2011 was an important year in the recent history of global social movements: ‘Arab Spring’ in North Africa and in the Middle East, ‘Indignados’ movement in Spain and ‘Occupy’ that from the heart of NYC has proliferated with different intensities in several parts of the world. 2011 is a turning point in the forms of social movements’ organisation, as well as in the way in which events and collective experimentations are perceived and inhabited.

If we think all these movements starting from their practices of mobilisation and organisation, two macro features appear immediately: their capacity to reappropriate urban spaces - the square form as the form of the assembly - and the strong role of technologies of connection - text messages, social networks, online platforms - for communication, discussion and decision making.

What we would like to put at the centre during our workshop is an attempt to understand better the relation between technologies and forms of subjectivisation, starting from the contributions of three activists involved in the experience of the ‘Indignados’ movement in Spain.

‘Organisation and Technopolitics after 15M’ is a workshop on the relation between the 15M movement and technologies, where the multiple relations between social, technical and abstract machines in both online and offline political assemblages will be introduced and discussed. How are forms of hacking technologies reshaping the forms of organisation of emergent social movements? And how are these technologies redefining forms of activism and ways of thinking, imagining and acting politics of transformation?

Programme

11am/1pm Introduction to technopolitics
A workshop on the materiality of the virtual lead by Antonio Calleja (datAnalysis 15M) and Xabier Barandiaran (University of the Basque Country)

1pm/2pm Lunch break

2pm/5pm Roundtable on technopolitics after 15M
with Antonio Calleja (datAnalysis 15M), Xabier Barandiaran (University of the Basque Country) and Francesco Salvini (Instituto de Altos Estudios Nacionales, Quito, Ecuador)
discussants: Keir Milburn (University of Leicester) and Dimitris Papadopoulos (University of Leicester)