

MEDIA, TECHNOLOGY & EDUCATION IN A POST-TRUTH SOCIETY

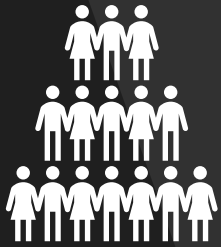
Second expert meeting: Disinformation and media self-regulation

OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

25TH June 2021

Alex Grech

The Post-Truth Society?



post-truth *adjective*

Relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief.

society *noun*

A large group of people in a defined territory, who live together in an organised way, and share a common culture.

At the end of 2016, in a reaction to the Brexit vote and the Presidential elections in the US, the Oxford Dictionary chose 'post-truth' as the word of the year.

- Decline and fall of reason
- Disruption of the public square
- Spread of misleading information
- Fake news
- Culture wars
- Rise of subjectivity
- Co-opting of language
- Filters, silos and tribes
- Attention deficits
- Trolls, polarisation and hyper-partisanship
- Conversion of popularity into legitimacy
- Manipulation of “facts” by “populist” leaders, governments, and fringe actors
- Algorithmic control, targeted messaging and native advertising
- Surveillance capitalism

The post-truth society is associated with a raft of terms that challenge the very notion of what should constitute a democratic and inclusive society.



Media



Technology



Education



KICKSTART AN INTERDISCIPLINARY GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

COVID KICKS IN



frontiers
in Blockchain Blockchain for Good

SECTION ABOUT ARTICLES RESEARCH TOPICS FOR AUTHORS EDITORIAL BOARD ARTICLES ALERTS

THIS ARTICLE IS PART OF THE RESEARCH TOPIC: Establishing Self-Sovereign Identity with Blockchain [View all 7 Articles](#)

PERSPECTIVE ARTICLE
Front. Blockchain, 30 March 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fbloc.2021.636779>

Blockchain, Self-Sovereign Identity and Digital Credentials: Promise Versus Praxis in Education

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BLOCK CHAIN

Malta first world country with education certificates on blockchain


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Posted On: February 23, 2020, Updated On: February 2019 & 2020
 Report: Anshu Gargwal

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JRC SCIENCE FOR POLICY REPORT

Blockchain in Education

Alexander Grech
 Anthony F. Gambiello
 Editor: Andreia Inamorato dos Santos

2017

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**DEL4ALL WEBINAR:
 COMMON FLAGSHIP
 PROJECTS FOR BLOCKCHAIN
 AND EDUCATION IN THE
 EUROPEAN UNION**

