the corona application in Germany because from the beginning on its code had to be published on git hub. so not all decisions have been transparent but the resulting code and data structure is visible

- coalition between Google and Apple to become the essential backbone for \*any\* corona app, independent of government/jurisdiction/nationstate

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/10/apple-google-coronavirus-us-app-privacy>

-->>> I found a real life particular melt here (Wendy):

<https://f-droid.org/en/packages/de.corona.tracing/>

<<<-Description ends with "All that happens without storing more data than necessary."

This is a fork of CWA without proprietary dependencies. While the German Corona Warn App itself is Free Software, it depends on Google's proprietary Exposure Notification Framework. This fork instead uses the drop-in compatible microg implementation.

For contact tracing, it collects short-lived IDs via bluetooth and broadcasts its own. In case of an infection, it allows to upload ones own IDs to a server using a TAN, allowing contacts to notice a match with their collected IDs and to be notified. All that happens without storing more data than necessary. (Wendy Personal note - I do not endorse the use of Corona apps, but this fork cuts one the blackboxed Google related feedback loops. Also Apps on Fdroid, an alternative "app store")

- I am thinking about an algorithm used by the French Biomedecine agency and operating the allocation of heart transplants (a matching systems between demands and needs of transplants).

- <https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/according-to-need-chapter-2-the-homelessness-hotline/> --> the access to housing, benefits and all bureaucratig mess around that / (simoon: I was thinking about this too, in light of this situation: <https://huurderscharlois.hotglue.me/> )

>Yes, Covid puts a giant lens/focus on this issue. At one point the Brussels region was putting a lot of people in hotels-as they were not having guests. But I have no idea about the procedure, nor how these stays were perceived.

(simoon: The argument for rent increases in times of economic crisis like now is that Dutch state financial

assistance is available, but applying for and maintaining this assistance is very difficult - I was inexplicably cut off at a moment when I had huge tuition fees to cover (I'm non-EU))

>Was this Rotterdam?

>Yes

>How did you get out? By persistence? Other mechanisms? Or not get out?

>I was very lucky to be supported by others - without this support I'd have ended up with no visa (I would have been forced to discontinue my studies), and homeless during a pandemic

>:( pffffff --> This relates to the quote of Elodie also, who is in, who is out.

>Whilst Berlin recently had a rent freeze

So, do we melt this by freezing it? or do we melt this by collective human warmth and \$\$ in this case..

>So far (at least in Rotterdam) friction has been successfully applied in the form of leaflet-dropping and public demonstrations outside the City hall

>>Persistence melt through friction<<

--[Dia]&[Peter]&[Donatella]

- Check boxes asked for the overall rating of how you found this activity experience etc.

- Organizational post activity feedback surveys as a black box - to be exposed to very high amplitude - very low frequency voice. shaking it's tables in a ripple echo-y manner to speak back again to us after sometime

- Almost also outputs of shared exercises like this one. Will it end in another box, and so!?

(this sounds like a potential horror story, the feedback coming back to haunt you, the frequency becoming lower to travel further)

(it is also sometimes a specific 'bureaucratic' request from the EU for example, qualitative and quantitative surveys > but how to express the inexpressible? The chit chat around a cup of coffee or the super intense exchange with a beer in your hand after an intense day of meetings and collective working? Or how to express / talk about an atmosphere, feelings, perceptions that have been part of an activity / project / working moment?)

\* that means there is a folder/cabinet/server (though I'm sure they are printed) somewhere at the EU commission with all the feedback forms - all those voices lying dormant... the inexpressible is in there, living on in the collective voice and what it leaves out, what it not speaks about when it advertedly says: "the project was a success".

(or the project was 'complex / complicated' :) / or it has contributed to \*INSERT exact line from the application requirements\* )

\* Do you think anybody really reads/processes it or it is often also a future formal reference - i.e. it is more important to hand it in and hand it in on time than it is what it actually says?

(I think it is a matter of checking boxes; quantity mistaken for quality? But they(= EU) check (not read) very carefully the financial excel tables, I have proof of that! :D )

(I'm now imaging a room at the EU empty but full of unheard voices) - yes. creepy. what happens when those voices all shout at the same time? does the building tremble? maybe we have to sneak in a feedback form that mobilises the other voices?

OR when these voices are frozen and then melt together and seep out of the building, a EU water leak, a stream of voices running back into the Brussels soil.

