

**Jaya Klara Brekke** [j.k.brekke@durham.ac.uk](mailto:j.k.brekke@durham.ac.uk) // [jayapapaya.net](http://jayapapaya.net) // [distributingchains.info](http://distributingchains.info)

Jaya Klara Brekke speaks, writes and conducts research on questions of value, autonomy and authority, in decentralised systems. Her research has contributed to cultural and technical industry and policy debates about blockchain technology in Europe, as well as educational material furthering critical thinking amongst developers and technology start-ups. She is the author of the *Satoshi Oath* and the B9Lab ethical training module for blockchain developers, and an 8-week seminar series for The New Centre for Research and Practice on the political economies of blockchain. She has been working in a research capacity and as a cultural producer on projects related to the political economies of infrastructures for the past ten years, including: *Crisis-scape* on the impact of the financial crisis on public space in Athens; *D-CENT*, a European-wide project for the development of open citizen engagement technologies; and *Flesh & Concrete* on the politics of infrastructure development in Mexico city. She is currently coordinator of the scientific advisory board of DECODE, a Horizon2020 project furthering citizen-owned data infrastructures and economies for the public good in the context of smart cities in Europe. Jaya and is based between London where she spends much of her time with the InfoSec research group at UCL Computer sciences, Vienna as a collaborator of *RIAT - Institute for Future Cryptoeconomics* and Durham University, Geography Department where she recently completed an ESRC funded PhD with the title *Disassembling the Trust Machine: three cuts on the political matter of blockchain*.

### **Research topics**

Blockchain; cryptoeconomics; political theory; cryptography; network computation; political economy; platform economics; FinTech; RegTech; DemTech

## **Education**

### **PhD Human Geography (viva date March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019)**

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

## **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 kno//wns/*. 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).

Brekke, J. K. & Bria, F. (2013). *D-CENT Project Methodology*. FP7 - CAPS project 610349 Decentralised Citizen Engagement Technologies (D-CENT).

### ***Other (selected)***

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 pamphlet 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>

## **Teaching and course material**

8-week seminar on the political economy of blockchain technology

*Disassembling the Trust Machine* (2018)

The New Centre for Research and Practice

<https://thenewcentre.org/seminars/disassembling-trust-machine/>

Ethical training module for blockchain developers, online course material

*The Satoshi Oath* (2016)

B9Lab, blockchain training, education and talent company

<https://www.b9lab.com/>

## **Awards and grants**

2014 - Economic and Social Research Council 3.5 Studentship Award [£48,520] Durham University, UK

## **Current advisory role**

***DECODE (Decentralised Citizens Owned Data Ecosystem)***

**Coordinator of scientific advisory board**

European Commission, Horizon2020 / NESTA, 2017 – ongoing

Research and development project for citizen-owned data infrastructures and economies in the context of smart cities, coordinated by NESTA, Plough Place, London, UK with partners in Spain, Italy, France, Netherlands and Sweden.

[cordis.europa.eu](https://cordis.europa.eu)

## **Talks and exhibitions (selected)**

**Nov. 2018 - Computational definitions of authority, autonomy and control in blockchain - and its limits (lecture and workshop)**

