

Speaker for Squirrels

Against Internet of Ecocide



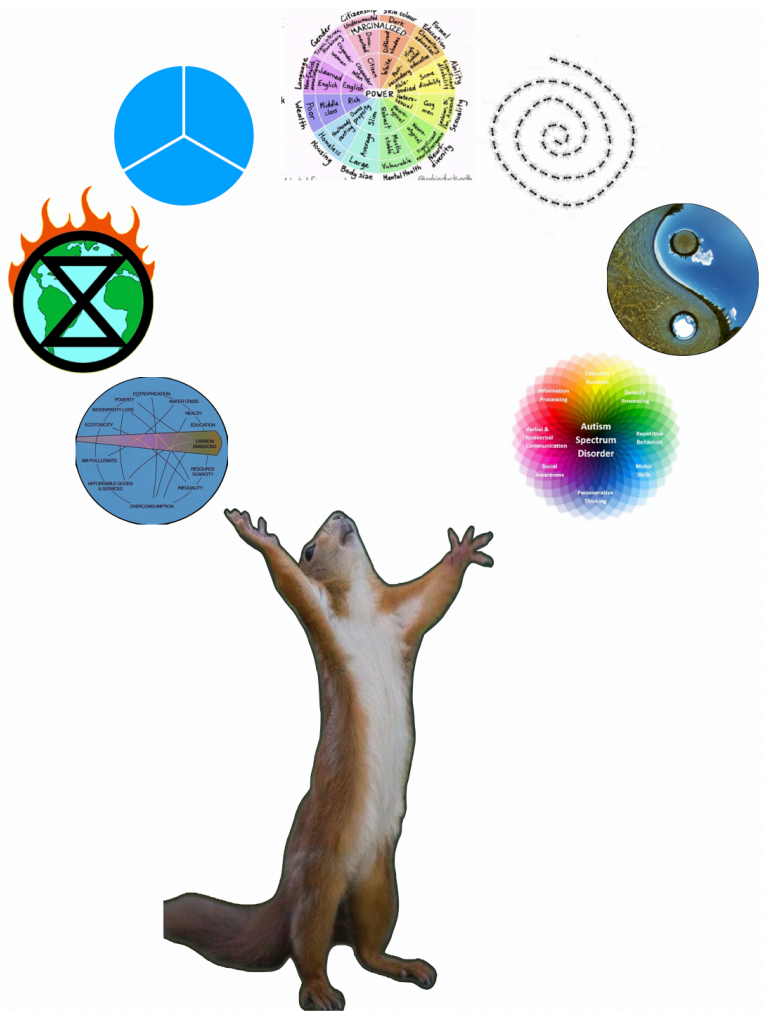
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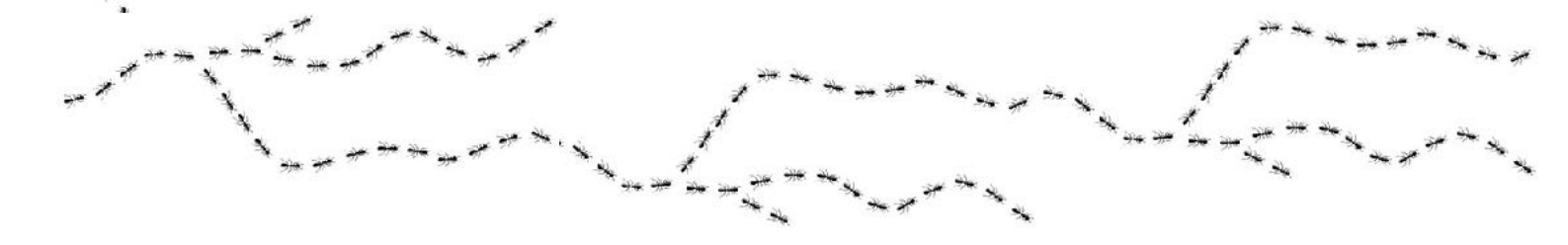
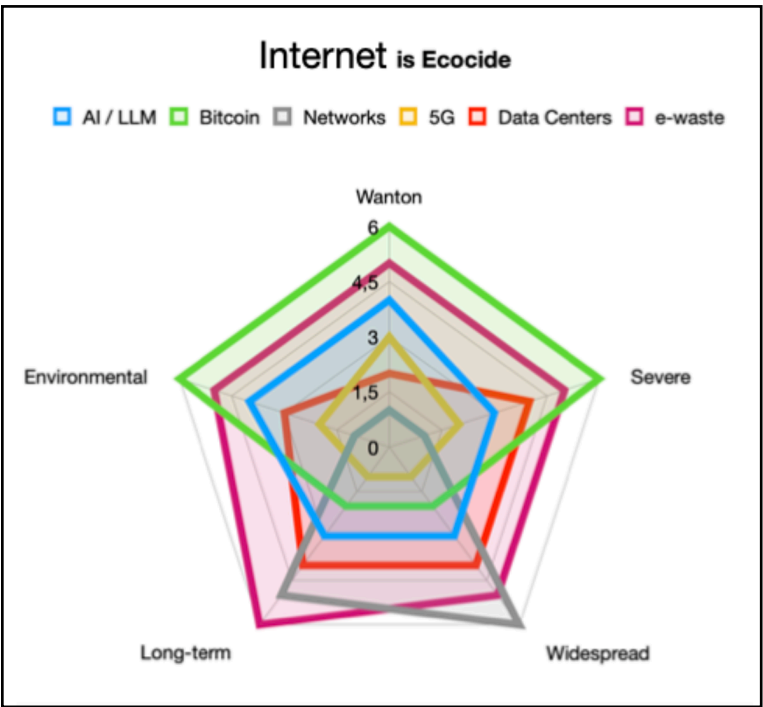


