

WEAVING LIBERATION

Our First Year

2024 Annual Report

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OUR APPROACH



WEAVING LIBERATION

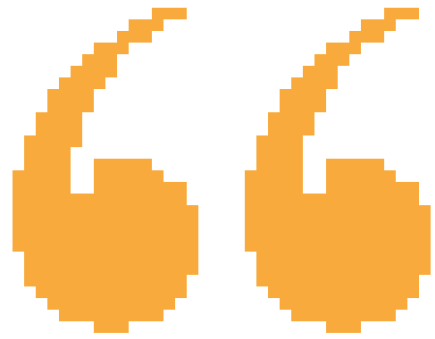
is an ecosystem building and regranting initiative

focussed on supporting and resourcing digital justice organising. We coordinate the implementation of [‘A vision for digital justice organising in Europe’](#) a programme of activities that will help create the conditions for communities to work towards liberatory digital futures.

We work to:

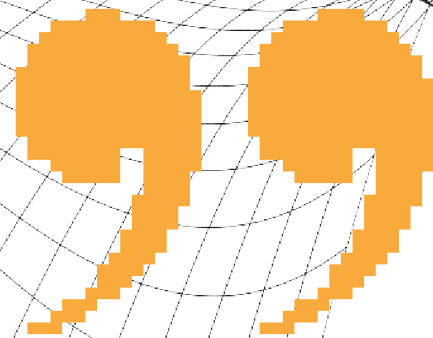
- *Build cross-movement solidarity and affirmative visions of digital justice.*
- *Build liberatory practices of changemaking in policymaking, advocacy, litigation, etc.*
- *Redistribute resources to racial, social, economic, environmental, trans-feminist, queer, disability, and migrant justice groups working at the intersection of tech and justice.*

We do not see ourselves pursuing policy changes, litigating or campaigning directly but rather we intend to support and sustain an ecosystem which has the conditions for this work to be done by the racial, social, economic, environmental, transfeminist, queer, disability, and migrant justice groups themselves and more importantly for the needs of the field needs to be met. This approach informs all our key activities and partnership work.



What the world will become
already exists in fragments and
pieces, experiments and possibilities.
Abolition is building the future from
the present, in all of the ways we can.

- RUTH WILSON GILMORE, 2019



Our approach to ecosystem building involves:

1. MULTIPLYING EFFORTS, strengthening what already works and recognising that there is value and need for many groups to be doing similar things. This is to ensure that critical work is not relying on one organisation or one actor but rather is benefiting from multiple efforts. by enhancing the impact and building space for inspiration instead of competition.



2. HELPING WORK THRIVE, by supporting and sustaining organisations already doing the work and facilitating connections across groups to build common visions and strategies by aligning different tactics and methods.

3. ESTABLISHING A REGENERATIVE ECOSYSTEM, by building power and infrastructures of support across many levels so that there is space for different groups and initiatives to be able to ebb and flow in their efforts depending on their capacity and priorities, whilst maintaining the momentum and coherence of the whole ecosystem. This approach is about challenging the idea that working towards justice means sacrificing oneself completely and establishing an ecosystem that can continue to thrive as people, organisations and movements change shape and come and go.

OUR PARTNERS



Weaving Liberation and 'A vision for digital justice organising in Europe' are the results of a collective, multi-year co-design effort started in 2020. The programme was designed with the input of 30+ partners working on sex workers' rights, environmental justice, migration justice, disability justice, queer and transfeminist rights, and digital rights and philanthropy including, **ESWA, Justice Equity and Tech, Whose Knowledge?, Statewatch, Queer Archives Bosnia Herzegovina, Alternatif Billisim, Homo Digitalis, Picum, Share Foundation, Glitch UK, Digital Defenders Partnership, International Women* Space, ENAR, Bits of Freedom, Frauenloop, European Disability Forum, International Trans Fund, European Anti-Poverty Network, Bits of Freedom** and others. The programme was then refined through a consultation process with over 30+ people from the broader field.

It is from this base, building on over three years of organising work and practice, that we have an established and growing circle of partners having directly convened 200+ partners representing racial, social, economic, transfeminist, queer, disability, and migrant justice groups, digital, environmental and resource justice, just this past year.

Focussing on building a community with those partners is critical to our effort, as we work to address the current dynamic in the field where those most impacted by the harms from technology are not centred or resourced to advance their visions, strategies and movement work.



We convened



200+ PARTNERS

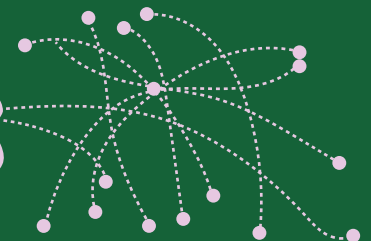
working on

**RACIAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, TRANSFEMINIST,
QUEER, DISABILITY, AND MIGRANT JUSTICE
GROUPS DIGITAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND
RESOURCE JUSTICE**

from

20+ COUNTRIES

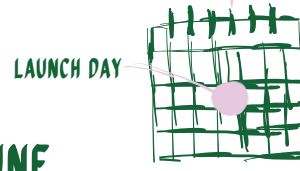
in and outside Europe



2024: OUR YEAR AT A GLANCE

JANUARY / FEBRUARY

- 'A vision for digital justice organising in Europe' programme and Decolonising Blueprint is finalised.
- Our team of three is consolidated with two Co-Directors and an Operations Lead.
- Attend **Black Feminisms Forum** and host a workshop on **Black feminist visions of tech.**

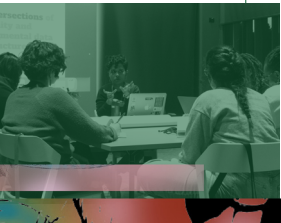


MAY / JUNE

- Host **WL's official launch!**
- Attend JET: **Undoing Police Tech event.**
- Co-organise the second **European Colour of Surveillance with Equinox and International Women* Space** on *Liberation Practices in times of Fascism.*
- Attend **Mozfest Amsterdam** and join a panel on *technical grantmaking in AI.*

MARCH / APRIL

- Attend the **Digital Policy Leadership Summit** and discuss *forging equitable partnerships with Global Majority regions*
- Co-organise **DDF Annual Strategy Meeting** and present WL's work and moderate a panel on *War crimes and Digital Rights.*
- Hold first **WL team retreat!**
- Join Ariadne's **Susan Treadwell Change Lab.**
- Attend the **Digital Rights for All ESWA convening** and participate in two workshops on *Digital Rights as a key sex workers' issue* and *Strategic Litigation*
- Attend **Ariadne Annual Re:connect** and participate in discussion on *philanthropic risk and opportunities to move boldly.*
- Co-organise a **Knowledge and Imagining retreat on Digital Policing** with ENAR.
- Begin logistics planning for the first Digital Liberation Retreat!

