# 10 trends of internet censorship revisited

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# 10 trends

- ”Free internet” is dead
- Western democracies extend controls
- Complexity
- Criminalization of everyday life
- Ubiquitous technologies extend surveillance into objects and persons
- Database citizenship
- Privatization of the Internet
- Copyright as censorship
- Intermediaries as controllers
- Erosion of civil rights and democracy

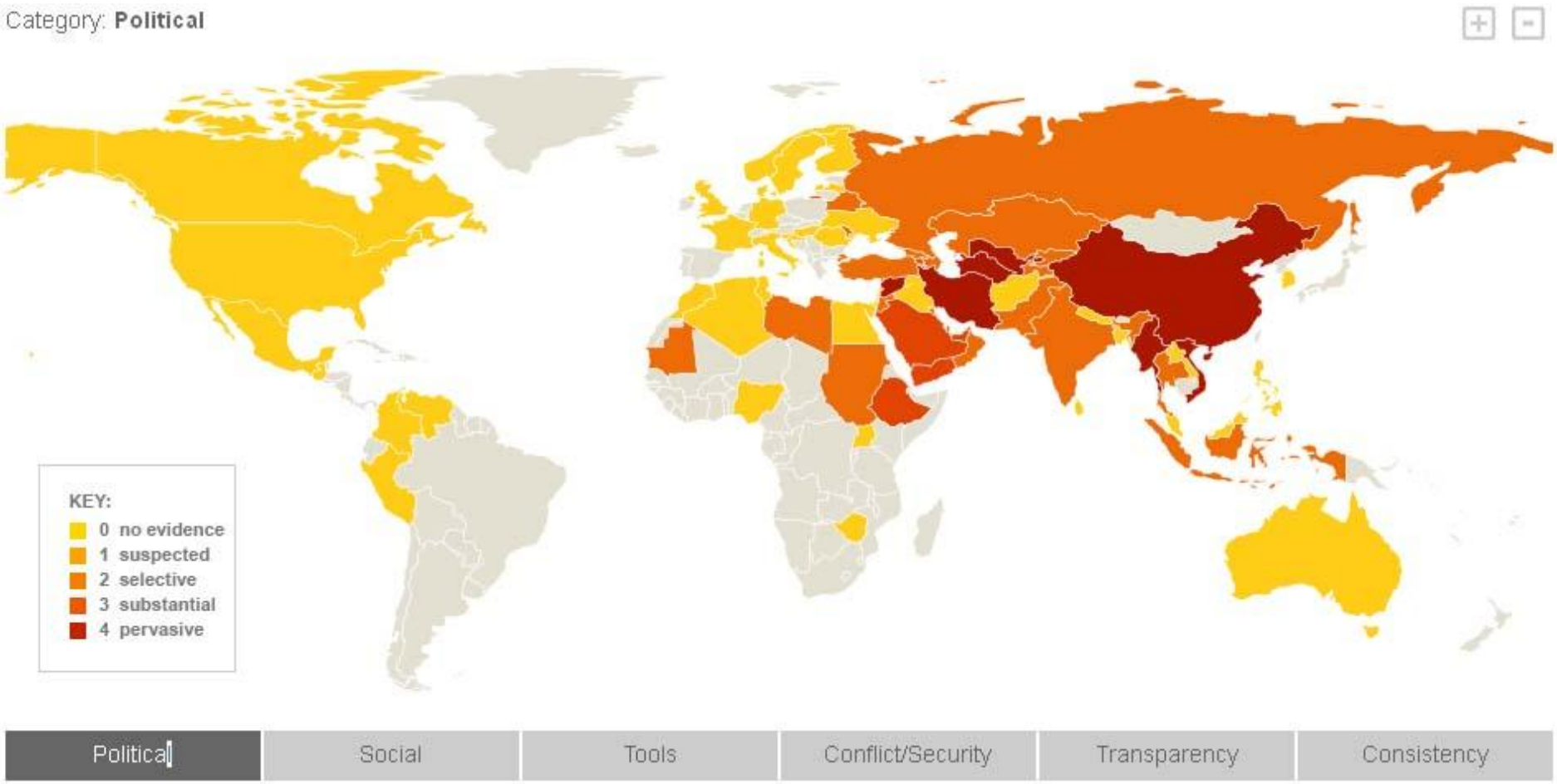
# Variety of methods

- Identification
- Tracking
- Monitoring
- Data collection
- Data storage
- Data analysis
- Slowing down connections
- Filtering
- Blocking
- Restricting access
- Sanctioning

