

Firebrand Waves of Digital Activism 1994–2014

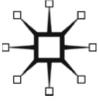
Firebrand Waves of Digital Activism 1994–2014

The Rise and Spread of Hacktivism and
Cyberconflict

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palgrave
macmillan



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Softcover reprint of the hardcover 1st edition 2015 978-0-230-24246-3

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First published 2015 by
PALGRAVE MACMILLAN

Palgrave Macmillan in the UK is an imprint of Macmillan Publishers Limited, registered in England, company number 785998, of Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS.

Palgrave Macmillan in the US is a division of St Martin's Press LLC, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010.

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ISBN 978-1-349-56096-7 ISBN 978-1-137-31793-3 (eBook)
DOI 10.1057/9781137317933

This book is printed on paper suitable for recycling and made from fully managed and sustained forest sources. Logging, pulping and manufacturing processes are expected to conform to the environmental regulations of the country of origin.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Karatzogianni, Athina.

Firebrand waves of digital activism 1994–2014: the rise and spread of hacktivism and cyberconflict / Athina Karatzogianni.

pages cm

Includes bibliographical references.

1. Internet – Political aspects. 2. Cyberspace – Political aspects.
3. Hackers. 4. Political activists. 5. Political participation – Technological innovations. I. Title.

HM851.K367 2015
303.48'34—dc23

2015015586

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Preface and Acknowledgements

The research for this book was conducted between 2007 and 2014, in what was a period of intense cyberactivism in the global political arena: proliferation of socio-political activist networks; social-media-enabled political protests and mobilizations leading to social or political change; and increased resistance to surveillance and censorship of global communications, including leaks from government employees uncovering significant problems in the use of ICT by both states and corporations. This book brings together work specifically relevant to media movements and radical politics and the interaction between states and corporations with these movements.

In engaging with this work, I have incurred many intellectual debts. I extend my lasting thanks to all my colleagues at Hull and Leicester, who I often stopped in corridors to talk to between writing sessions. My list of gratitude for stimulating intellectual exchanges over the years includes Noel O'Sullivan, Andrew Robinson, Michael Schandorf, Christiana Gregoriou, Gillian Youngs, Cony Beyer, Phoebe Moore, Bev Orton, Mike Brayshaw, Adi Kuntsman, Korina Patelis, Petros Ioannidis, Popi Aggeli, Ming-Yeh, Gary Rawnsley, George Michaelides, Christos Sideras, Eugenia Siapera, Anthimos Tsirigotis, Artur Alves, Michel Bauwens, Zizi Papacharissi, Geert Lovink, Gabriella Coleman, Martin Gak, Patricia Clough, Rafael-Cohen Almagor, Richard Aldrich, James Zborowski, Maria Karanika, Marie-Hélène Bourcier, Mayra Rodrigues Gomes, Simon Willmetts, Peter Wilkin, James Connelly, David Lonsdale, Peter Young, Luke O'Sullivan and Panagiota Tsatsou. In addition, I extend my gratitude to my students for many inspiring conversations.

I have benefited from material support from the EU FP 7 MIG@NET project (<http://www.mignetproject.eu/>). I am grateful to this body for enabling me to travel widely for research; as well as to the University of Illinois in Chicago and the University of São Paulo for inviting me to visit and engage with staff and students. I am also grateful to the University of Hull for allowing me research leave, and to the University of Leicester for continuous support. I am thankful for the ESRC grant The Common Good: Ethics and Rights in Cyber Security (ERCS), which supported my research into the Snowden affair. I must also thank all the publishers and editors who have supported my work over the years and

the editorial team for this book. And no book on digital activism should omit thanks to online friends, who are too numerous to mention!

I have published parts of the case studies included in this book over the past seven years (Karatzogianni, 2010; 2012a; 2012b; 2012c; 2013; Karatzogianni and Michaelides, 2009; Karatzogianni and Robinson, 2014; 2016), and I am grateful to colleagues, editors and publishers for permission to use the material again. I have indicated in the text when this is the case and where the relevant study originally appeared. In doing so, I am opening my modest and often inadequate research vault in the hope that scholars of digital activism and cyberconflict might discover continuities, patterns and discontinuities, as well as paradoxes to aid the analysis of future cases, for they are virtually certain to emerge.

This book is dedicated to my family in Greece, my son Sebastian and his dad, Tim Hawkins, who is still tolerant of my frequent absent-mindedness, travelling and smashing of kitchenware.