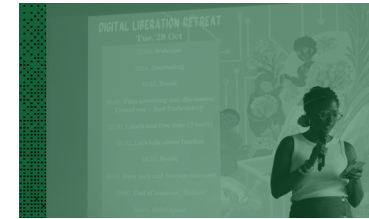


JULY / AUGUST

- Official invites go out for **Digital Liberation Retreat**
- Fundraising, planning and more fundraising!

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

- Announce our **Accountability Committee** members and hold first meeting!
- Attend the **Doctoral Summer School on ICT** and speak on *decolonial approaches to tech.*
- Co-organise the **Tech and Society Summit** together with 40+ others and host a discussion on *environmental justice and technology.*
- Attend the **Festival de liberations** and join a panel about *facial recognition tech.*
- Attend the **Tech and Society Funders** annual meeting.
- Host the first ever **Digital Liberation Retreat!**



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER

- Attend **AWID Forum** and co-organise a discussion on *Digital Rights - Digital Divides: Exploring the Use and Narratives Around Digital Technologies and Sex Work* with ESWA and SWANA
- Attend **Oxfam Spain's Digital Justice conference** and join a panel on *racial and gender discrimination from the use of AI.*
- Finalise **Digital Policing Toolkit** to be published early 2025.



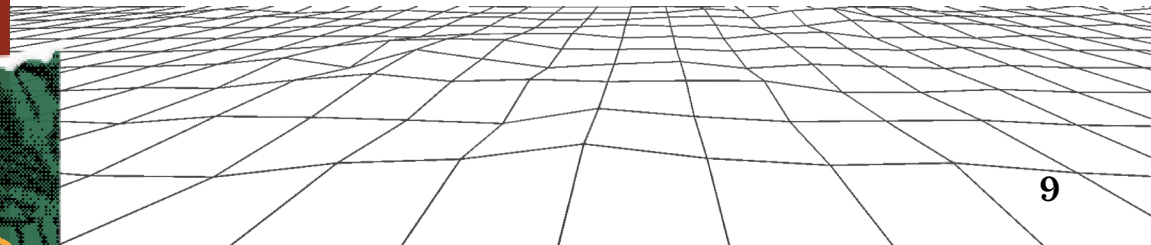
SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR



TECH-ENABLED ANTI-RIGHTS CONTEXTS

This year has been extremely challenging. We do not separate the question of technology from the socio-political reality in which it is being designed and deployed in: an increasingly hostile, anti-rights environment enabled by technology and concentrated tech power, where resourcing for justice and liberation work is rapidly disappearing and being diverted to reinforce oppressive and violent systems of criminalisation and control – the human costs of which are felt most acutely by marginalised communities, including sex workers, Black, Muslims, Roma and Sinti, disabled, impoverished, migrants, and queer communities.

This is not a challenge we see easing in the coming years, but it underscores the critical importance of work that centres those most impacted by systemic technological harms, looks to support cross-movement and transnational organising to advance alternative pathways to change, and pushes to redistribute resources to those with the visions, knowledge and practice to meaningfully counter these structural harms.



RESOURCE MOBILISATION: WHAT CAN WE DO DIFFERENTLY?

As we grapple alongside many others with a challenging resource mobilisation landscape, where (already limited) resourcing for justice-centred work is rapidly diminishing, while threats to marginalised communities and justice movements are skyrocketing, we are faced with two fundamental challenges: our own financial sustainability and the increasing urgency to redistribute funding to under-resourced groups, on the frontline responding to the impacts of systemic technological harms. We have a (closing) window of opportunity to do things differently when it comes to resourcing movements – what do they really need to sustain their work in such hostile environments in the immediate term, but also to continue to work on bringing to life their visions for liberatory digital futures? How do we materially shift funding practices to meet the moment? We are engaging on these questions by collectively organising with our peers to develop new approaches to resource mobilisation and engaging in direct philanthropic advocacy.

THE NECESSITY OF CONVENING SPACES

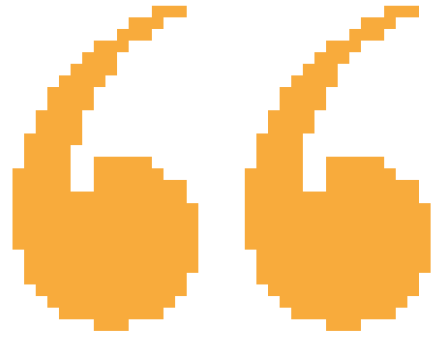
One of the challenges faced by our work is that there is a tendency to see convening work and the work of building organising spaces – bringing different groups to come together, share knowledge and practice, and supporting them to strategise and build collective power – as somewhat an aside to impact that happens at policy, litigation or advocacy level or distinct from realising strong affirmative visions of our digital futures. But without these spaces, change at that level will not happen.

For us to create cross-movement solidarity, for us to build an effective counter to the narratives and futures that anti-rights political movements and Big Tech are forcing upon us, for us to advance material changes in how technology is impacting our lives through regulation, litigation and public mobilising, we must create spaces for groups that are under resourced, isolated and unable to advance their work effectively and sustainably, to meet with each other.