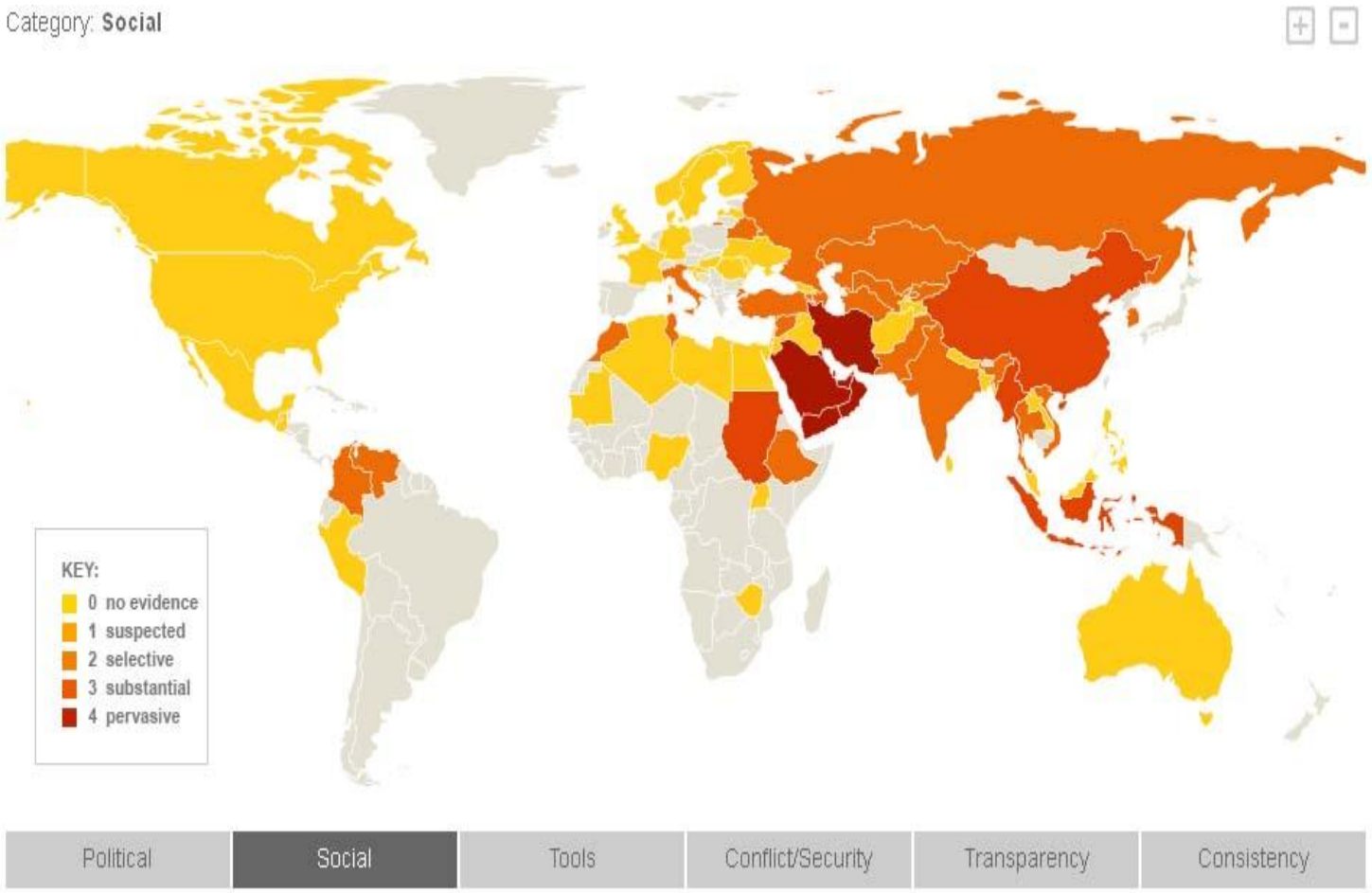
# Severity varies

- Pervasive
- Substantial
- Selective
- Under surveillance
- Non-existent

- Death penalties
- Detention, fines
- Criminal charges
- Interrogation, raids
- Soft penalties




Open Net Initiative, Interactive Map of Censorship, http://www.theguardian.com/technology/datablog/interactive/2012/apr/16/web-filtering-censorship

