

# open data policy for scientists as citizens and for citizen science

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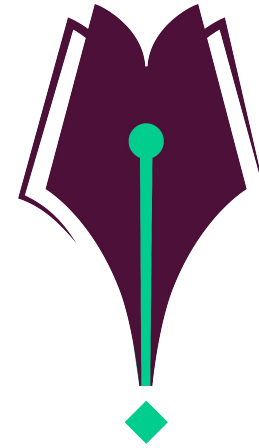
Open Data Workshop

Center for GIS, RCHSS, Academia Sinica

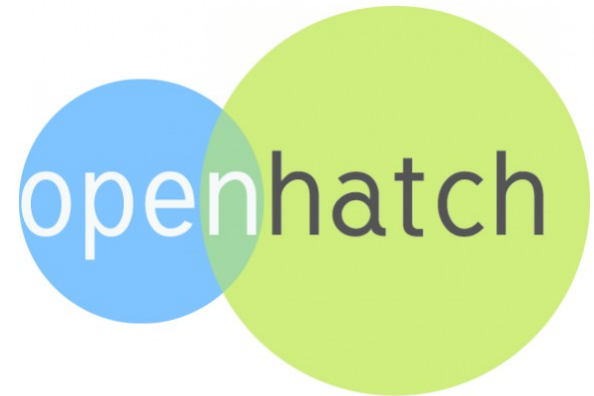
2012-11-01



meta



ACAWIKI



*code is fun*

**in part**

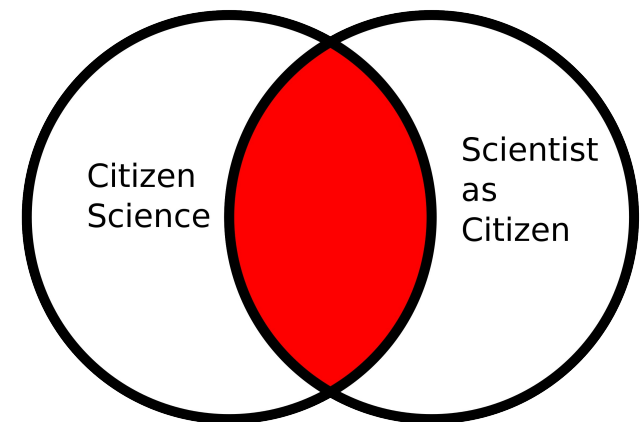


**“citizen science”**

**contributions to scientific processes  
outside of institutional context and/or  
by non-scientists?**

**“scientists as citizens”**

**scientists [including citizen  
scientists?] cognizant of the role of  
their work for society?**



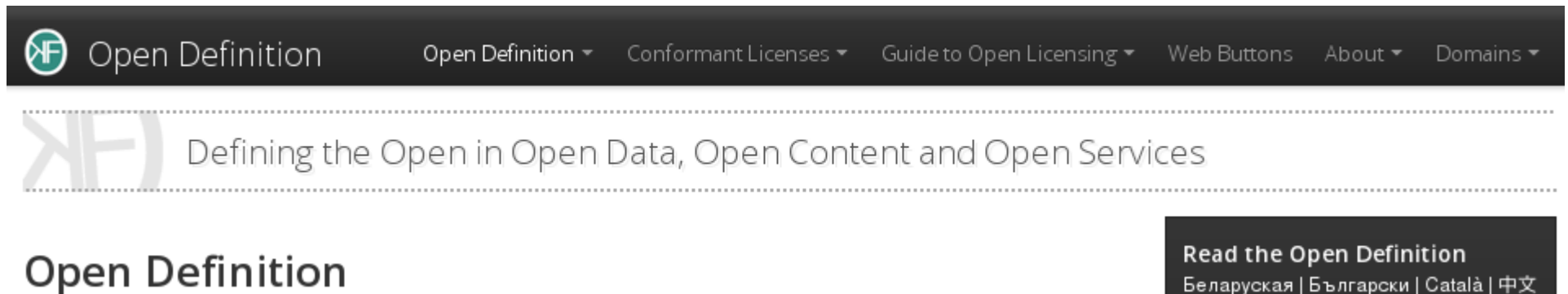
**high priests used to be looked upon for  
“truth” ... but they controlled it tightly**

**scientists are looked upon to work  
towards truth ... and their work is  
always shared freely and open to  
scrutiny**

**at least we have the right ideal now 😊**

# “open data”

## anyone, any purpose



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Open Definition website. It features a dark background with white text and icons. On the left is the Open Definition logo (a stylized 'O' with 'F' inside) followed by the text "Open Definition". To the right are several menu items: "Open Definition" with a dropdown arrow, "Conformant Licenses" with a dropdown arrow, "Guide to Open Licensing" with a dropdown arrow, "Web Buttons", "About" with a dropdown arrow, and "Domains" with a dropdown arrow. Below the navigation bar is a horizontal dashed line. Underneath the line is a large, faint, light-colored logo on the left and the text "Defining the Open in Open Data, Open Content and Open Services" on the right. Below this is another horizontal dashed line. Underneath the second dashed line is the text "Open Definition" on the left and a dark rectangular button on the right containing the text "Read the Open Definition" and "Беларуская | Български | Català | 中文" below it.

■■■

**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?**

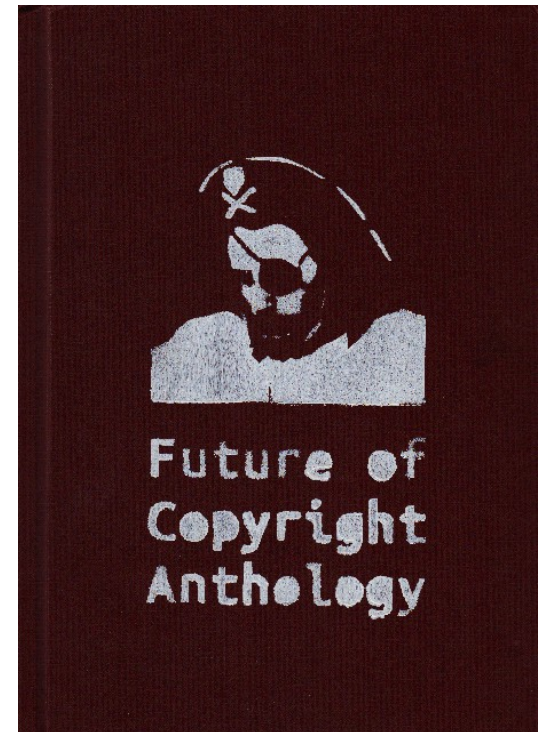
# restrictions & permissions

**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**

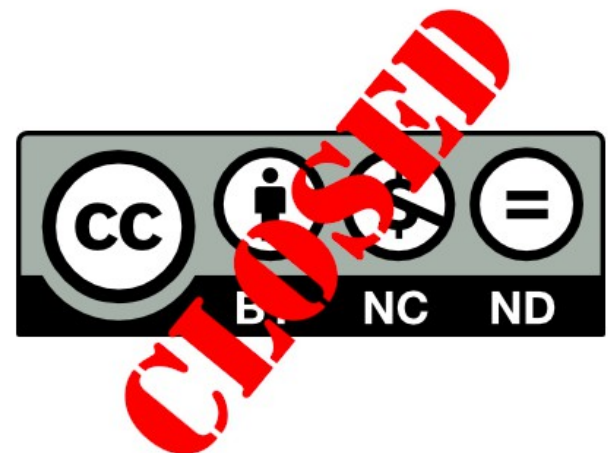
**poor substitute for other regulation...**



**...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](http://gondwanaland.com/mlog)

@mlinksva