To be able to build trust and solidarity. To exchange ideas and shared challenges. To learn from each other and discover new ways of working. To align on their visions for their digital futures. And to then be able to take these learnings, resources and solidarity into their respective changemaking spaces - whether that is research, policy work, litigation, advocacy and campaigning.

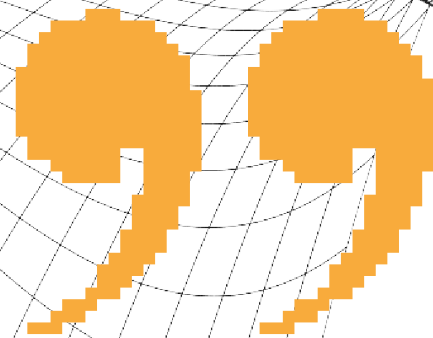
As the sociopolitical environment worsens, our work this year has really underscored the necessity of convening spaces to sustain hope, build connections across movements and deepen the capacity of racial, social, economic, environmental, transfeminist, queer, disability, and migrant justice groups to tackle issues at the intersection of tech and justice. Our reflections on our experience of convening groups this year at the Digital Liberation Retreat, the Knowledge and Imagining space on digital policing and European Colour of Surveillance can be read [here](#).





**“An organisation cannot create
within the world what it can’t create
within itself.”**

- HOPE CHIGUDU AND RUDO CHIGUDU, 2015



LOGISTICS OF CARE



Illustration: KNS @theworkplacedoodler

This year, we have deepened our commitment to care as both a political stance and a practice, recognising that the work of justice in hostile environments cannot be sustained without intentional structures of collective support. Our approach rejects the false binary between impact and care, understanding that the labour of building solidarity, redistributing resources, and nurturing wellbeing could be a foundation for resistance.

In practice, this has meant designing our convenings—from the Digital Liberation Retreat to our Knowledge and Imagining spaces—with trauma-informed principles in mind.

As such, we embed an infrastructure of care into our event planning and management moving beyond one-off accommodations to establish an adaptable method.

In practice:

WE ARE PRIORITISING RETREAT SETTINGS! We aim to create an atmosphere that allows participants to imagine, exchange, share, create, connect, etc., away from the daily harms they are exposed to. We do not pretend to create a safe space as we know it can never be guaranteed. We, for example, carefully select remote venues in pre-researched destination advised by existing and potential partners – like organising the Digital Liberation Retreat in the historic Bosnian mountains with the support of local feminist organisers. From conscientiously selecting destinations and venues to briefing and creating trust with the hosting hotels, we have methodologically worked to mitigate the risk of harmful incidents.

WE ARE CHOOSING TO BE ADAPTABLE! We prioritise flexibility in attendance and participation, recognising that accessibility is about physical accommodations and acknowledging the uneven toll of oppressions. From considerations for specific needs – parenthood, motherhood, accessibility, travel discrimination, etc. – to collaboration

with local partners, we have methodologically wanted to mitigate specific socio-political systemic barriers to participate in organising spaces experienced by individuals.

WE ARE ENCOURAGING REST! We do not dissociate the work we do from the realities of the individuals we do it with and the socio-economic and political context(s) that affect(s) us. This means creating spaces where participants can set boundaries for themselves, share “openly”, and recharge amidst the exhaustion of challenging/fighting systemic harms on energy, time, and emotional capacity. From agenda design to facility provision, we have embedded rhythms of restoration and included elements of healing justice throughout our gatherings.

WE ARE CENTRING CARE! Our approach aims for the labour of holding spaces to not further fall on those already bearing the brunt of structural violence so we can focus on the moment – strategising, resting, healing, sharing, learning, organising, imagining, creating, etc. In planning and throughout our event, we choose tools that simplify the participants’ experiences; we are transparent about but flexible with our policies; we are sincere about our capacity and we are careful about the context(s) we are exposing people to. We also focus on building meaningful relationships with participants, with local partners, with colleagues and with the hosting hotel staffs, as well as providing spaces for individuals to connect around nature, around music and food, professionally and personally – because justice work is also personal.

What we observed over the past year(s) in response to centering care is a reciprocated sense of collective responsibility for mutual care and more space for participants to contribute beyond the traditional lines.

This approach is a learning process we have developed from the Decolonising programme and organising Digital Right for All events and that we continue to re-shape. Our partnerships with communities are rooted in iterative collaboration and support: we adapt timeline and decision-making processes to align with the material realities of the people we work with, not extractive nonprofit demands. We also want to reflect this approach in the way we mobilise resources. We wish to channel care into every aspect of our practice and encourage solidarity; we wish to recognise care as an intentional practice with a methodological approach! It’s how we sustain the relationships that make shared strategy possible—when strategising, organising, co-creating, etc.

When we centre care, we are not just mitigating harm; we can imagine a world we are fighting for: one where the work of justice is inseparable from the practice of caring for each other. In 2025, we aim to publish the methodology behind this approach, as a guide for event organising, but also to support advocacy to funders about the critical role of resourcing care infrastructure in movement work.

OUR WORK IN 2024



To help nurture and sustain a digital justice ecosystem equipped to address systemic technological harms and advance affirmative visions of our futures, Weaving Liberation coordinates the implementation of '[A vision for digital justice organising in Europe](#)' programme and works across three interconnected pillars to **nurture a digital justice ecosystem:**

- **Supporting collective, community-centred knowledge and practice** on tech and justice.
- **Creating organising spaces for groups to build cross-movement solidarity** and strategies to address tech harms and advance affirmative visions for our digital futures.
- **Resourcing movements**, primarily through the participatory Digital Justice fund and our advocacy work in the philanthropic field.

In addition to that work, this year, we focussed on *Seeding Weaving Liberation* as an initiative in the field - setting up operationally and making a case for our work.

