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The changing context of 'Data Autonomy'

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What is Data Autonomy?

In its broadest sense, data autonomy describes the ability of individuals and organisations to make meaningful decisions about their data.

Gstrein, Ars Aequi, 2023 (forthcoming)

We (YOU!) could also discuss… (1/2)

- Academic Freedom
  - Sibling of freedom of expression/artistic freedom
  - Requires individual & organisational (!!!) freedom
- Digital Sovereignty
  - But what about nationalism and economic protectionism?
- Dependency on Big Tech
  - Zoom banning academic workshops

We (YOU!) could also discuss… (2/2)

- Promotion of the Fediverse
  - Mastodon, PubHubs, etc.
- Exploitation of publicly funded research results by publishers
  - Elesevier and PURE
- Privacy of
  - students, staff, stakeholder groups
  - Surveillance of students with digital learning tools such as Perusall, Brightspace (data retention?)

And much more!

Data Autonomy is a concept in progress;

It allows us to explore the needs of the multi-stakeholder community

of the RUG (and beyond).

Current Challenges

- No exit-strategy (full dependency)
- Exploitation of data intrasparent/unclear
  - Profiling of institutions/faculties
  - Profiling of student groups
  - Increased surveillance of students and staff
  - Use data to train General Purpose AI such as ChatGPT?
- Awareness/culture about value of data