PACT- Zollverein, Germany

<https://www.pact-zollverein.de/en/programme/paul-feigelfeld-jaya-klara-brekke>

**Aug. 2018 – Strategies for Understanding the Power, Politics and Ethics of Blockchain and Smart Contracts (lecture)**

Kunsthalle Bern

<https://kunsthalle-bern.ch/>

**July 2018 – DappCon The future of Blockchain, what could go wrong? (panel presentation)**

DappCon, Decentralized applications Ethereum developer conference

<https://www.dappcon.io/>

**July 2018 – Symposium: Money (panel presentation)**

Fab14, FabLab:Connect

<http://www.fablabconnect.com/symposium-money-fab14/>

**July 2018 – The BIG questions-tech, power and society (panel presentation/podcast)**

Open:2018 Collaborative Technology for the Cooperative Economy

<https://2018.open.coop/>

**May 2018 – Blockchain for Industrial Transformations (exhibition)**

EU PolicyLab Berlaymont Building, European Commission Headquarters, Brussels

<https://blogs.ec.europa.eu/eupolicylab/blockchain4eu/>

**May 2018 – Terraforming the Earth, lecture (lecture)**

Het Nieuwe Instituut, Netherlands

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

**May 2018 – Alternative Economies: Decentralization & People Power (panel presentation)**

The Advaya Initiative

<https://www.advayainitiative.com/allevents/decentralisation-people-power>

**Feb. 2018 – Blockchain: Rewiring Governance (panel presentation)**

Cambridge University, Judge Business School, Cambridge, UK

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

**Feb. 2018 – DAOWO / New World Order (exhibition and panel presentation)**

Drugo More, Rijeka, Croatia

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

**Feb. 2018 – Tracing trustlessness (seminar)**

University College London, Computer Science dept.

[http://sec.cs.ucl.ac.uk/ace\\_csr/seminars\\_calendar/seminar\\_details/article/tracing\\_trustlessness/](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 presentation)**

London Design Museum  
<https://designmuseum.org/>

**Jan. 2018 – Doing Good (on the blockchain) (panel presentation)**

Goethe Institut, London  
<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](http://thefutureofdemonstration.net)

**May 2017 – The Satoshi Oath - *New World Order* (exhibition)**

Furtherfield Gallery, exhibition and publication on the possible futures of life with blockchain at Furtherfield gallery, London, UK.

[furtherfield.org](http://furtherfield.org)

**June 2017 - *New forms of currencies in productive cities* (panel presentation)**

Sonar +D Festival and Maker Faire, Barcelona, Spain. 17<sup>th</sup> June 2017  
<https://sonarplused.com/en/programs/barcelona-2017/areas/talks/maker-faire-s-barcelona-conferences>

**May 2016 – Blockchain: *a crash course and challenging consensus* (presentation)**

Re:Publica Festival for the Digital Society, Berlin  
<https://re-publica.com/16/session/blockchain-crash-course-and-challenging-consensus>

## **Other employment and projects**

**Mentor: *Collective Intelligence for Democracy***

MediaLab Prado, November 2016  
Mentoring four teams of developers, designers and researchers in a two-week hackathon of digital democracy tools at the MediaLab Prado in Madrid.

[Medialab-prado.es](http://medialab-prado.es)

**Research and design: *D-CENT (Decentralised Citizen Engagement Technologies)***

European Commission FP7 / NESTA Jan. 2014 – Dec 2015  
Research and development project to create an open, decentralized social networking platform for large-scale collaboration, enabling real-time sharing of open data, democratic decision-making and digital currencies for a common good. Coordinated by NESTA, Plough Place, London, UK with partners in Iceland, Spain, France, Finland and Italy.  
[dcentproject.eu/](http://dcentproject.eu/)

**Digital strategy: *MayDay Rooms***

Glasshouse Foundation, Nov. 2012 – Sept. 2016  
Cultural space and archival project for histories of political organizing, marginalised

groups and experimental culture, and the «activation» of these archives through the project space in Fleet Street, London.

**[maydayrooms.org](http://maydayrooms.org)**

**Research and design: *City at a Time of Crisis***

ESRC, April. 2012 – May 2014

Research project on the impact of the financial and sovereign debt crisis on public space in Athens, Greece.

**[crisis-scape.net](http://crisis-scape.net)**

**Curator: *Flesh & Concrete***

Apexart, Aug. 2011 - May 2012

An exhibition of six installations by artists from Guadalajara and Mexico City, responding to the construction of a superhighway, the neighborhood movements and radical research that was being done to resist it. Included a month-long program of talks, events and direct action.

**[fleshandconcrete.net](http://fleshandconcrete.net)**

**Creative Projects Manager: *BLIP Creative***

BLIP Creative, April 2010 - December 2011

R&D company specialised in display technology for the film, advertising and creative industries, Soho, London, UK.

**[blipcreative.com](http://blipcreative.com)**