<https://morethanhumanfreedom.wordpress.com>

June 2024



- ANTi Ecocide
- ANTi Cloud
- ANTi Data Centres
- ANTi Big Tech
- ANTi Fossil Fuels
- ANTi Patriarchy
- ANTi Techno-Colonialism
- ANTi Techno-Optimism



“under late capitalism’s growth imperative, expansion of industrialized **Internet** production as separating organisms from their relational ecologies and coercing them into maximized production...” is **creating an Internet of Ecocide!**

(I) aim to bring together the focus on **Internet** sovereignty and a more-than-human perspective to the organisms involved in **Internet** creation.”

~ From *MoreThanHumanFreedom* (paraphrased, replacing “food” with “Internet”)



High-speed Internet & other “advanced digital technologies” (quantum communication, 5G, 6G, HD video, VR, blockchain, AI, online gaming, etc), is what I call the “**Internet of Ecocide**”: Luxury, Excessive, Gargantuan, Gilded Internet... Internet of Affluence, Internet of Exploitation

“Internet of Ecocide” is damaging for the environment: burning fossil fuels, slurping up water, digging-up rare metals, occupying land, while externalising pollution (destroying habitats, dumping e-waste — even in space! —, generating CO₂ emissions)... Socio-political harm caused by Internet of Ecocide comes from the centralisation of power and wealth in the hands of a few corporations, usage of amassed data for surveillance and disinformation, exploitation of human labour for short-term profit.

How can we minimise detrimental environmental impact of the Internet infrastructure?

Through empowering participation of marginalised groups in Internet Governance, increasing DEI and combining feminist, DeGrowth and Climate Justice principles.

Squirrels are symbol of innocent victims that are facing extinction, if we continue with developing “*Internet as ecocide*”, within the current social (economic, political, philosophical/spiritual) conditions.

Internet of Squirrels is basic, modest, green connectivity for all, within planetary boundaries, harmless for squirrels: Internet “on the squirrel scale”



As a “Speaker for Squirrels”, I am also advocating for rejuvenation & reconnection of the remote rural communities, while following principles of “Environmental Justice in Tech” (Limitations / Reparations / Solidarity).

Short-term, I am enjoying low-tech life in Lika, with the Puh, Lipa, Lisac & squirrels : you are invited to join: scan the “tree” QR code for more info.

“... those who have no physical voices, but whose biological presence keeps

Internet of Squirrels

If we want to have “sustainable Internet”, we have to “consider the squirrels”!

Squirrels are a symbol for **all** more-than-human beings & ecosystems: trees, rivers, soil, insects, fish, forests, cats, sea-weed...

Considering squirrels is an analogy for **ecocentric** attitudes.

Squirrels are a metaphor for all those humans with **no** own voice: the disconnected, the marginalised, the exploited, the oppressed, those not yet born... and who I take the responsibility to speak **for**.

“Internet of Squirrels” is a direct opposition to “*Internet of Things*”, a reminder that we will not achieve “Internet sustainability” through the technological fixes, but that the solutions to our technical problems are, in fact: **social, political, ecological and spiritual solutions**.

In first approximation, I use squirrels as “the other” - but taken to the **extreme**; in order to “move the goal posts” of radical Diversity, Equity & Inclusion!

