

Vesna Manojlovic - Statement of Interest for Internet of Rights Fellowship - March 2024

<https://www.article19.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Call-for-Applications-2024-IoR-Fellowship-2.pdf>

Thank you for considering my application for this fellowship!

My goal is to make a fusion between the areas you identified as “censorship” and “connectivity”, by bringing the focus on (avoiding) the **ecocide caused by excessive computing & connectivity**.

Issues that I want to work on are: highlighting Environmental Sustainability, DeGrowth & Climate Justice - as aspects of human rights, described in SDGs #13, #7, #12 & #16 - into the technical communities, such as RIPE, NOGs & Internet protocols standardisation organisations (IETF, IAB).

My engagement until now has been two-fold: I am taking part in Internet Governance bodies BOTH as part of my work, AND as an activist & advocate, with personal passion for Climate Action. (Please see attached “bibliography” for articles, papers, slides & videos I produced on those topics.)

With this fellowship, I want to strengthen the personal / activist contributions (since there is a conflict of interest regarding my work and introducing elements of DeGrowth to the “internet industry” that depends paradigm of growth - to use just one of the problematic aspects as an example).

Workplan:

In general, I am planning to achieve these outputs:

- * give presentations for technical communities, about environmental impact of the Internet;
- * publish articles and papers
- * to attend other relevant events, to coordinate this work with others, across similar fields, and then report about it;
- * to teach students.
- * contribute to one (or more) IETF draft(s)

There are 3 drafts I identified as immediate targets for my contribution:

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-irtf-nmrg-green-ps/>
<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-almprs-sustainability-insights/>
<https://github.com/mallory/draft-beyond-carbon>

I will be taking part in IETF & other meetings remotely, unless they are in continental Europe: I do not fly since 2018, I travel by train & bus & bike only (& sometimes car-sharing).

Concretely, I expect to publish / produce:

- * a paper for Computing Within Limits conference (for 2025)
- * one (or more) article(s) on RIPE Labs: <https://labs.ripe.net>
- * 5 presentations at Network Operators Group events & other events , such as AMRO (May 2024, Linz); /etc (June 2024, Berlin); BalkaNet (August 2024, Munich), BalCCoN (September 2024, Novi Sad, Serbia) , CCC (December 2024, Hamburg). (and 2-3 in 2025)
- * monthly updates of “green tech” to ripe-list@ripe.net
- * weekly contribution to e-impact mailing list of IETF

For the time planning, I keep a list of relevant events here: <https://wiki.techinc.nl/Sustainability#Events>

○ *How you expect that these activities and outputs will create impact, in line with the goals of the overall fellowship and your selected track.*

I have been active in IETF already, most specifically in GAIA & e-impact groups; with the fellowship I want to strengthen my contribution.

(Please also see attached “bibliography” for articles, papers, slides & videos I already produced on those topics.)

○ *How you expect that your project will help you sustain your participation in Internet governance beyond the life of the Fellowship.*

I expect to learn about other standardisation efforts where I can contribute.

I also have an orthogonal idea, that I would like to explore for 2025/2026: creating a role for myself / small team / project: of **curating events in a federated calendar about “Climate Justice in Tech”!** <https://wiki.techinc.nl/User:Becha/climate-justice-in-tech-events-calendar>

○ *How you plan to engage with implementers of these technologies in the real world to push for the adoption of rights-respecting technical standards*

I am in unique position - I am embedded in multiple communities where I can become an even stronger advocate for the (climate) rights: hackers communities, Free/Libre Open Source Software (FLOSS), Network Operators Groups (NOGs), academia. Also, with the mentoring & other support from fellowship programme, I am hoping to tilt the focus of my regular work towards becoming an Advisor on Environmental Sustainability in Tech.

In addition to this, I am part of ex-Yugoslav diaspora, so I have special connections & special interest in South-Eastern Europe, and I am planning to explore specific issues that exist in this part of the world.

In conclusion, I am excited to explore these topics with the Article19 fellowship!

Regards,
Vesna Manojlovic