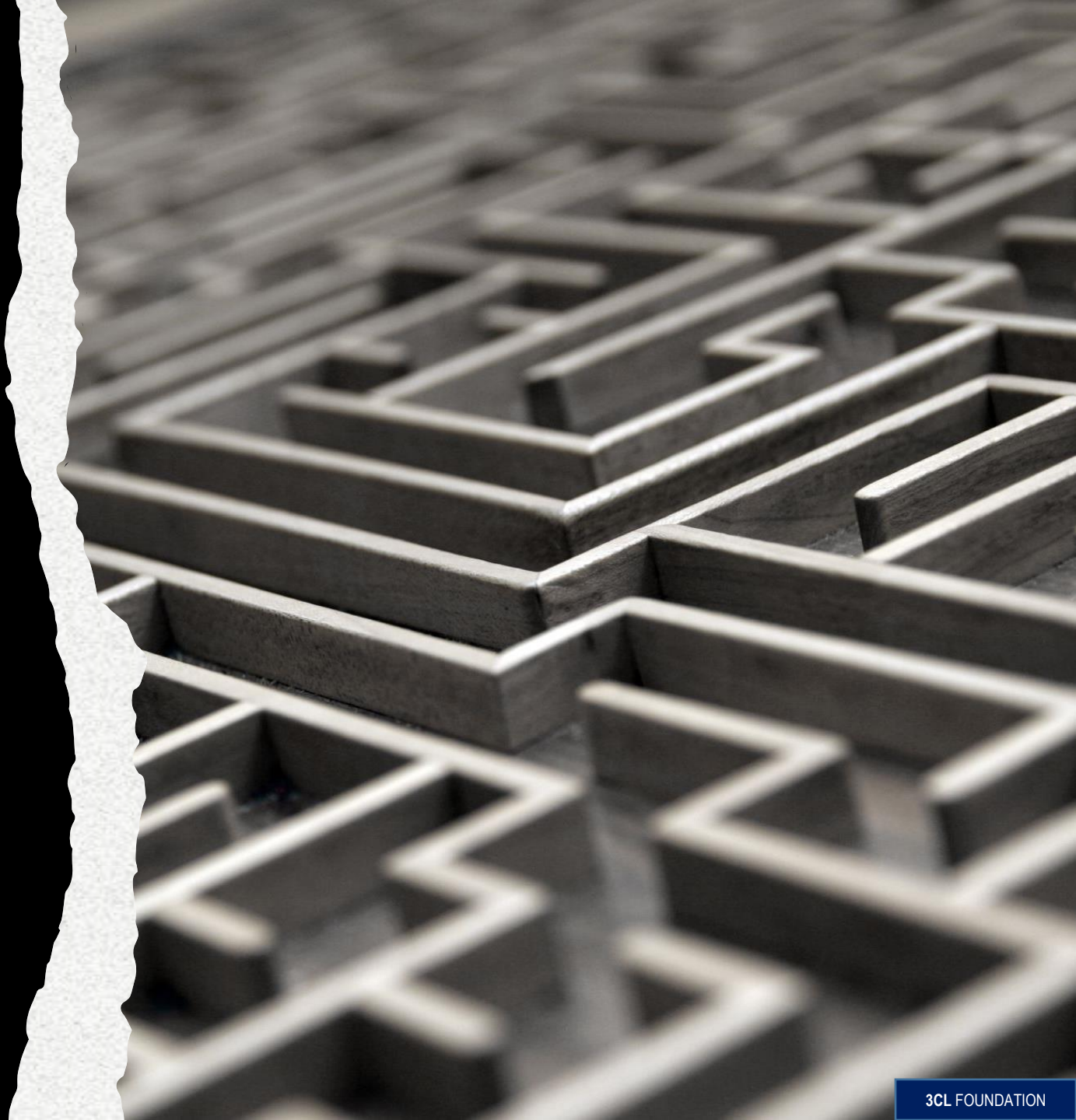



Media, Technology and Education in a Post-Truth Society
 From Fake News, Datafication and Mass Surveillance to the Death of Trust

