

Niko Para // CV

niko.io
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github.com/nikonikoniko

Technologist, Developer, Team Lead

Niko Para has been working as a developer, consultant, and technologist in Berlin since 2011. Until now, he has often worked in Human Rights and civic technology organisations, which have given him a large variety of skills in addition to programming – such as collaboration with diverse groups of people, complex project management, as well as writing, advocacy, public speaking, and documentation.

Niko enjoys learning new things and self teaching. Recently, his biggest interests lie in functional programming (clojure, js), unit testing, team collaboration, and open source operating systems. Outside of his career, Niko is an enthusiastic musician and is interested in philosophy and politics.



Selected Professional Experience

Circular Fashion
2019 - Present
Developer

Development of mass storage databases
Workflows with partners for api usage and inputs
Consumer-facing applications
Development of industry data schema standards
circular.fashion

Syrian Archive
2014 - 2019
Head of Technology

Archive development, data architecture, web scraping, pipeline development
Integration of external Machine Learning tools
Presentation and Advocacy of work, networking with larger stakeholders (New York Times, United Nations)
Contributed to open source software
Managed a small team
Managed tech partnerships with external collaborators
Data visualisations and data journalism
Developed all websites and resources
syrianarchive.org/en

Tactical Technology Collective
2011 - 2014
Developer

Backend and Frontend development of applications and websites
Trained internal and external groups in digital security
Research of new digital security technologies
tacticaltech.org

Selected Freelance & Highlighted Projects
2014 - 2020

eventObserverMap

Maps events over time from disparate data sets
sources json, google sheets, csv
niko.io/projects/eventObserverMap/dist/

relaxng-web-forms

Converts a relaxng XML schema into an html form which can generate valid xml data, using pattern matching
niko.io/projects/relaxNg-forms/demo/

Humboldt University - Bild, Wissen, Gestaltung

Django/Wagtail
Data migration from old systems
Frontend and backend development
interdisciplinary-laboratory.hu-berlin.de

Global Witness "An Inside Job"

Markdown based content editing system
google maps api/polygon data
globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/conflict-diamonds/inside-job/

Skills

Languages
English C2
German C2
Spanish B1

Computer Languages
node (6 years)
javascript (8 years)
python (10 years)
ruby (2 years)
c (2 years)
c++ (2 years)
clojure (1 year)
bash (5 years)
SQL (4 years)

Frameworks and Libraries
lodash/fp, rxjs, git, react, vuejs, vuex, redux, d3.js, leaflet, docker, ansible, nginx, electron, metalsmith, django, rails, bootstrap, npm, pip, postgresql, mongodb

Frontend
html (10 years)
sass/less (6 years)
design (4 years)

Software
Emacs, vim, Debian, Arch, QubesOs, Microsoft office, Adobe Suite, Ableton

Other skills
Facilitation, Project management, Sprint style development, Github based workflows, Documentation

Sugarcube

node/es6

Contributed code and new features to the open source project

Opened tickets, managed progress, and influenced development of the software.

gitlab.com/sugarcube/sugarcube

Data Detox Kit

react / static site generation

mobile first design

datadetoxkit.org/en/home

Selected Publications

- 2020 Chapter authors Niko Para and Jeff Deutsch “**Targeted mass archiving of open source information: a case study**”
in “**Digital Witness: Using Open Source Information for Human Rights Investigation, Documentation, and Accountability**”
Dubberley, Koenig, and Murray eds,
Oxford University Press, 20.1.2020
global.oup.com/academic/product/digital-witness-9780198836070?cc=ca&clang=en
- 2019 Contributor “**circularity.ID - The transformation to data-driven circularity in fashion**” pdf 2019
circular.fashion/assets/13.12.2019_Official_WhitePaper_circularity.ID.pdf
- 2016 Contributor “**Nervous Systems**” Editors: Anselm Franke, Stephanie Hankey, Marek Tuszynski
Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin / Spector Books, 2016
hkw.de/en/media/publikationen/2016_1/2016_publikation_nervoeese_systeme.php

Selected Events

- 2018 Expert speaker
Digital Verification Corps Summit 2018
Cambridge, UK
cghr.polis.cam.ac.uk/research-themes/human-rights-in-the-digital-age-1/DVC_summit
- Speaker
Accountability for Syria
Human Rights Center – UC Berkeley School of Law
law.berkeley.edu/event/accountability-for-syria/
- Expert Speaker
Analyzing, Fact-checking and Verifying Multimedia Content
Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation
- 2017 Expert Speaker
Expert’s meeting on digital image authentication and classification
United Nations – Geneva
- Speaker
Data for the Social Good
Amsterdam Institute for Humanities Research (AIHR) – University of Amsterdam
aihr.uva.nl/content/events/events/2017/11/dataactive.html
- 2015 Speaker
Re:publica - Keep It Tidy: digital security for your organisation
Berlin
15.re-publica.com/session/keep-it-tidy-digital-security-your-organisation