

Jaya Klara Brekke

Founding member of *Magma Collective*, a think-and-do tank working on technologies for empowering people in relation to the systems and infrastructures that affect their lives. Currently an ESRC Research Fellow at Durham University Geography department (2019-2020) and expert advisor to the European Commission on disruptive technologies.

Research topics: digital political economies; cryptographic geographies; DLT; non-human geographies.

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Education

PhD Human Geography

Title of thesis: *Disassembling the Trust Machine, three cuts on the political matter of blockchain*

2014 –2019 Durham University, UK

MSc Contemporary Urbanism

2008 – 2010 London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

BA(Hons) Fine Art with Political Economy

2004 – 2007 University of East London, UK

Awards and grants

2019 - European Commission, Next Generation Internet Ledger Award [€150,000]

2019 - Economic and Social Research Council Research Fellowship Award [£97,282]

2014 – Economic and Social Research Council 3.5 Studentship Award [£48,520]

2012 – Apexart, New York City, Winner of 2012 International Open Call [\$10,000]

Current employment and projects

2019 - 2020 ESRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow, political economies of blockchain technology at Durham University Geography Dept.

2019 - 2020 Research and Design, CoBox by Magma Collective, think and do tank. Funded by European Commission Next Generation Internet, Ledger Award

Teaching and course material

2018 – The New Centre for Research and Practice
8-week seminar on the political economy of blockchain technology titled:
Disassembling the Trust Machine

2016 – B9Lab, blockchain training and educational company
Ethical training module for blockchain developers, online course material.

2016 – Camberwell College of Arts
Unit 5: The Expanded Designer, course convener: Animism and power

Advisory roles

2019 - ongoing European Commission, expert advisor on disruptive technologies.

2017 – 2019 DECODE (Decentralised Citizens Owned Data Ecosystem)
Coordinator of scientific advisory board, European Commission, Horizon2020 / NESTA
cordis.europa.eu

Publications

Edited books

Brekke, J.K., Vickers, B. eds. (2019) *The White Paper*. Ignota Press.

Brekke, J.K., Filippidis, C. & Vradis, A. (2017). *Athens and the war on public space: Tracing a city in crisis*. Punctum Books.

Book chapters

Brekke, J. K. (Accepted). Disassembling the Truth Machine. In /META. *Tracing unknown knowns*. de Vega, M. Mazon Gardoqui, V. & Silvestrin, D. ñ (Mexico City & Berlin).

Brekke, J. K. (2018). Three Postcards from the World of Decentralised Money. In *MoneyLab Reader#2: Overcoming the hype*. Gloerich, I., Lovink, G. & de Vries, P. Institute of Network Cultures.

Brekke, J. K. & Haase, E. (2017). Busting blocks and breaking chains. In *Artists Re:Thinking the Blockchain*. Catlow, R., Garrett, M., Jones, N. & Skinner, S. Liverpool University Press.

Reports

Brekke, J.K., Danezis, G., Halpin, H., Isaakidis, M., Wouter, L. (2019) *Principles for decentralized protocol design*. Horizon 2020 – project 688722 (NEXTLEAP).

Brekke, J. K. & Bria, F. (2014). *Community Requirements and Social Design*. FP7 - CAPS project 610349 Decentralised Citizen Engagement Technologies (D-CENT).

Baronian, L., Brekke, J. K., Bria, F., Lucarelli, S., Sachy, M. & Vercellone, C. (2014). *D3.4 Field Research and User Requirements Digital social currency pilots*. FP7 - CAPS project 610349 Decentralised Citizen Engagement Technologies (D-CENT).

Other (articles, films and podcasts, selected)

Groos, J. (2019) *S01E06 - Jaya Klara Brekke on the Political in Blockchain* [Podcast]
<https://www.futurehistories.today/#episoden-rp>

Brekke, J.K. and Sebregondi, F. (2019) *Architectures of Truth and Trust*. Spike Magazine #59 <https://www.spikeartmagazine.com/en/articles/conversation>

Amery, P. (2019) *Cryptoeconomics' radical potential*, interview with Jaya Klara Brekke. New Money Review [Podcast]
<https://blubrury.com/newmoneyreview/48776957/cryptoeconomics-radical-potential/>

New Models (2018) *Art and blockchain, a discussion with Jaya Brekke, Ruth Catlow, Kei Kreutler moderated by Carolina Busta*, at the "PROOF of WORK" exhibition curated by artist Simon Denny, Schinkel Pavillon in Berlin. [Podcast]
<https://soundcloud.com/newmodels/proof-of-work-kreutler-brekke-catlow-busta>

Sylvester-Bradley, O. (2018) *The BIG Questions: Tech, Power and Society*, panel discussion Jaya Brekke, Nathan Schneider, Duncan McCann and Bernie. [Podcast]
<https://open.coop/2018/10/31/open-2018-podcast-big-questions-tech-power-society/>

Brekke, J.K. (2018) *I Saw The Blockchain At The End of The World, Turned Around and Walked Back*. Aksioma – Institute for Contemporary Art, Ljubljana. (State Machine publication series) <https://aksioma.org/Jaya-Klara-Brekke-I-saw-the>

