



SPYING ON DISSENT

SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGIES AND PROTEST

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INCLO
INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF
CIVIL LIBERTIES ORGANIZATIONS

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SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGIES AND PROTEST

Policing technologies are harming protest rights in INCLIO member countries.

Open Source Intelligence

Police are watching protestors on social media networks

IN ARGENTINA, the government blocked NGO attendance at the WTO based on people's online presence.

IN RUSSIA, police are detaining protestors at locations announced on social media.

Face Surveillance

Protestor images are captured, analysed, and stored

IN CANADA, student protestors were regularly filmed throughout a 2018 strike at York University.

IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, police compile face surveillance data from public spaces creating bespoke watchlists that include those not accused of crimes.

Hacking

Police use highly intrusive surveillance devices to access protestors' phones and tablets

IN THE UNITED STATES, an ACLU investigation into Florida police use of IMSI catchers to watch protestors revealed a worrying lack of internal oversight and regulation.

IN RUSSIA, communications service providers are obliged to install a special device on their networks that allows the Federal Security Service to directly collect traffic and users' data.

Internet Bans

Restricting internet access prevent protestors from organizing online

IN INDIA,

internet shutdowns have almost become part of the standard operating procedures of the state during times of perceived unrest.

IN SOUTH AFRICA,

internet shutdowns have become the rule rather than the exception.

Protests are a central tool of public expression

and engagement, often serving as the only avenue for advocacy seeking political, social or economic reforms. Despite the importance of protest to a free society, many states fail to adequately protect protest and public speech.

INCLO calls for international human rights standards

in relation to online surveillance technologies used by policing institutions in the context of protest.

Read INCLO's 12-member report

about the types of online technology used by policing institutions against protestors, rights standards and INCLO recommendations, and in depth case studies from all INCLO member countries.

[HTTPS://WWW.INCLO.NET/PDF/SPYING-ON-DISSENT-REPORT.PDF](https://www.inclo.net/pdf/spying-on-dissent-report.pdf)

INCLO IS A NETWORK

of independent, national human rights organizations from across the globe working to promote fundamental rights and freedoms.

