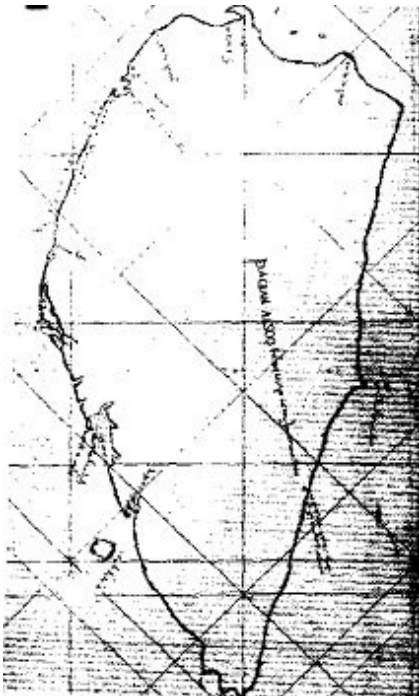


Mass Collaboration [Policy]: What, Why, and Choices



1605



1620



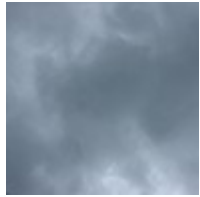
2012

Mike Linksvayer (@mlinksva)

CODATA2012 / Taipei

2012-10-30

Intellectual Provenance



**easy to get hung up on vulgar policy,
eg licensing**

think broadly about what, where, ends

what is a mass collaboration data project?

x: latent / explicit

y: distributed / centralized

z: crowdsourced / collaborative

...: ...

consider location of

“science”

“semantic web”

freebase

musicbrainz

openstreetmap

wikidata

dbpedia

zooniverse

...

**what is a mass collaboration data
policy?**

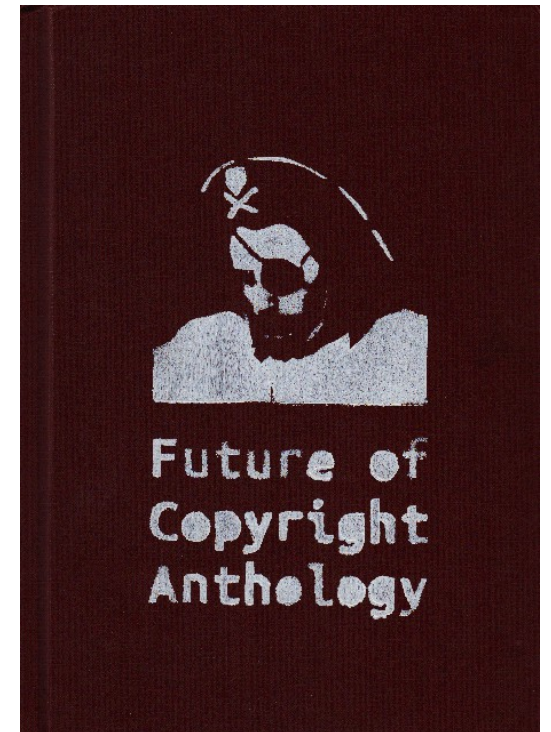
restrictions & permissions

try to be Open; use terms other projects do; if you have to think, public domain for max donor, copyleft [look again at nearby projects] for max recipient, but also possibly assume facts are free...



“IP” never the ideal answer

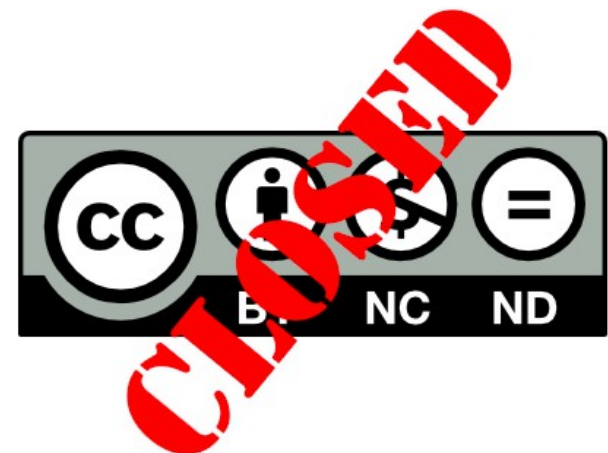
poor substitute for other regulation...



...privacy, security, integrity

**public licenses dull instruments for
these legitimate objectives**

**when so used overly restrictive,
incompatible**



**...transparency, replicability,
modifiability**

copyleft!

**part copyright etc neutralization, part
regulatory**

wholesome goals

beware FUD, incompatibility

David Bollier & Silke Helfrich
Editors

THE WEALTH OF THE
COMMONS
A WORLD BEYOND
MARKET & STATE

THE COMMONS
STRATEGY GROUP

explicit

+centralized

+collaborative

**= evinces need for public licenses like
nothing else**

governance

of what?

depends on location in each dimension

**software to facilitate mass
collaboration, eg**

wikis

~source control

semantic stuff

data management

**consider key ~policy choices (so far)
made by a couple of aforementioned
projects**

at what level should “policy” be considered (depends...)

international

jurisdiction

institutional

standards

project

individual contributor

**some things to desire (~ends) from
mass collaboration projects (thus to
consider in “policy”)**

curation

provenance

data improvement, normalization

...

**innovation/disruption/not imagined
uses**

orientation toward public good

at least 3 methods of promoting and protecting commons

law&policy

building

extralegal

each has reactionary and progressive aspects

building

free knowledge & software invalidates assumptions of, mitigates, and builds constituency against bad policy

each contribution to a commons is a strike against bad policy and dystopian future; that's something to celebrate and proclaim!

**imagine a world in which Wikipedia is
not unusual:**

where mass collaboration obtains...

disruptive innovation

superior “product”

greater equality

greater freedom

**...in all of the most crucial human
enterprises**

links: convey yourself to

gondwanaland.com/mlog

@mlinksva