Minichbauer, R. (2018) *Facebook entkommen Interviews mit Jaya Klara Brekke, Florencio Cabello, Ramona-Riin Dremljuga, Vladan Joler und Stefania Milan*. Transversal texts <https://transversal.at/books/facebook-entkommen>

Brekke, J.K. (2016) *The Dawn and Delusions of the 'Nerd Reich': BlockBusters #1*. Open Democracy. Available at: <https://www.opendemocracy.net/digitalliberties/jaya-klara-brekke/dawn-and-delusions-of-nerd-reich-blockbusters-1>

Domoney, R. and Brekke, J. K. (2014) *Future Suspended: Athens from Olympic spectacle to the dawn of the authoritarian-financial complex* [Documentary film]
jayapapaya.net/future-suspended

Lectures, panels and exhibitions (selected)

June 2020 – Blumorpho Impact Week: Blockchain for social good? (Keynote)
<https://www.blumorpho.com/impact-week.html>

June 2020 – MoneyLab #8: The political economies of hacker-engineers (talk and panel discussion) <https://aksioma.org/moneylab8/>

Sept. 2019 – Cryptoeconomics: Towards mass behavioral engineering or a network commons? (talk) Our Networks, Toronto, Canada <https://ournetworks.ca/>

Aug. 2019 – Governance and decentralized power (panel presentation)
Reimpact blockchain edition, Factory Berlin Görlitzer Park <http://reimpact.webflow.io>

Aug. 2019 – Web 3, what could go wrong? (panel presentation)
Berlin Blockchain Week, EthBerlinZwei
<https://ethberlinzwei.com>

July 2019 The New Centre for Research and Practice,
[Defining a Political cryptoeconomics.](#)

June 2019 – Digital vs Physical, meditations on the intersection between art and technology (panel) CogX, London <https://cogx.co/>

February 2019 – Authority, Autonomy and Trust - A Political History of Blockchain (talk) Onassis cultural centre, Athens, Greece
<https://www.onassis.org/whats-on/blockchain-utopia-or-u-turn>

February 2019 – New Kids on the Blockchain (panel), La Gaité Lyrique, Paris, France <https://gaitelyrique.net/evenement/chaines-de-distribution>

Aug. 2018 – Strategies for Understanding the Power, Politics and Ethics of Blockchain and Smart Contracts (lecture) Kunsthalle Bern, Switzerland.
https://kunsthalle-bern.ch/en/events/2018-08-15-kunsthalle-barlecture-by-jaya-klara-brekke_strategies-for-understanding-the-power-politics-and-ethics-of-blockchain-and-smart-contracts_/

July 2018 – DappCon The future of Blockchain, what could go wrong? (panel presentation) DappCon, Decentralized applications Ethereum developer conference, Berlin, Germany. <https://2018.dappcon.io/>

July 2018 – Symposium: Money (panel presentation)
Fab14, FabLab:Connect, Toulouse, France.
<https://www.fablabconnect.com/symposium-money-fab14/>

July 2018 – The BIG questions-tech, power and society (panel)
Open:2018 Collaborative Technology for the Cooperative Economy, London, UK.
<https://open.coop/2018/10/31/open-2018-podcast-big-questions-tech-power-society/>

May 2018 – Blockchain for Industrial Transformations (advisory workshop and exhibition)

EU PolicyLab, European Commission Headquarters, Brussels.

May 2018 – Terraforming the Earth, lecture (lecture)

Het Nieuwe Instituut, Netherlands.

<https://thursdaynight.hetnieuweinstituut.nl/en/activities/terraforming-earth>

April 2018 – I Am Distributed: At The Frontiers Of The Blockchain

(Panel with Jaya Klara Brekke, Ben Vickers and Hans Ulrich Obrist) Global Art Forum, Dubai, <https://www.artforum.com/diary/kate-sutton-on-the-twelfth-editions-of-art-dubai-and-the-global-art-forum-74989>

Feb. 2018 – Blockchain: Rewiring Governance (talk)

Cambridge University, Judge Business School

<http://www.blockchaincambridge.com/>

Feb. 2018 – DAOWO workshop/ New World Order (exhibition and talk)

Drugo More, Rijeka, Croatia

<http://drugo-more.hr/en/>

Feb. 2018 – Tracing trustlessness (talk)

Computer Science dept. University College London

http://sec.cs.ucl.ac.uk/ace_csr/seminars_calendar/seminar_details/article/tracing_trustlessness/

Feb, 2018 – Fork-Politics in Postconsensus cryptoeconomics with RIAT (forkshop/ panel presentation)

Transmediale festival, Berlin

<https://2018.transmediale.de/content/fork-politics-in-post-consensus-cryptoeconomics>

Jan. 2018 – Risk Society Symposium (panel with Ben Vickers and Mercedes Bunz)

London Design Museum

<https://designmuseum.org/>

Jan. 2018 – Doing Good (on the blockchain) (talk)

Goethe Institut, 50 Princes Gate, Exhibition Rd, Knightsbridge, London SW7 2PH

<http://www.daowo.org/>

Nov. 2017 – Proof-of-Burn with RIAT (Panel presentation and performance)

Future of Demonstration S1, Vermogen Episode 5

Vienna, Austria thefutureofdemonstration.net