Edited by Alex Grech

Digital Activism and Society

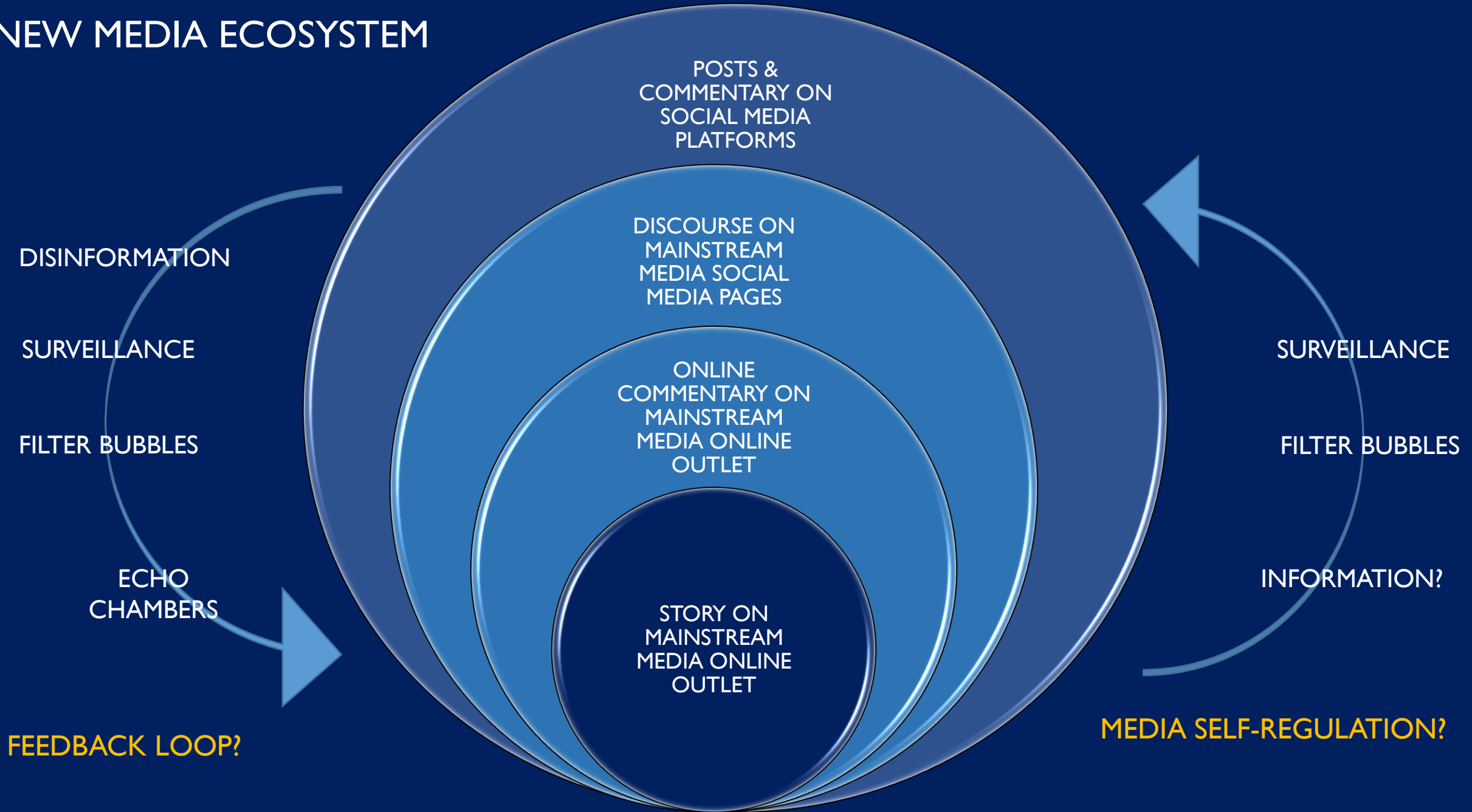
OLD PROBLEMS





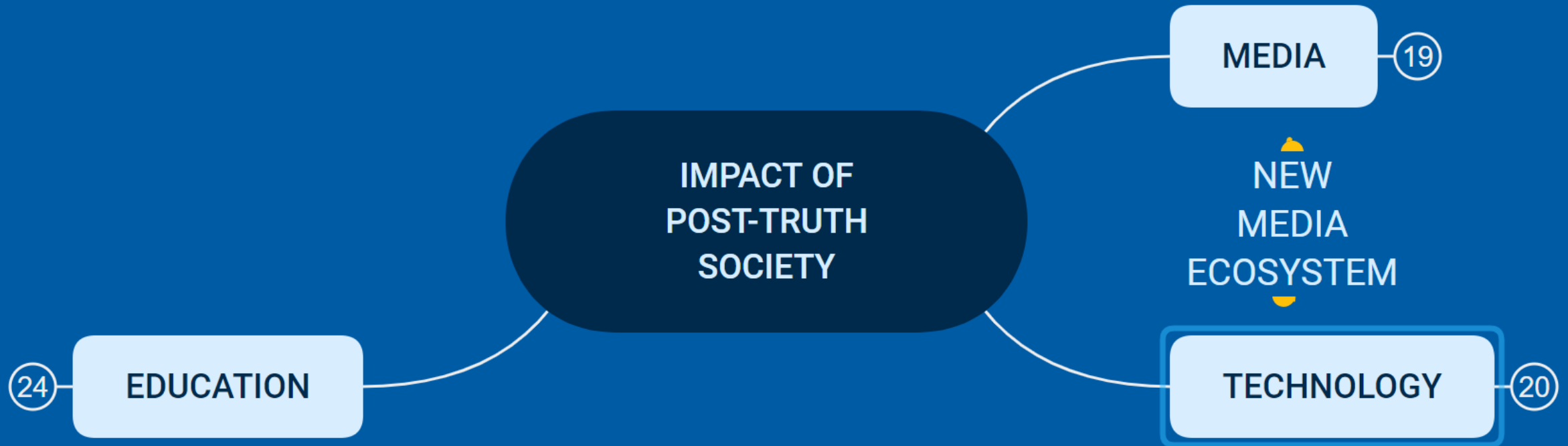
ALIGNING INCENTIVES

NEW MEDIA ECOSYSTEM



Media, Technology & Education

Reflexive Components of an interconnected Ecosystem



MEDIA COMPONENT

MEDIA

PROBLEMS

Attention Economy

- Disconnected from Participatory Culture
- 'Former Audience' engaged elsewhere

Business Model

- End of Privileged access to Information (News)
- Locked in Advertising model
- Inability to compete with Social Media Clickbait

Disintermediation

- Citizen Media, Everyone is an expert
- Lost monopoly on Storification

SOLUTIONS

4th Estate 2.0

- Journalism as Public Good
- Re-define 'Journalist' credentials
- Secure global endorsement for 'self-regulation'

Hybridisation

Media Outlets move up Value Chains

Pilots

New Partnerships, Subscription Models

OSCE Position?

