

What Does It Mean To Move a Society To a Cloud?

Summary and Questions

NextGen Network Event

August 31, 2021

The workshop entitled *What Does It Mean To Move a Society To a Cloud?* was led by **Sara Polak**, Paioneers Lab & prg.ai, and **Josef J.**, Ethereum Foundation.

The History of the State

What does 'status quo' in terms of state institutions mean? How have basic human needs been covered throughout history?

The **cloud society** is a system which exists in parallel to the nation state (or whatever entity a citizen is part of), is built on 'the cloud', encrypted, and self-optimizing because it is global, not geopolitically framed, and aims to provide a healthy evolutionary pressure on corporatist systems and states which have monopolies on their services. An example of proto-cloud societies which function on the basics of solid technological infrastructure and organic social development while maintaining anonymity and freedom of users are for example cryptocurrencies, blockchain, or the deep web.

It is an organic community of people where nationality and demographics don't matter, and where the community is connected by the internet and is capable of providing services like that of the state (education, healthcare, currency) in a decentralized, encrypted, truly democratic, and global way. It would be beneficial to see formalizations and recognition of cloud societies, not as alternatives to nation states but as parallel options, as they are not mutually exclusive with nation states, but offer an alternative of social belonging if your state of birth or origin does not provide you with the conditions which make you happy, and are philosophically based on freedom and voluntary belonging. Further examples of this are DAOs and Smart Contracts, which are discussed in more detail by Josef J.

Introduction to DAO

What does it mean to do business in the 21st century?

DAO, decentralized autonomous organizations, is a system in which participants can all vote or somehow participate in the behavior of the entity through smart contracts. It is a standard new way of starting a company or creating a participative community.

Smart contracts are automated programs stored on a blockchain in which all interactions are tracked transparently. Their purpose is to make decisions for a large group of individuals. The terms of the contract interactions are all set upfront so every user knows the exact terms of each decision vote. DAOs are not backed by any particular jurisdiction.

Recently, the state of Wyoming enabled DAOs to be a real legal entity, meaning that it allowed them to interact with the outside world. To name a few DAOs as an example, these are DeepDAO, Aragon, BohemianDAO etc.

The benefits of DAO stem from the community (how to spend community money), protocol DAOs (decentralized finance space, fees of the protocol), collector DAOs (example: to buy art), and early project treasuries. At the moment, people can be hired by DAO as “white horses” with liabilities and incentives, or outside entities can send or receive money from DAOs. The easiest way to interact with other DAOs is through cryptocurrency.

Some questions to think about following this workshop:

1. How do you ensure that members of a cloud society contribute to the communal good?
2. Are there any aspects of human nature that disadvantage cloud societies?
3. What are some examples of digital infrastructures that states could adopt but hesitate to?
4. Will DAOs become the mainstream? And what would be the barriers to DAOs becoming a mainstream way of making profit?
5. Is it more efficient and beneficial to invest energy into moving people and organizations into the mainstream online space, or advocating for cutting-edge cloud communities like DAOs?
6. How is digital literacy redefining the role of the individual in society?

The Future of Forming a Society In the Cloud

Public Debate & Workshop
What Does It Mean To Move
a Society To a Cloud?

August 31
15.00 - 16:30 - public debate
16.35 - 18.00 - workshop

Online