(or travelling back like seeds attached to the feathers of travelling birds, because many of these voices don't even belong to Brussels; or maybe they indeed feed the Brussels soil and they make it more grained, more 'shakable' :) I cannot find the right word :D "shakable" is the right word, I think :)

(I'm also imagining the big building at Schuman place in Brussels being built on quicksand that one in a while move and change the shape of the found and consequently changes also the shape of the building) - because the voices are the water in the cement and steel that hold the building together

<<--- ""Uprising of the sleeping feedback surveys""

(I can see the trailer of that: (dramatic voice): just when they thought that all the boxes were checked, they were proven wrong)

- Firmware on computing hardware focuses on a black box. You can't look at its contents, you can't substitute or alter it. Your machine is tethered to something with the power of overriding all the functions you can see and alter. Linked to that: the right to repair - or the lack of it

Organizational Feedback surveys of post activity evaluation as a black box - Can be exposed to very high amplitude - very low frequency voice. Shouting and yelling at the sleeping feedback responses on drives or in drawers. Imagining this will shake its tables, make it ripple and echo back to us after sometime

PeterW's story below (please feel free to improvise on it :-))

### **Itchy contactpoints**

\* *Consumerist blackbox: printer expecting a proprietary printing cartridge*

\* *Questions to printer:*

1: *printer, can you adopt disobedient behaviour*

2: *printer, please accept and embrace materials that are alien to your specifications*

\* *transformative force: regulations to improve brand promiscuity*

*this would increase emergence of protocols for crossed compatibilities*

It began when the first unknown materials met in the cartridge space. Before that everything was in order. Metal contactpoints of container and capsule touched each other as if nature had prescribed it. The turning point was a legal change dictating maximum interaction capacities between printing hardware and ink containers. Until that point the flow of information and ink, from digital signal to physical trace on paper had been preconceived as a closed commercial industrial loop. That was an industrial convention, an attempt to trap consumers into never even daring to look at stuff produced by a company anymore. For a while that worked, at least from a capitalist point of view. But it was through the collectivisation of collective knowledge that networks of DIY groups rapidly specialised themselves in producing Bio Hard Core devices that were as promiscuous as they could be; we all understood instantaneously the fun of printing with banana-juice, bodily fluids and multicolored melted ice creams (pistache seemed somehow to have reached a cult status) However satisfactory for average humans and counteronomists, from the perspective of prefabricated proprietary chips electrodes and print plates this whole evolution was an itchy, stingy affair that rubbed against their code and materiality.

- Many mechanisms touching upon the granting or losing of citizenship in Belgium. For instance, the loss of nationality in Belgium is not a decision taken by a legal instance but by an administrative one. The way this administrative entity, the Belgian Services of Foreign Affairs, takes these decisions is very unclear. Also, this kind of decision is taken following an investigation that requires, unsurprisingly, very little justification

- *Many/some/one/... mechanisms touching upon the granting/losing/dissolving... of citizenship in Belgium. For instance, the loss of nationality in Belgium is not a decision taken by a administrative/legal/private/individual/collective/melted/... instance but by an administrative/legal/private/individual/collective/melting/... one. The way this administrative/legal/private/individual/collective/fluid/... entity, the Belgian Services of Foreign Affairs, takes these decisions is very unclear/melted/transparent/.... Also, this kind of decision is taken following an investigation/conversation/commitment/... that requires, unsurprisingly, very little/a lot of/some/no/... justification/responsibility/engagement/melting/...*

\* doorhalen wat niet van toepassing is

- Thinking about the many mechanisms touching upon the granting or loosing of citizenship in Belgium. For instance, the loss of nationality in Belgium is not a decision taken by a legal instance but by an administrative one. The way this administrative entity, the Belgian Services of Foreign Affairs, takes these decisions is very unclear. Also, this kind of decision is taken following an investigation that requires, unsurprisingly, very little justification

My first instinct is to say to burn it all but I'm worried the smoke and ashes might create toxic rains of racist and imperialist bureaucracy all over.

So instead, I want to imagine a gigantic blow of freezing air lashing down on these administrations, it'd be so cold it'd just completely stop its motion. Once the apparatus would be mechanically stopped, it could expand to the ideologies, the thinking. The workings would, little by little, lost any sense because their logics would have become unattainable. Also, as a bonus, that might cool down the planet

[I like that this is about burning and freezing, not just melting :-)]

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Indeterminacy

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A rewrite of Oscar Wilde's The Selfish Giant can be found on the pad

[https://pad.constantvzw.org/p/bureaucraticnotes\\_09-12](https://pad.constantvzw.org/p/bureaucraticnotes_09-12)

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