

# Introduction to the Workshop on Freedom and Privacy by Design

Lenny Foner  
Workshop Organizer

The CFP conference has traditionally focused strongly on legal remedies as essential instruments in the fight to ensure freedom and privacy. But law is often very slow to catch up to technology, and has limited reach when considering the global scope of modern communication and information technologies

To help fix this, we decided for this year's CFP to also run a special, one-day workshop, in parallel with the tutorials that take place on the first day, called the Workshop on Freedom and Privacy by Design.

This workshop explores using *technology* to bring about strong protections of civil liberties which are guaranteed by the technology itself—in short, to get hackers, system architects, and implementers strongly involved in CFP and its goals. Our exploration of technology includes (a) implemented, fielded systems, and (b) what principles and architectures should be developed, including which open problems must be solved, to implement and field novel systems that can be inherently protective of civil liberties.

The workshop brings together implementers and those who have studied the social issues of freedom and privacy in one room, to answer many questions. Consider implementation issues, for example: how can we avoid having to trade off privacy for utility? What sorts of tools do we have available? What sorts of applications may be satisfied by which architectures? What still needs to be discovered or implemented? Is open source software inherently more likely to protect civil liberties, or not? Should we push for its wider adoption?

In addition, how can we motivate businesses to field systems that are inherently protective of their users' civil liberties—even or especially when this deprives businesses of commercially-valuable demographic data? How can we encourage users to demand that implementers protect users' rights?

And finally, given some particular goal(s) for a particular project or technology—such as protecting privacy—can we tell in advance if the end result is likely to help? How can we tell if a system, once fielded, has achieved its goal(s)?

The intended end products of this workshop are ideas for systems that we should field, and implementation strategies for fielding them.

We asked participants to the workshop to submit papers which described their interests as they related to the theme of technology that serves public policy goals. The papers that follow are the result. These serve as position papers and examples of the backgrounds of the workshop participants. The workshop itself is expected to address related, but not identical topics. Because these Proceedings are produced before the conference itself, the topics that the workshop actually addresses, and the resulting systems, designs, and strategies to emerge from it, do not appear here. Instead, you can find the results by looking at <http://www.cfp2000.org/> after the conference has ended.