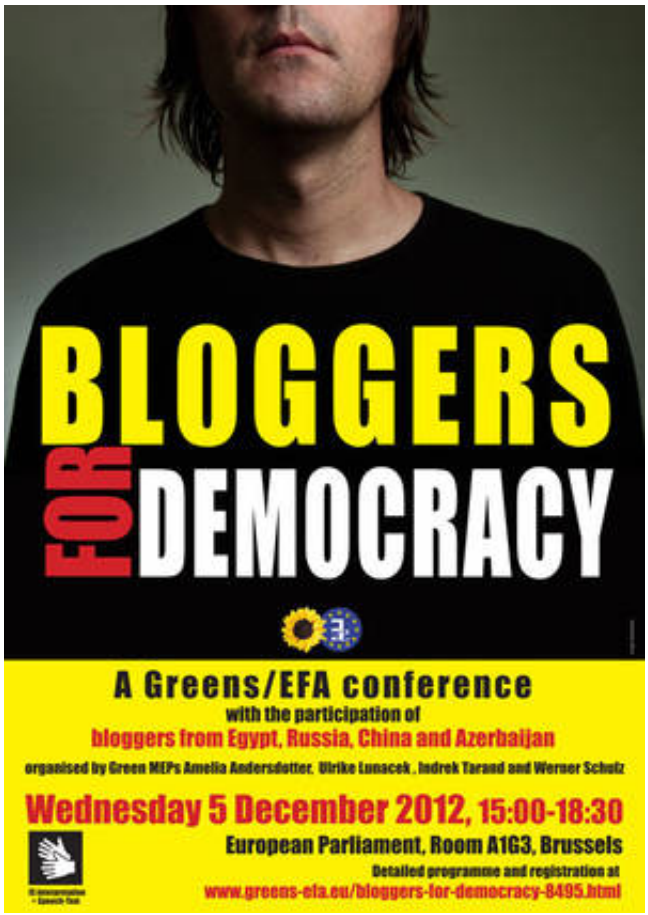
en | de

News | 27.11.2012

Bloggers for democracy

Autocracies fighting back?

The Arab Spring was initiated by a new generation of activists and engaged citizens, who came together on the internet in platforms and social networks such as Facebook, Twitter and many other blogs searching for information and exchanging views. Their spontaneous and extremely rapidly organised protests and actions brought the governments literally to standstill. But was this really the key to success?



Dictators are also learning quickly, as the example of Belarus shows - rebellion on the internet does not inevitably develop into an uprising in the real world. On the contrary, president Lukashenko and his security service possess almost total control over the internet, similar to the web supervision exercised in China and Azerbaijan. And all this with our connivance as European Union companies deliver the tools and technology needed to exert internet surveillance. What are the threats here? What are the technical

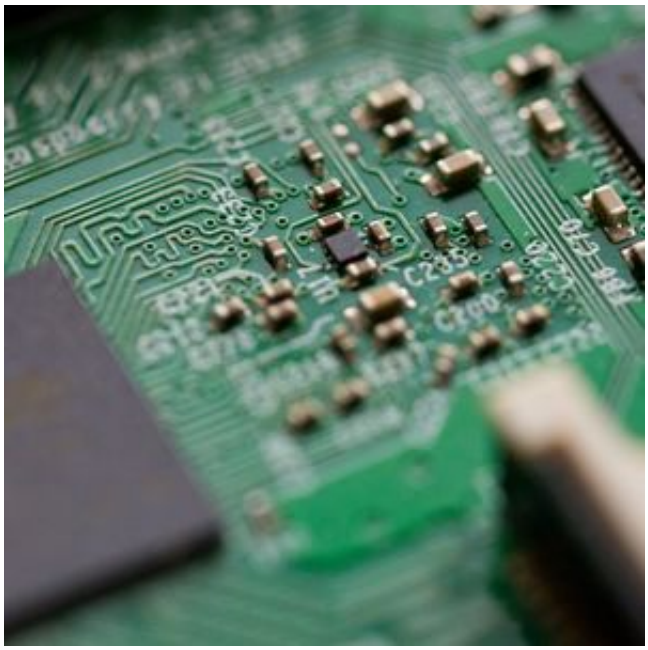
possibilities to elude surveillance and what can the EU do? What recommendation can bloggers give - people who try to cope with their repressive governments every day? Green MEPs Amelia Andersdotter, Ulrike Lunacek, Indrek Tarand and Werner Schulz invite internet and software experts, specialised in avoiding digital supervision systems and supporting internet activists as well as bloggers from Russia, China, Azerbaijan and Egypt, who will report from their personal experience. This public conference by the Greens/EFA group will be fully interpretated by International Sign (IS) interpreters in the room. Live Speech to Text will also be projected in the room. IS interpretation and Speech to Text will also be accessible via the livestream on the Greens/EFA homepage. Please visit our event page for more information and the full programme and let us know if you can attend or will be watching the livestream on our facebook page. Twitter hashtag: #blog4dem For more information please contact

- werner.schulz-office@europarl.europa.eu

Recommended

Press release

chris-ried



Digital Fairness Act falls short on addictive design

11.11.2026

Press release



Ukrainian children in Russia: Parliament to call for u…

11.11.2026

Press release

Redek Kozak



[Czech public media under attack - with Markéta Gregoro…]

11.11.2026

Press release



[Greens/EFA in Vilnius: Lithuanian Presidency must lead…]

05.11.2026

Responsible MEPs



Ulrike Lunacek

EP Vice-President, Member



Indrek Tarand

Member

Please share

- E-Mail