NURTURING A DIGITAL JUSTICE ECOSYSTEM

CO-ORGANISING A KNOWLEDGE AND IMAGINING SPACE ON DIGITAL POLICING WITH THE EUROPEAN NETWORK AGAINST RACISM (ENAR)



COLLECTIVE, COMMUNITY-CENTRED
KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE



ORGANISING SOLIDARITY

In May 2024, Weaving Liberation and ENAR co-organised a strategic workshop on digital policing. More than 20 community organisers, lawyers, racial and social justice and digital rights organisations gathered in Belgium, with the aim of addressing the disproportionate negative impact of use of technology by law enforcement on racialised and marginalised communities. Over the two days, a space was provided to share knowledge, organise collectively and find support whilst resisting digital policing across Europe.



Key outcomes from this work included:

- New connections and solidarity formed between organisations working on the use of tech in policing contexts.
- Sharing of knowledge and practice – informing a mapping tech harms and strategies of resistance (which in turn helped strengthen the research for the ‘Resisting Digital Policing Toolkit’).
- Strategising on next steps including developing narrative and practice around what safety can look like beyond digital policing – this work will be the topic of our next Knowledge and Imagining retreat on operationalising life affirming visions of tech, to be held mid-2025.

DEVELOPING A RESISTING DIGITAL POLICING TOOLKIT



**COLLECTIVE, COMMUNITY-CENTRED
KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE**

This community-centred research offers a rich overview of what digital policing is and aims to do, different types of technologies used by policing and enforcement agencies, how they are used to harm people, how we can resist, and the importance of building a collective and international movement, and cross-movement solidarity. It was produced using mixed methods including desk research and interviews with activists, community organisers, researchers, academics and people working in different NGOs and the legal field and deepened through community-centred convenings on the topic of digital policing. This toolkit was published Q1 2025.



Graphic design and art direction by Claire Zaniolo and Estelle Ndjop Pom

CONVENING THE FIRST DIGITAL LIBERATION RETREAT



COLLECTIVE, COMMUNITY-CENTRED KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE



ORGANISING SOLIDARITY

We hosted the first Digital Liberation Retreat in October 2024. The Retreat is a central community-centred / community-building element of the 'A vision for Digital Justice organising in Europe' programme, and the key goals of the retreat include:

- **creating a space for cross-movement connection and exchanges around digital in/justices,**
- **strategising and coalition building around the futures we want instead of being stuck in, and reactive to Big Tech's plans around digital technologies,**
- **offering a space to regenerate and slow-down for organisers who are often demanded to push all their limits without never investing in their wellbeing.**

Over 60 people from around 14 countries in and outside of the Council of Europe, including researchers, lawyers, grassroots organisers, advocacy experts, journalists, healers, funders, and artists coming from racial, social, environmental, feminist, digital, economic, migrant, and queer justice backgrounds, and fulfilled one of the key goals mentioned above: creating a space for cross-movement connection and exchanges on the topic of digital in/justices. As anticipated, we saw the value of this cross-movement space in abundance - with a lot of people sharing that they had formed connections useful to their work and seeded the start of collective work and practice beyond the retreat space that they otherwise would never have.

We had over 35 different workshops and plenary conversations - the vast majority of which were proposed by participants - again meeting a need for a space and agenda which was largely co-created and driven by the needs of people in the room.

Sessions included:

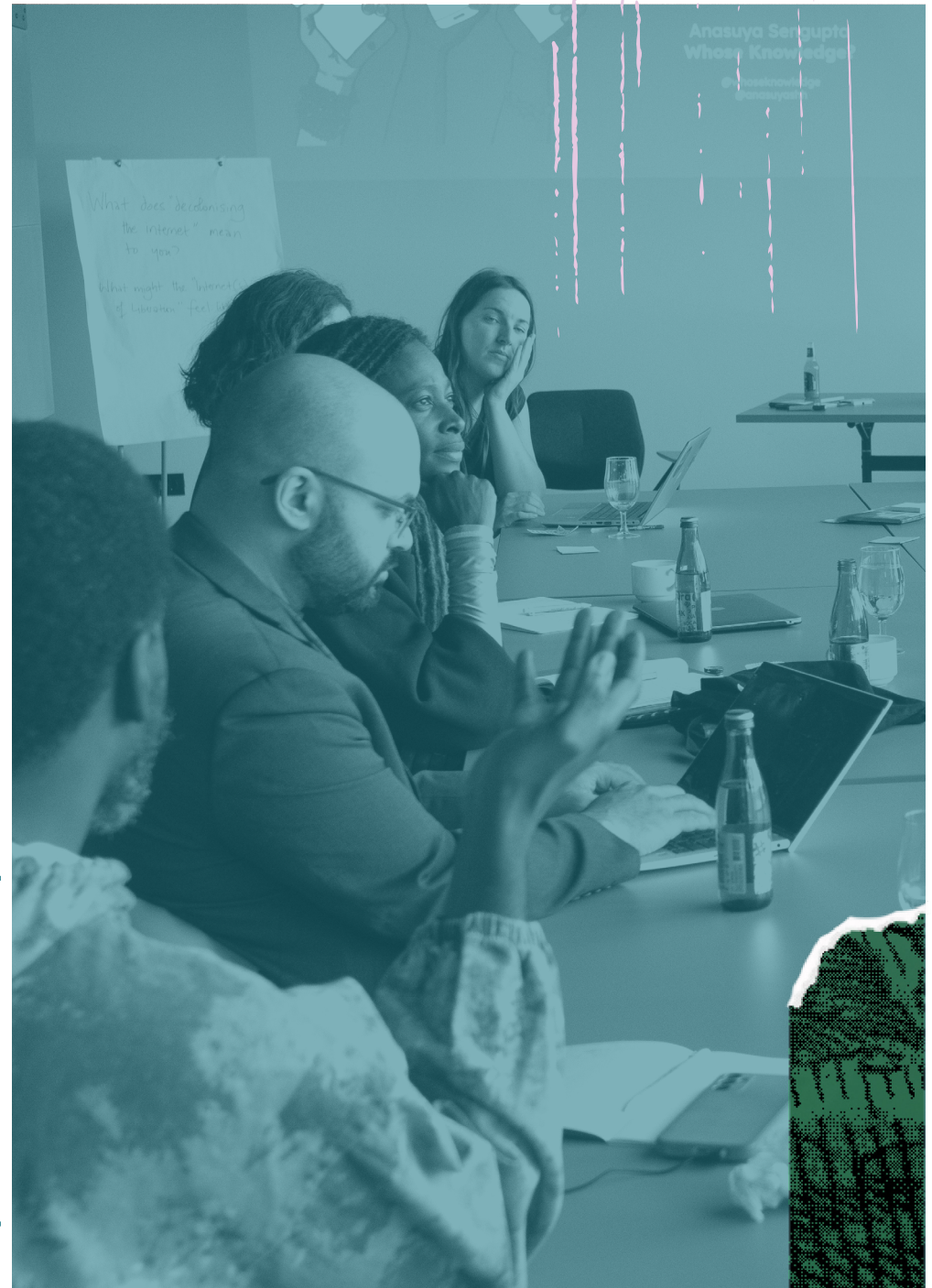
the history of the decolonising the internet movement, environmental justice themes such as the intersections of community and socio-environmental data infrastructures, and anti-extractivist and anti-militarist solidarities (mapping the big tech supply chain), thinking critically about tech in global majority contexts, with a session on algorithmic governmentalities exploring our

