

L^aB [Ra^t]'s collective

Documentation

Research
Activism
Technology
Society

📍 EARTH

🔄 VERSION 1.5 - UPDATED ON 04/2023



WHO WE ARE?

We are in a historical time when our civilization needs to address many relevant issues as global society: things like ecosystemic degradation, a lack of well-being for billions of people, incessant warfare scenarios, constant epidemiological threats, the uncertain impacts of technology, among many other multidimensional problems. Also, at the same time, the opportunities that we have as a civilization are immense, maybe more than ever we have great possibilities of positive social transformation; specially thanks to the development of technology, the advancements in social science, the results of cultural and moral historical improvements, and many other developments that we have thanks to previous generations and a lot of luck.

Given this, every one of us has the possibility to think and act through this current historical circumstances; we have the responsibility and duty to try to contribute to make this world at least a little better for present and future generations and other species. Being conscious that billions could be doing the same, but due to negative structural reasons that possibility is being severed for them.

In that sense, we are some of those people privileged and lucky enough to dedicate quite some time and energy into thinking and acting towards trying to contribute to these activities. And following this possibility as a pathway of life, we met together a long time ago, and through time we have formed a working team, and shared many things, perspectives and moments.

THE PEOPLE

We are a laboratory dedicated to *RATS* (Research, Activism, Technology, and Society), and in acknowledgement of lab rats, animals we have built our civilization on.

Behind the collective they are a different people with different backgrounds around different geographical places:

Diego Galvalisi. I was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, in the nineties; and as part of the millennial generation, I have been living through troubling historical times. Today I would say that I orient myself as a social activist for equality and sustainability, with a background in political sciences, and with university studies in South America and Europe, focused on the topics of Theory of Change (ToC), social innovation, and future studies. In that sense, my interest areas are new alternative governance and economic

proposals, political strategies, development, and geopolitics. Website: diegogalvalisi.info.

Alban Geci. Born in Kosovo, studied and worked in the United States. For the past decade I have been researching and exploring different projects around the world. In general, I consider myself a political activist, but in particular, I contribute to (1) developing a theoretical framework for a democratic non-state public owned enterprise, and (2) begin implementing one such model in reality. I studied Political Science, and currently I'm interested in the nexus of politics, economics, enterprise development, and technology.

Krenar Qehaja. Born and raised in Pristina, Kosova; later I went to the United States to develop some technology related enterprises. My general focus is on researching about technology and economics, oriented towards finding actionable improvements and solutions around socially-centered and collective-based alternatives; like proper urbanization and housing, education, green and cheap energy; in which democracy and efficiency merge.

Charlotte Fradet. Devoted to foster an evolutionary coherent future. Charlotte has delved deep in the eco-village world for the past decade. Her journey led her to work for several organizations which are spearheading the regenerative movement such as numundo.org and re-build.co. In 2016, she founded Unity, a conscious co-living space dedicated to personal development, cultural experimentation and the advancement of positive social imaginaries. She's also part of Traditional Dream Factory, a DAO-governed village aiming at regenerating land while experimenting with innovative horizontal governance models. She's a co-author of the book "How To Build A Regenerative Village" and generally loves to write about eco-villages and the evolution of culture, technology and society. Through creating impactful events aiming at building capacities for a thriving civilization, she taps on her broad-based global network to connect paradigm-shifting agents and bring synergistic collaborations to life.

OUR VALUES

- The Earth belongs to all living beings, and is not exclusive to just us humans. We will take all the necessary steps to fulfill that by minimizing our footprint drastically over time — by means of increasing technological efficiency.
- We believe in equality of all people; irrespective of their skin-color, gender, identity, beliefs, origin, status, or wealth. After all, we are an [eight billion strong family](#).

- A brighter *protopian* future is possible, and that we present humans will eventually kick-off such a transition. The potential for radical change is here, and it's just a matter of unlocking the floodgates.
- We believe that people's-ruling and democracy is long overdue for an upgrade in this present era, one that would be open, participatory, and deliberative.
- Believe that we need to catalyze the shift in emphasis away from ownership towards sharing and access.
- *Capitalism* is not the end-stage best-possibility as a socioeconomic meta-system for our time. It needs to be strategically and gradually replaced over time by a *post-capitalist* democratic-participative, internationally cooperative, and eco-friendly alternative.

AREAS OF INTREST

Alternative economics; socio-political theory; technology; intentional-activism; communities; participative governance; meta-modernism

ONGOING PROJECTS

Things!. It's a project that has the mission of being the first alternative digital-retail platform-network in the west, a sector that is being captured by private mega-corporations. The platform is structured as a not-for-profit user-owned e-commerce store and logistics system, thus going beyond private ownership and the for-profit motive. With the objective of empowering the alternative economy producers and communities, that want to sell their products outside traditional e-commerce platforms. More info at things.express

Protopian convergence. It's a multi-date international event dedicated to build an immersive experience for changemakers to collaborate, mastermind and prototype solutions to the world's most critical issues. You are invited to explore with us new models for economy and society that are equitable and regenerative so that all life on Earth can flourish. More info at protopianconvergence.org

Alternate-novel network-enterprise project. It is a project that aims to contribute to the theorization of a new-generation model of alternative enterprise; which is intended to

go beyond traditional social economy ones, and to function as an effective alternative to traditional private-corporations-businesses. In that sense, it is embedded with other possible initiatives related to a new-economy and governance framework. More info at alternative-enterprise.info

Ratpark. It is an intentional activist community placed in the jungles of Costa Rica, that has the objective to function as a co-developing space oriented to alternative social and technological innovation. In that sense, it is a place in which community, activism, technology, and nature merge; towards collaboration in trying to contribute to create a better society. More information at ratpark.org

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DEDICATION

This organization is in honor to all the laboratory rats that have passed away for us, animals which we have build up our civilization on.

Gratefully thanks,
Labrats collective.