

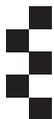
The **Human  
Rights, Big Data  
and Technology  
Project**



# Advancing Human Rights in the Era of Big Data



Human  
Rights  
Centre



University of Essex





**The Human Rights, Big Data and Technology Project is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and the University of Essex, and based at the University's Human Rights Centre.**

**The Project maps and analyses the challenges and opportunities presented by the use of big data and associated technology from a human rights perspective, considering whether fundamental human rights concepts and approaches need to be adapted to meet the new realities of technology in the era of big data. The Project will also develop good practice guidelines, regulatory responses and remedies from a rights-based perspective to maximise effective human rights enjoyment and protection in the digital age.**

## **Our Research**

The overarching research questions for the Project are:

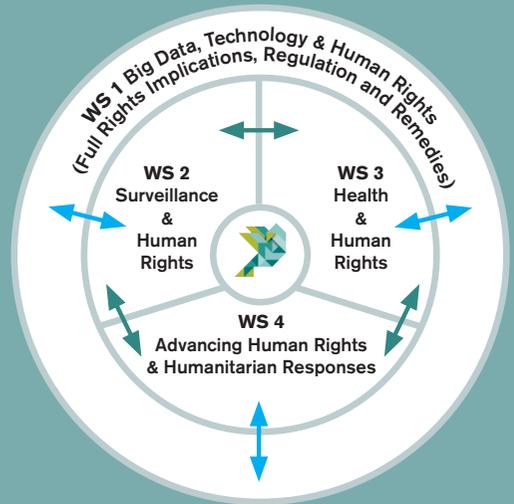
- What human rights concerns and opportunities are generated by big data and associated technology?
- Can the international human rights framework and institutions respond to deal with the challenges and opportunities presented?
- How do we effectively regulate the collection, storage, use, amalgamation, re-purposing and sharing of data by States and non-State actors?
- What remedies are needed and how can these be effectively developed and implemented?

## Project Structure

The research questions are explored through the Project's four inter-connected work streams (WS):

- WS1** Big Data, Technology & Human Rights (Full Rights Implications, Regulation and Remedies)
- WS2** Surveillance & Human Rights
- WS3** Health & Human Rights
- WS4** Advancing Human Rights & Humanitarian Responses

Work Stream One acts as a hub for Work Streams Two to Four, providing the overarching framework for the Project, identifying areas of connectivity and proposing solutions to rights implications.



## Our Impact & Engagement

The Project's key stakeholder groups are: States, businesses, international human rights and humanitarian institutions, and non-governmental human rights organisations. The Project focuses primarily, although not exclusively, on the United Nations space in engaging its key stakeholders as the United Nations system, with its comprehensive mandate, global remit, universality of membership and engagement with multi-stakeholders, provides a vital space in which to contribute directly to the agenda, formulate responses that create awareness and propose regulatory solutions.



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**For more information:**

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