relationship to the digital in the context of smart cities in West Africa and building transformative tech infrastructures with a session on trans*feminist servers through an anti-colonial approach.

Many people shared how workshops like these, among many others, and deepened / expanded their understandings of digital justice issues, by connecting dots between the different contexts and practices that were shared in the space.

We also created a spacious agenda with a focus regeneration and ease. Many people shared before and during the retreat, that they are navigating exhaustion, anxiety and grief due to the ongoing violence and danger that the political context has put them in - and we didn't want this to be another extractive and exhausting space. The choice of the location had deep political significance for us but it also provided proximity to nature - crucial for giving people, who never are given it, the environment to invest in their well-being.

There has been a lot of energy around next steps to build on conversations, projects and strategies people want to work on together. The community are connected via a Signal group and are already self-organising. We will be monitoring some of the work and partnerships from the retreat and are ourselves already actively working with others on some resource mobilisation strategies that emerged.



So that was what it was like to get out of the raw life and believe in all these hearts, which form choir within us! This therefore, proof that there is no nothingness.

All my flesh leans into you : we founded the anti-hole. The soul is us without words.

**A POEM BY CONGOLESE POET,
LABOU TANSI, SHARED BY A
PARTICIPANT TO EXPRESS WHAT
THEY SAW AND FELT DURING
THE RETREAT**



SOME REFLECTIONS FROM RETREAT PARTICIPANTS

It was such a beautiful healing space – possibly the first time I left an event feeling more rejuvenated and rested, than when I arrived.

I learnt so much and I feel like it deeply affected me – I have gone from being cynical about the future to a reluctant but stubborn optimist. How can I not be, when we have so many brave, visionary people involved in the struggle for collective liberation?!

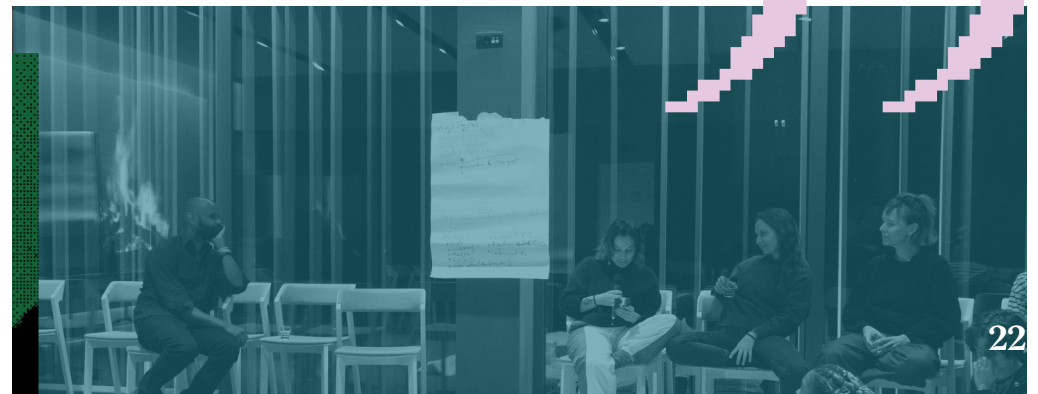


It was truly exceptional, inspiring and constructive. At least one project on my side will come out of it.



I think it really just reiterated my personal position on the importance of investing in relationships. While the work is so vast and there is so much to do and much of it under a pressure of urgency and timescales, I believe that in order to really engage in the work sustainably you have to invest in relationships with people with whom you want to do the work because it is the bedrock on which we build the work.

I was inspired. This perhaps sounds like a small thing but my everyday reality is a niche space where the policy wins are watery, and community struggles so monumental that instead of focusing on Big Picture Change, I had retreated into a narrow technical vision for the work I do. The morning prompts at the Retreat really helped me rethink why I do what I do, and be braver about imagining what is possible. There were also 59 others refusing to settle for anything less than liberation for all, so how could I aspire toward anything less?



CO-ORGANISING THE EUROPEAN COLOUR OF SURVEILLANCE II, WITH EQUINOX INITIATIVE FOR RACIAL JUSTICE AND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN* SPACE



COLLECTIVE, COMMUNITY-CENTRED KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE