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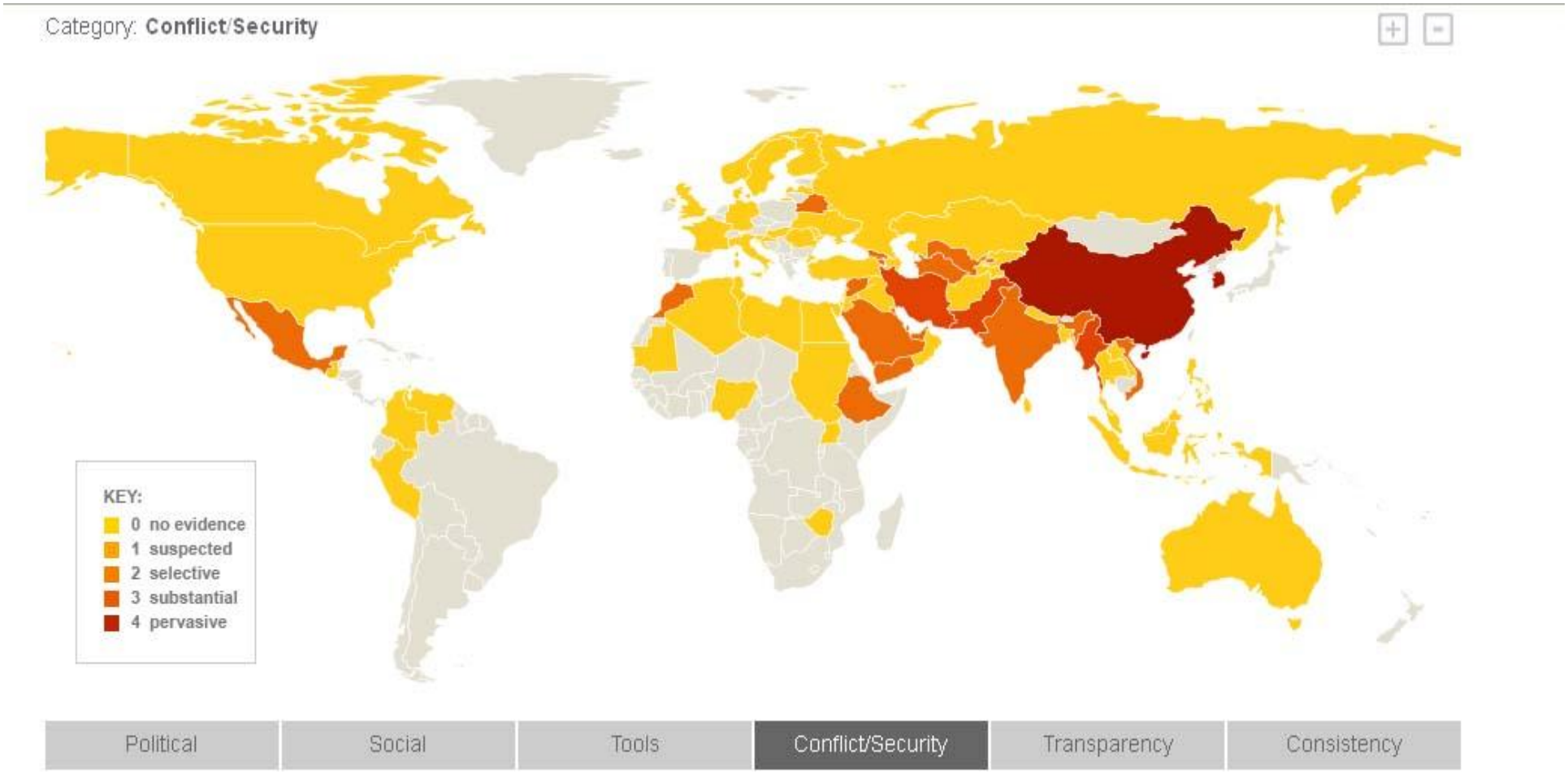


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# International involvement

- International agreements & standards
- International pressure
- International support practices
- *EU*
  - Prohibited export of surveillance technologies to totalitarian countries
  - Support to connectivity for activists in totalitarian countries
  - No asylym to whistleblower (Snowden)

# Criminalization of everyday life

# Libraries

- Mass data collection
- User recognition
- Location tracking
- Access control
- E-book surveillance

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# E-Reader Privacy Chart, 2012 Edition

See our announcement of this chart's launch here.