- for the engineer, squirrel is a “customer”
- for the network operator, squirrel is a “End User”
- for the academic, squirrel is a “research subject”
- for the content provider, squirrel is a “consumer”

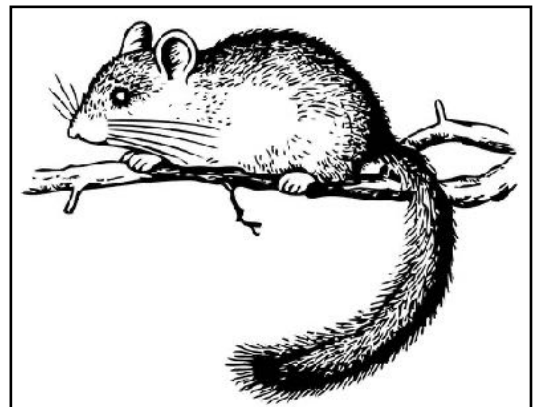
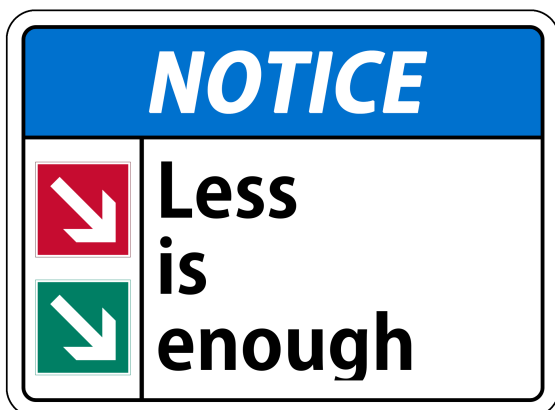
On a technical level, Internet of Squirrels represents basic, modest, green connectivity for all, within planetary boundaries, harmless for squirrels: Internet “on the squirrel scale”.

Principles of Internet of Squirrels: ecology, sufficiency, reciprocity, empathy, anarchism, commons, altruism, ecocentrism (not anthropocentrism!), solidarity, degrowth, climate justice, decoloniality, intersectional feminism, stewardship, permaculture, regeneration, communality, radically open participation, caring, solar punk, reciprocity, animism...

On a metaphysical level, Internet of Squirrels acknowledges existence of meaningful connections & communications “networks” among (& between) non-human species (murmurations of birds, mycelia networks, ant colonies, crows, Wood Wide Web, dolphins, slime mould, parrots...), and non-technological networks within human cultures.

References: https://wiki.unciv.nl/index.php?title=Speaker_For_Squirrels

This impact should be minimised, or better yet: reversed - for the Internet to become a regenerative force for planetary health, for all humans, non-humans & biosphere.



Quotes

“imagine... a society with a modest standard of living, conservative of natural resources, with a low constant fertility rate and a political life based upon consent, a society that has made a successful adaptation to its environment, and has learned to live without destroying itself or the people next door.” ~~ *Ursula K. LeGuin, California...*

Like all punk, **solarpunk** goes against the current ruling philosophy and requires a full system change. It lets care be the guide instead of greed. Solarpunk sees humans as part of the natural ecology, not apart from it as our current industrialized society does. There is great emphasis on getting your hands in the dirt following bio-dynamic permaculture and regenerative principles, to tend to your environment and grow your own food. Care of each other, care of ourselves and care of our environment are all intertwined. Solarpunk holds technology in its heart as a way to support this equal, care-driven, non-polluting meaningful life. It focuses on hyper-lo cal, small, self-governing networks while also making the best of being connected global citizens. Without the capitalist push for the biggest economic benefit but with the eco-socialist spread of resources and benefit for all. Life would maybe have a slightly slower pace, but there would be much more to enjoy along the way.

— *By Priscilla Haring-Kuipers*



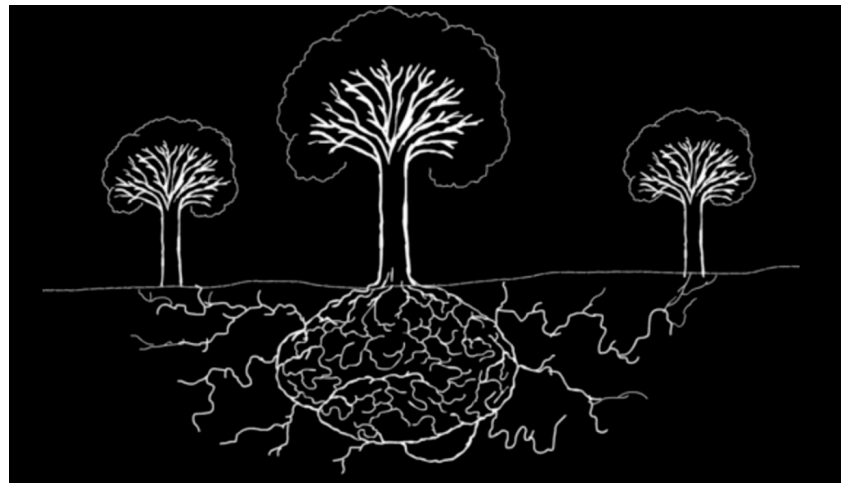
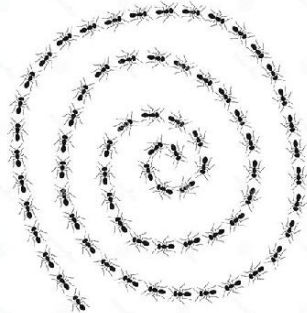
Consensus includes “the Voices who spoke for the Four Sacred Things: Deer, Hawk, Salmon, Coyote”

— *Starhawk: The Fifth Sacred Thing*

“... humanity (must) give up some of its core beliefs, from the fantasy that we can control the planet, to the notion that we are ‘above’ other beings.”