ORGANISING SOLIDARITY

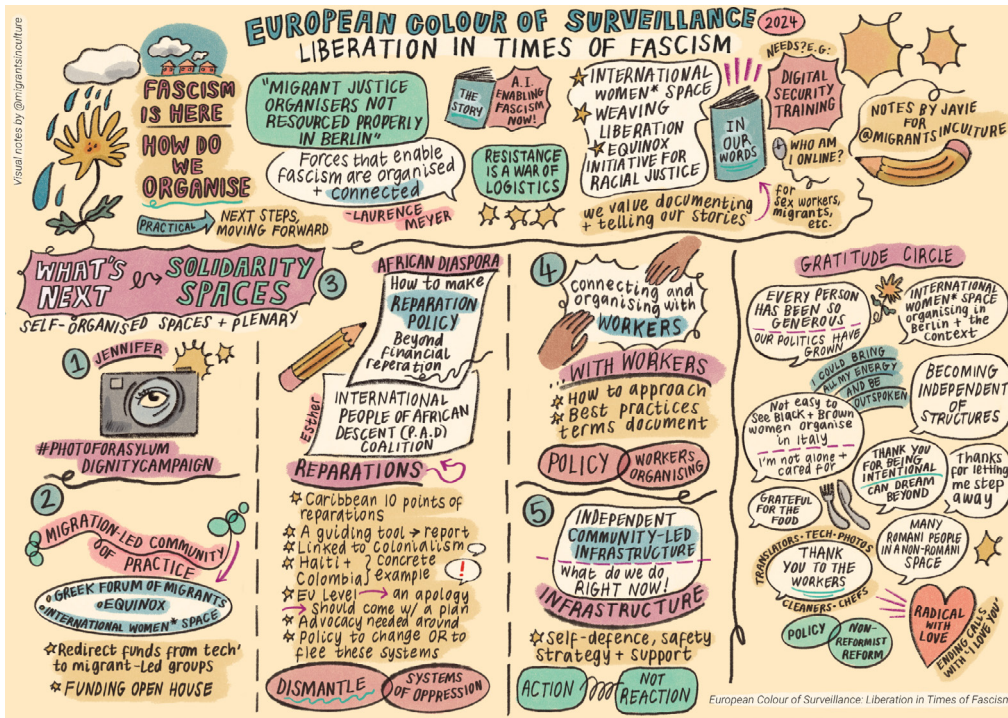
In June 2024, 100 racial, social, migrant justice and digital rights organisers came together in Berlin for the second iteration of the [European Colour of Surveillance](#) conference, with the theme ‘Liberation Practices in Times of Fascism’ with a focus on migrant-justice organising and building resistance practices’. The aim of this conference has always been to create a space that centres the visions, priorities, and practices of activists and organisations working at the intersection of racial, social and economic justice and technology. Key outcomes from this event included:

- **CENTERING COMMUNITY-LED ORGANISING** - we prioritised organisers on migrant and racial justice, sex workers’ rights, Black feminists, anti-Muslim racism, queer and trans



issues, tech worker organising, Roma and Sinti rights, artists, technologists etc.. We wanted people to feel like they were in a community where they were seen and understood and could strengthen their organising practices. As one participant shared

‘this is the first time at an event I have not been the only person from my community but have been amongst four or five people, which is really important to me’.



ORGANISING BEYOND THE CONFERENCE – we were happy to see needs, solutions, organising strategies expressed, as well as some concrete plans for participants to get together to organise beyond the conference. As next steps, we highlighted the need for work on using reparatory justice frameworks for policy work, build a community of practice around resourcing migrant-led organising, link broader anti-surveillance policy work with tech worker organising and ways to develop community defence and security strategies.



FOCUS OUR ATTENTION ON RESISTANCE PRACTICES AND SELF-ORGANISED SPACES:

most of the sessions were proposed by participants we invited into the space, to ensure that we were meeting the needs of people in the room. We designed the space with the goal of moving us toward action (rather than solely re-analysing the problems), encouraging participants to work in solidarity with each other and for opportunities for collective work to emerge.

CO-ORGANISED THE EDRI-LED TECH AND SOCIETY SUMMIT



ORGANISING SOLIDARITY

In October 2024, Weaving Liberation, together with 40+ co-organisers convened over 350 MEPs, **other EU decision-makers, civil society representatives, and journalists for the [Tech and Society Summit](#)**. We co-organised and moderated a panel on [‘Exposing the environmental costs of technology: what’s the alternative?’](#) centering the experience and work of organisers like David Maenda Kithoko of Génération Lumière, a campaign against extractivism in the DRC and activist and researcher, Paz Peña sharing from the Latin American context. We discussed the costs of the digital transformation and alternative paths forward that do not focus on tech solutions to climate crises.

ADVOCACY AROUND REDISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES TO SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVEMENTS



RESOURCING MOVEMENTS

A key part of Weaving Liberation’s work is focussed on influencing the redistribution of resources to social justice movements – [see this critical op-ed by our Co-Director Laurence Meyer in Alliance Magazine on the topic](#).

We have engaged and organised with funders (private foundations and other intermediary funders) to advocate for changes in philanthropic politics and practices, that currently sees those groups and movements with some of the most impactful strategies around addressing tech harms and advancing liberatory digital futures being structurally excluded from funding and continuing to be severely under resourced. Our primary mechanism to help support this redistribution of resourcing materially will be the **Digital Justice Fund** (to be established in 2025) and work we are doing with other intermediary funders and organisers on thinking beyond grant funds and reimagining what resourcing movements needs to look like now and over the next 5-10 years.



The philanthropic sector has a crucial role to play in combatting the rise of fascism and anti-rights movements in Europe- including when it comes to technological issues. Now is not the time to withdraw support towards social and racial justice but rather to double down.”



- LAURENCE MEYER, 2024

SEEDING WEAVING LIBERATION

SETTING UP OPERATIONALLY

As this was our first year of operations with a consolidated and dedicated team, alongside our programmatic work, it was important to prioritise our operational set up and ways of working as a remote three person team and vis-à-vis our fiscal host Digital Freedom Fund (DFF) (guided by the MoU between DFF and Weaving Liberation). Our work is rooted in anti-colonial, anti-racist, feminist practices and this extends across our programmatic and operational work including recruitment and internal ways of working.

We officially launched Weaving Liberation on 4 June, 2024, and we had **70+ people join us online** to hear about our work and our plans for the year ahead, and share their visions for digital justice.

<> What does digital justice mean to you? <>

It means redistributing power in ways that enable us to access equally digitalisation, protection and redress

It is about creating a digital world that is fair, inclusive, and equitable for all users irrespective of their race, origin, ability, and social status.