## Can they keep track of searches for books?

| Google Books | Amazon Kindle | Barnes & Noble Nook | Kobo | Sony | OverDrive | IndieBound | Internet Archive | Adobe Content Server |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Yes** Logs all search data with IP address. Will also associate searches with user's Google Account if logged in. Will not associate | **Yes/Unclear** Logs data on products viewed and/or searched for on the device, and associates info with Amazon account. Searching the Inside Book feature requires login | **Yes/Unclear** The privacy policy indicates that searches made on the Nook are probably not recorded, but B&N generally logs data on searches made and pages viewed on B&N | **Yes** Kobo seems to have the capability to keep track of book searches because it indicates that it shares those searches with third parties. | **Yes** Sony seems to collect information on "site interaction," which presumably includes uses of the Reader Store, and on "network-enabled devices." | **No** Appears not to track searches of books on library sites. | **Unclear** While IndieBound's reader app seems not to have a distinct privacy policy, the site policy indicates that it collects "non-personal, aggregate information (such as | **No** The Archive does not collect IP addresses or user-identifiable data about book searches. | **No** The Adobe Content Server software cannot monitor what a user reads. |

https://www.eff.org/pages/reader-privacy-chart-2012

# NSA-leak & Snowden as a game changer

# Impacts

- Immense consequences
- Global media campaign
- Exceptional scale of media attention
- Raising citizens aweness
- Political interest

> “From both an operational and a symbolic perspective there could be a major push by the US for even greater travel surveillance and data collection at a global level.”

Third – when the smoke finally lifts - **the true information security implications of the PRISM/Snowden affair will become clear.** Snowden was a relatively low-level contractor. Governments and the public have yet to digest the security implications of a spying system involving many hundreds of system administrators that appears to be held together with little more than template secrecy agreements. This could possibly result in a push to eliminate external contractors and bring NSA activities "in house". This option is already being widely discussed.

Fourth, a pragmatic and a moral imperative has been created that may **accelerate funding and investment for research into technologies of circumvention.** This trend would in itself, however, provide the NSA with weaponry to push back against greater transparency of its activities.

Such a response occurred in the 1990s during the "crypto wars" when the US government attempted to regulate encryption development and deployment. The proposed restrictive policy triggered a centre of gravity that attracted significant interest in circumvention.

Fifth, the revelations will continue to spark renewed interest in **strengthened privacy protections in other parts of the world**. As noted in previous articles on this site, hitherto successful lobbying by the US to weaken privacy protections in emerging European and Indian law may now be nullified as parliamentarians reconsider their compliant position.

Sixth, connected directed with the point above, **online providers will need to take privacy more seriously.** The first wave of the PRISM story detailed NSA access to the servers of Google Apple and other companies – a situation that the companies deny knowledge of. However as the controversy widens there will be increased focus on what steps these providers are taking to avoid becoming outsourced storage facilities for security agencies.

Simon Davies, Analysis: Eight global repercussions from the PRISM disclosures
http://www.privacysurgeon.org/blog/incision/analysis-eight-global-repercussions-from-the-snowden-affair/

# Impacts

- Alternative services and technologies
- Business impact
- Interest in development of innovations and technologies to privacy protection
  - E.g. localizing of cloud services

# Raised questions

# Power transfer

- Power transfer
  - Data ownership, data management
- Consequences
  - How this data is used?
- Unlimited scope
  - Unlimited data collection, unlimited authorities
- Non-transparency
  - Secret intitutions, secret principles, secret practices, secret interests

# Governance

- Democratic principles, rules of good governance
  - Transparency
  - Accountability
  - Participation
  - Legitimacy of actions…

# Future extensions

- New forms of surveillance
  - User recognition
  - Locating
  - Extended data collection…

# Protections

- What kind of protections exists against excessive surveillance?
- What kind of new protections would need to be developed?
- NGOs activated

# Libraries

Freedom of information =

Access to internet

+

Safe access to communicate, search and use information on internet

+

Democratic structures

# What to do…

- Involve in development of...
  - Marketplace
  - Technologies
  - Policies & practices
  - Legislation

"Globally, we are seeing increasing debate –amongst both state and non-state actors – about whether or not and how to regulate freedom of expression online. In the next two to three years, these debates are likely to lead to crucial decisions including whether or not to establish top-down control of the internet – something EU member states and the US currently oppose in favour of a more diverse and bottom-up multistakeholder approach. With China and Russia pushing for greater government control, these debates are acquiring a strong geopolitical dimension."