— *Timothy Morton: Humankind*

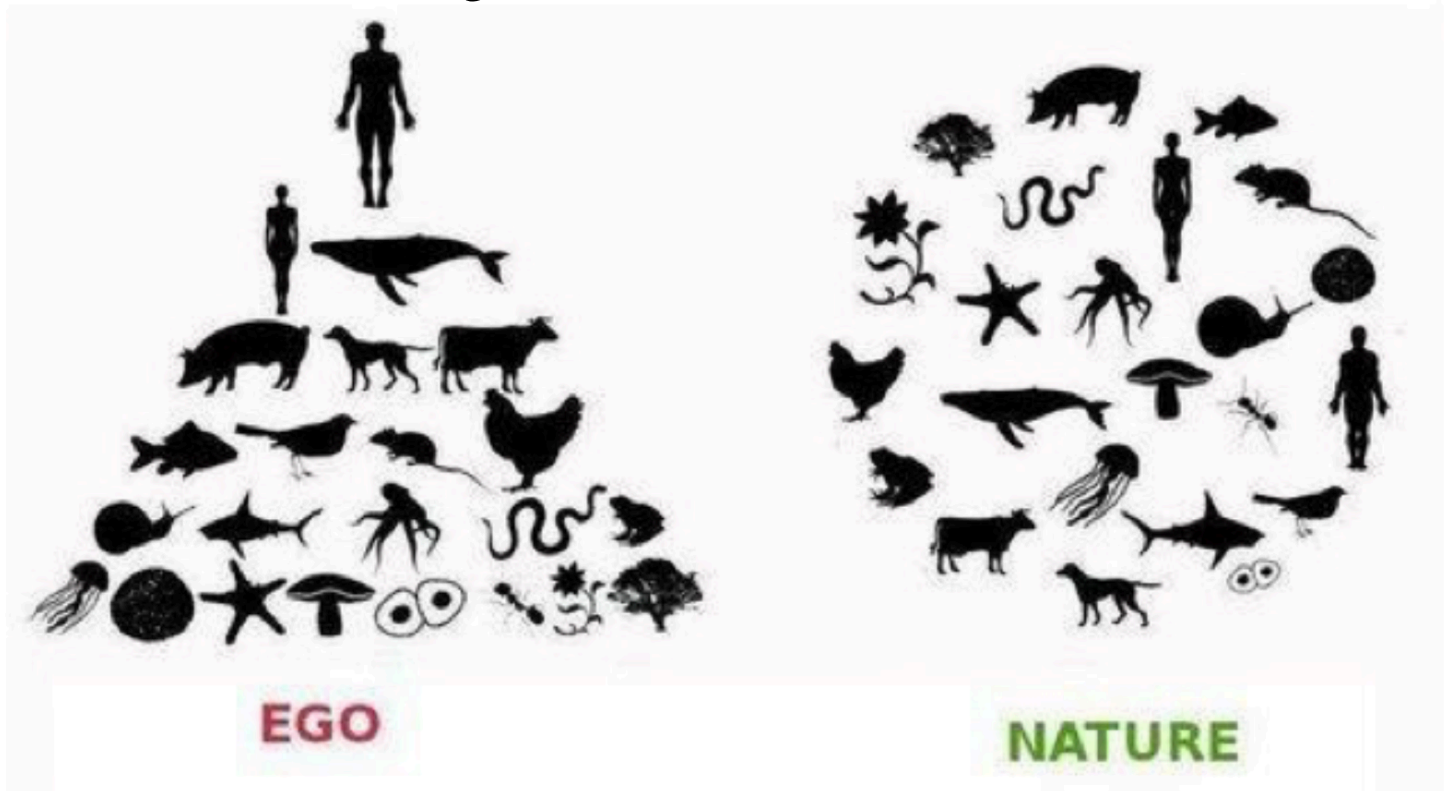
Degrowth is a social movement and a research framework which advocates for a transition to sustainable and just forms of social organization. The foundational insight of degrowth is that there cannot be endless growth on a finite planet.



“... those who have no physical voices, but whose biological presence keeps us breathing...” — *“My Octopus Teacher” video*

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