The access to all communities not only to use digital technology but to equally contribute to its development, to be able to call out accountability for its misuse, and to seek redress when needed.

Using resources in a way that ensures human and nature to thrive instead of creating competitive and exclusive spaces that are for the few instead for the many

enabling equality through digital technologies

I think digital and offline justice exist on a continuum. One doesn't exist without the other. +1 W

It hasn't meant much until I actually could understand it, thanks to peers like you who made it accessible and relevant to my racial and social justice work. It needed translation into my reality but now it is clearly a space I need to reclaim and become more literate in.

redistribution of power and reducing the platforms/access for those who try to hedge power for themselves. Equity in knowledge, access, decision-making, visibility

digital justice is justice as should be, one and the same down to the cellular mode of its core: restitution and liberation of re-imagined lives in their continuum

Some inputs from participants during the launch

Whilst oversight of Weaving Liberation's work is done by the Digital Freedom Fund Board, we do have an additional layer of governance in the form of our Accountability Committee who support us with strategic advice on our programmatic work, organisational development and community accountability.

Our initial Committee comprises *Anasuya Sengupta*, *Luam Kidane* and *Monique Steijns* who bring a wealth of expertise and experience in digital justice, participatory funding, movement building and feminist and decolonial approaches to organisational development.



MAKING A CASE FOR THE WORK

Crucial to the work of Weaving Liberation is making a case for why supporting and resourcing a digital justice ecosystem, and centring the visions, knowledge and strategies of racial, social, economic, environmental, transfeminist, queer, disability, and migrant justice groups working on digital justice is essential to countering systemic tech harms and advancing liberatory digital futures. We have shared our insights, reflections and updates through our website, and social channels, but also through participation in various events at the intersection of technology, justice and resource justice. You can see the events we participated in the 'Our Year at a Glance' section. Engagement in these kinds of events has helped strengthen our relationships with community groups, exposed us to new work that we want to be engaging with, and brought the attention of funders to our work.

OUR FINANCES

Fundraising has also been a big priority for us as a start-up initiative - both for our general operations but also the Digital Justice Fund. We worked to connect with new funding leads and make the case for our work - especially the need for more funding for social justice movements - in various funding fora. We are going into 2025, with strong prospects of funding for both.

In 2024 our total operating costs were EUR 421,407. We are grateful for the continued support of funders in 2024, including Luminate, Bosch Foundation, ISOC, Mozilla and Thirty Percy.



CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE



GROWING A (GLOBAL) DIGITAL JUSTICE MOVEMENT



Over the course past year, we have directly convened over 230+ racial, social, economic, environmental, transfeminist, disability, migrant justice and digital rights groups and funders working at the intersection of technology and justice in and outside of Europe across our events. We have heard from participants that these spaces have provided opportunity for building trust and connecting with people across geographies and

disciplines (both digital and non-digital) important to advancing their work – with many people continuing to build those relationships across movements after the convenings have wrapped!

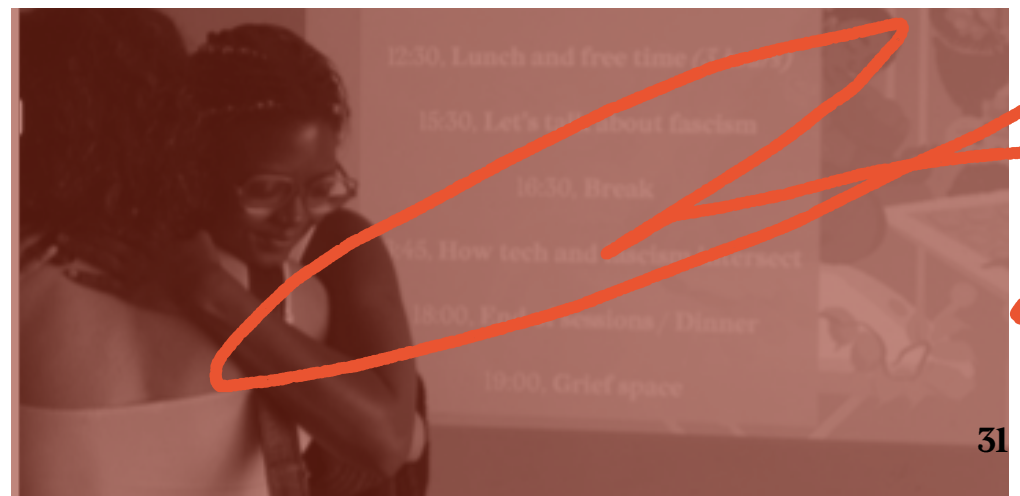
There is also a lot of informal connecting work and people (within and outside of Europe) that we do outside of our core activities – which is part of what comes from investing in building trust and solidarity with and across groups, movements, geographies over the past few years. This digital justice movement is growing in ways that we can see as direct outcomes from our ecosystem-building work to date – but also, most importantly, in ways that are not always visible to us, as people and groups connect and begin to work together as they want and need.

This is what we want to continue to nurture - an ecosystem where the 'network effect' is self-sustaining and self-determined and can thrive in the end without Weaving Liberation.

Our work to support and resource digital justice work in Europe is also a means to advance global work and strengthen global majority connections and solidarity across continents. This is especially critical when addressing digital injustices (which are transnational in nature and impact).

Three key ways in which we have been doing this is by:

1) supporting marginalised diasporic groups in Europe, 2) investing in bridging work between European communities and Global Majority, to ensure coherence in visions, so that civil society's efforts on digital justice in Europe support anti-colonial aspirations in the Global South instead of hindering them and, 3) deepening our networks outside of Europe by doing outreach and engagement work with other close partners and peers (e.g. Nunun Fund, Whose Knowledge?, Black Feminist Fund) and in international fora such as the Black Feminisms Forum or the AWID Forum.