Index on Censorship Policy paper, 20.6.2013

http://www.indexoncensorship.org/2013/06/is-the-eu-heading-in-the-right-direction-on-digital-freedom/

Case: Lex Snowden. Finnish Citizens' legislative initiative against citizens surveillance and whistleblower protection.

http://vimeo.com/72412202


https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2011/03/eff-council-europe-ensure-privacy-transparency-freedom-expression

# What to do…

- Co-operation, advocacy
  - Statements
  - Campaigns
  - Focus
    - Issues
    - Scope (international, national, local)

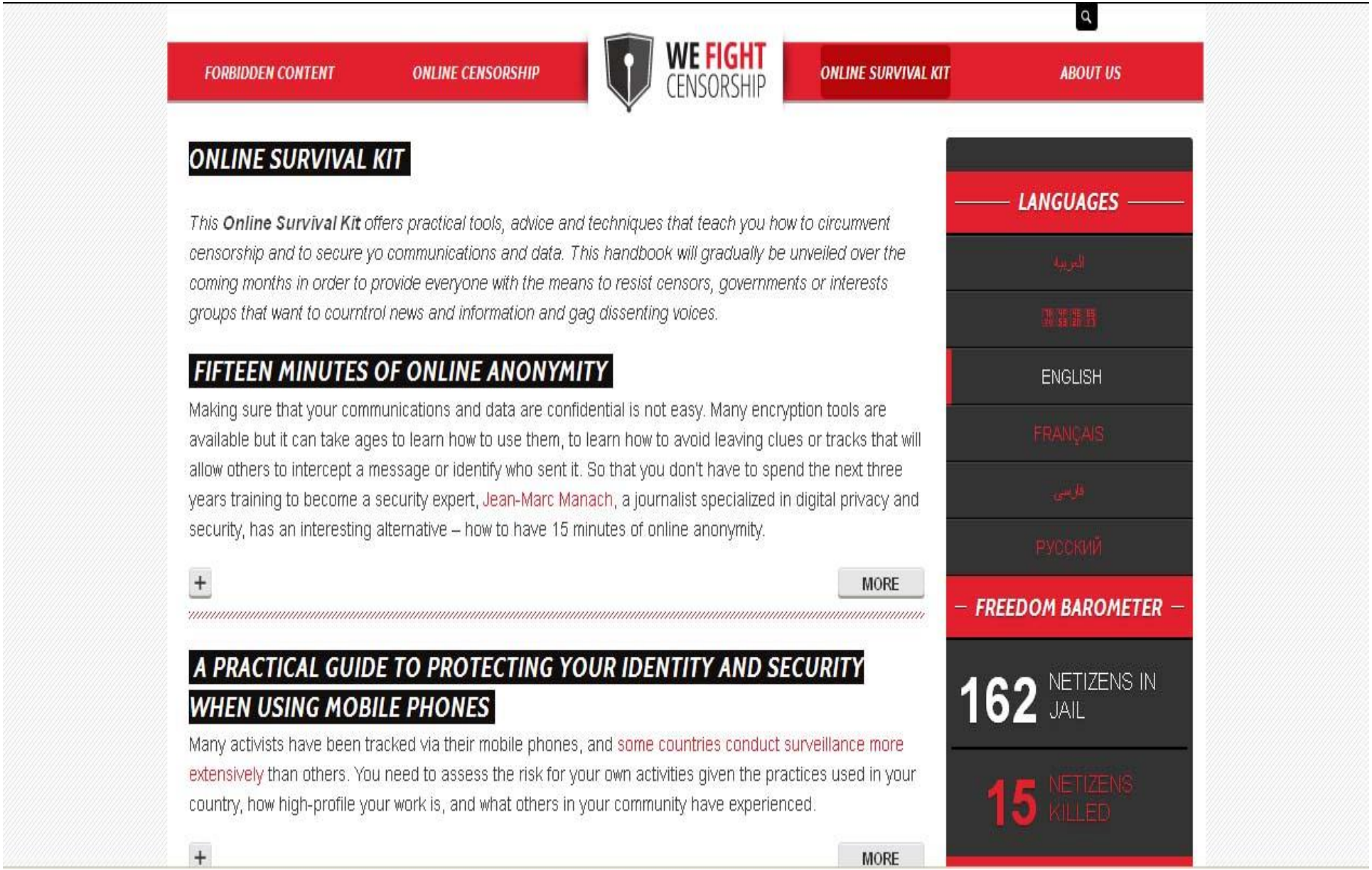
# Possible partners

- IFLA / FAIFE
- Library associations
- Libraries
- NGOs
  - EFF
  - ONI
  - Freedom house
  - Privacy international
  - Reporters without borders
  - Transparency international

# What to do…

- Learn & teach
  - data and privacy protection practices


Online privacy. Using the Internet Safely / Privacy Rights Clearinghouse. https://www.privacyrights.org/fs/fs18-cyb.htm




We Fight Censorship / Reporters Without Borders -project.
https://www.wefightcensorship.org/online-survival-kithtml.html

# Libraries as a safe haven