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AUSTRALIAN GREENS
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Patrick Gray
Invisible.im

Dear Patrick

Thanks for providing the briefing on the invisible.im project.

I have no doubt that such a project will provide an important hedge to journalists, whistleblowers and dissidents operating under repressive regimes, and want to congratulate you and the team for taking the project on.

The revelation of large-scale warrantless data access by the US NSA and allied organisations has sharpened the need for such tools and for more user-friendly interfaces. To date, tools for anonymity and encryption have required a reasonably high degree of technical aptitude. The benefit of an application like Ricochet will be to bring such a tool to a wider constituency

In my own work I have been enormously frustrated that the pace of legislated protections for digital rights have lagged far behind the development of technology. In many parts of the world, technology suppliers have allied themselves to authoritarian governments and turned mass surveillance upon civil society actors and journalists. Even in Australia, public interest whistleblowers, journalists and environmental and social justice campaigners have found themselves on the receiving end of metadata snooping.

For this reason, I am proud to support your endeavours and wish you well in providing tools to help protect privacy, anonymity and strong encryption online.

Regards

Scott Ludlam
8 September 2014