

One reel critical of authority later, it's that time again – making the internet a threat again! Or are there anarchist strategies against Elon Musk?

Looking at the cover of the conference volume from the last conference, I have a suspicion that is then largely confirmed in the current call for papers. From a communications technology perspective, this suspicion is: the anachronism of anarchism. Looking at the image on the cover, there is no indication of the ubiquitous presence of smartphones or the social media posts they generate. But instead of tracing the lines of tradition of anarchism or the milieu affiliations of anarchists, even though both could help to understand this absence, this article—in keeping with the spirit of the event—will focus on filling this gap and asking: What transformation strategies are available in view of a reality that—in multiple senses—is centrally determined by digitally generated and mediated society? To this end, the significance and structures of the phenomenon or problem will first be outlined. The anarchist enthusiasm for the information technology revolution of the 1990s seems to have rightly disappeared here. This change must first be analyzed with a view to the discussions held here. In a second, theoretical step, Erik Olin Wright presents different transformation strategies and questions the relevance of the state of information technology in society. This is followed by a look at various strategies critical of authority, from the Chaos Computer Club to Linux and Capulcu. Finally, there will be a critical discussion of the findings with regard to the theoretically outlined transformation strategies. The aim here is not to prematurely rule out individual paths of transformation, but to examine them for plausibility and potential. After all, a (more) socially and ecologically just future will not prevail without addressing the problems of the digital world.