CONTINUING TO SHIFT AND ALIGN NARRATIVES AROUND DIGITAL RIGHTS AND TECH POWER

Over the past three years we have seen the language, ideas and approaches from the Decolonising process having influenced and inspired different conversations and work within the digital rights field – from the increase in use (and somewhat comfort!) around decolonial framings in funder conversations (e.g., with the emergence of a funder peer-learning group on Decolonising Digital Rights), to more attention being paid to the need to build bold and affirmative visions for our digital futures (with increasing funding strategies seeking to support this work), through to organisations approaching us for support on embedded decolonising processes and anti-colonial values in their operational environments. There has been a distinct shift in attention, commitment and language around digital rights. Whilst we do not seek to claim full credit for these changes, we have been told (and seen) that the decolonising process and Weaving Liberation's ongoing work has contributed to those shifts – all the result of efforts of the community of people in the decolonising process, and their independent and collective work outside of it.

This work of building a counter narrative to the status quo around technology has been a core priority – both in the form of our own advocacy and public engagement on the topic (in various forums, through our

writing etc.) and in creating spaces for groups to align and strengthen collective narratives around digital justice. Whilst hard to assess or capture quantitatively, we have witnessed people come into convening spaces and conversations unsure of whether they have similar priorities or desired outcomes with others in the space and leaving with a strong sense of shared interest and narratives.

AN ABUNDANCE OF IDEAS TO ADVANCE DIGITAL JUSTICE

It is clear there is an abundance of ideas and energy in the spaces where we bring racial, social, economic, environmental, transfeminist, queer, disability, and migrant justice groups to discuss digital justice issues.

We have seen people talk about ideas for non-reformist reform approaches to advocacy around tech regulation, building community-designed tech infrastructures like trans*feminist servers, and mapping and leveraging information on Big Tech supply chains and the role of technology in conflicts to inform strategies to counter concentrated tech power, amongst many other things.

For us, this constant affirmation through our convening work and conversations with various groups continues to be a driving motivation (and source of excitement) for establishing the Digital Justice Fund and being able to redistribute funding to groups to advance these ideas and more!

WEAVING KNOWLEDGE

A reading and listening list

Our work continues to be inspired by the visions, knowledge and practice of many before us and with us, and you can find some of resources we have drawn on here!

ANTI-COLONIAL THOUGHTS

Sylvia Tamale, '[Decolonization and Afro-feminism](#)', 2020

Tuck, Eve, and K. Wayne Yang, '[Decolonization Is Not a Metaphor](#)'.

Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education & Society 1, No. 1. 2012

Dr. Shay-Akil McLean, '[Decolonization: What Ought To Be](#)', *Decolonise All The Things*, 2017

A HISTORY OF THE DIGITAL

Simone Browne, '[Dark Matters: On the Surveillance of Blackness](#)', 2015

Dhanashree Thorat, '[Colonial Topographies of Internet Infrastructure: The Sedimented and Linked Networks of the Telegraph and Submarine Fiber Optic Internet](#)', *South Asian Review*, 40:3, 252-267, 2019

[A sense of rebellion](#) a podcast series by Evgeny Morozo

[Sex workers built the internet](#) a website written, facilitated, and gathered by Livia Foldes

[Data vampires](#) a new podcast series by Tech Won't Save Us

ORGANISING ACCORDINGLY

Hope Chigudu and Rudo Chigudu, '[Strategies for Building an Organisation with a Soul](#)', 2015

Hlompho Mokoena, The Engine Room, '[Deconstructing Knowledge and Power in Our Work](#)', 2020

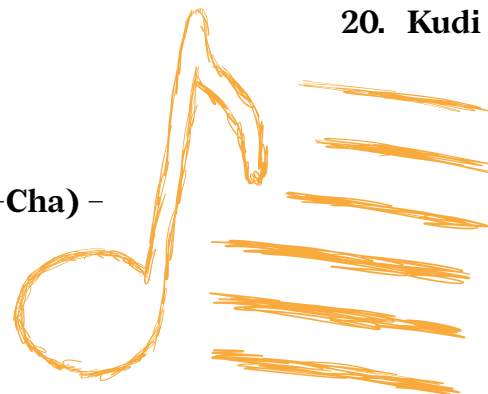
Lorilei W., '[Resilient Advocacy: A Systems-Theory Approach to Trauma-Informed and Antiracist Advocacy](#)', 2023
Srilatha Batliwala and Michel Friedman, '[Achieving Transformative Feminist Leadership: A Toolkit for Organisations and Movements](#)', 2014

[What is conflict?](#) A Safer Movements Collective zine

A playlist

Music is a big part of how we like to centre joy across our activities – a selection for your enjoyment below!

1. **Carry this all** – Alexandra Blakely
2. **Sing to the Moon** – Laura Mvula
3. **Facing the Barbed Wire** – Kim Min-ki interpreted by MayTree
4. **Gaza is calling** – Mustafa
5. **Imamou** – Francis Mercier, Boukman Eksperyans
6. **Yothu Yindi** – Treaty (Original Mix)
7. **The revolution will not be televised** – Gill Scott-Heron
8. **Maburuk** – Ali Hassan Kuban
9. **I'll rise** – Ben Harper
10. **Negue negue** – Fatoumata Diawara
11. **Wiyathul · Gurrumul**
12. **Pjevat ćemo šta nam srce zna** – Amira Medunjanin
13. **Le Jour d'Après / Siku Ya Baadaye (Indépendance Cha-Cha)** – Baloji
14. **Talkin' about a Revolution** – Tracy Chapman
15. **Odun nba ku** – Teledalase
16. **Uengi dia ngola** – Bonga
17. **Sodade** – Césaria Evora
18. **Wako Maya** – interpreted by Marya Sheki, Nay Ushu, and Shaneihu Yawanawa
19. **4 Kampé** – Joé Dwét Filé
20. **Kudi Nu Nachne De** – Sachin–Jigar and Vishal Dadlani
21. **All The Love** – Ayra Starr
22. **A luta continua** – Miriam Makeba
23. **Rest Life** – Tricia Hersey
24. **Asfour** – Marcel Khalif



WEAVING LIBERATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Redaction by Jeremy Mickel