**Chapter 6: Agenda for a Network Society**

**In: Stephen Lange and Tilman Santarius, *Smart Green World?***

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* How can politicians, users, and civil society contribute to social-ecological digitalization?
* Signposts:
  + European Agenda from 2010 reflects on economic goals, as most official programs do
  + Growth and employment are most important, then “access and participation” and “trust and security”
  + Little sign towards fostering the common good
  + Each year of inaction is to be avoided
* “Rules of Engagement”: governments should develop ICT design directives that require minimum social and environmental standards through the entire production chain
  + - Avoiding critical resources, have longer warranty periods, repairability and upgradability, take-back programmes, new data centers to make better use of waste heat, government procurement can support open source hard- and software
    - Selective advertising bans, shaped by policymakers, digital sufficiency and the internet as commons are incompatible with ubiquitous advertising, already alternatives exist
    - Developing a passivity rule, refraining from manipulating users, e.g. bots, criteria to change at any time
    - Data minimization and a ban on data coupling: privacy legislation in some countries, consent to passing on data voluntary, data sovereignty makes users decide to release data, passing on contact information as well
    - Drawing up an Algorithm Act: machine-learning algorithms are more influential, revealing the underlying criteria, norms to be set
    - Reforming monopoly law: breakup of digital corporations, insurmountable barrier to startups, no eavesdropping, cartel law scrutiny
    - Strengthening platform cooperatives: acting as intermediaries, shared ownership, automatic members
    - Creation and expansion of these cooperatives by policymakers
    - Accelerated digitalization in local public transport and sharing, micro-grids, sustainable consumption, green apps, regional networking, etc., awarding of public funds for research and development
    - Re-regionalizing the economy: social marketplaces, local production, GoCoop, municipalities play a part, adaptation of traffic flows and infrastructure
    - Undertaking a digital-ecological reform of the tax system: incentive to use natural resources more sparingly, reducing labor tax, taxing resource use, virtual economy with the same incentives, “universal basic dividend”
    - Shorter full-time working hours: based on principles of redistributive justice and gender-equal, time for non-renumerated pursuits
    - Expanding the care economy: robot carers, social and personal services

What can users do?

1. Consuming sustainable products with digital aids (footprint, ride-sharing, opting for specific providers)
2. Peer-to-peer sharing schemes (lending or swapping, sharing economy, platform capitalism providers)
3. Generating social innovation (new behavior and consumption patterns, food sharing, organization of events)
4. Slowing the pace of life (initially saving time with digital technology, exercising moderation, cycle of ever-faster activity, digital detox)

Civil Society is Key:

* Shaping debates on digitalization --- future of the global digital society, metabolism of industrialized society, trade unions
* Promoting critical digital education --- helping to acquire digital sovereignty in consumers, questions about our society as a whole, psychological distance
* Forming a broad movement --- developing theories and strategies, transition towns, barter communities, NGOs, open-source community