TECHNOLOGY COMPONENT

NEW MEDIA ECOSYSTEM

TECHNOLOGY

PROBLEMS

Platform Capitalism

- User as Product
- Truth not a priority

Big Data

- Algorithmic Governance
- Surveillance, Anonymity

Business Model

- Clickbait, Native Advertising
- Silicon Valley hegemony of Emerging Tech

SOLUTIONS

Regulation

- Platforms as 'Media' vs Information wants to be free
- GDPR-type vs Self-Regulation

Decentralisation

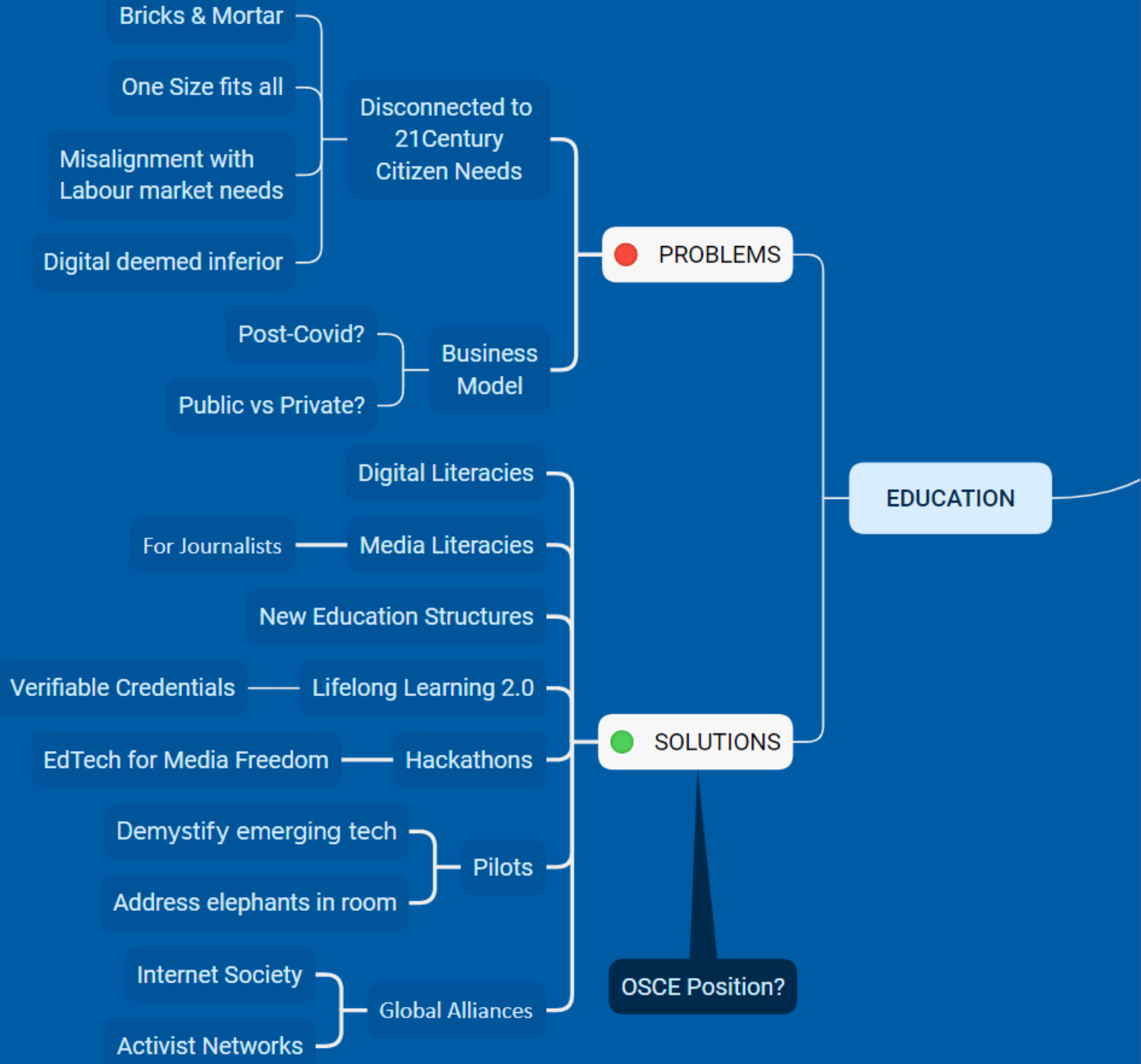
DLTs, Self-Sovereign Identity

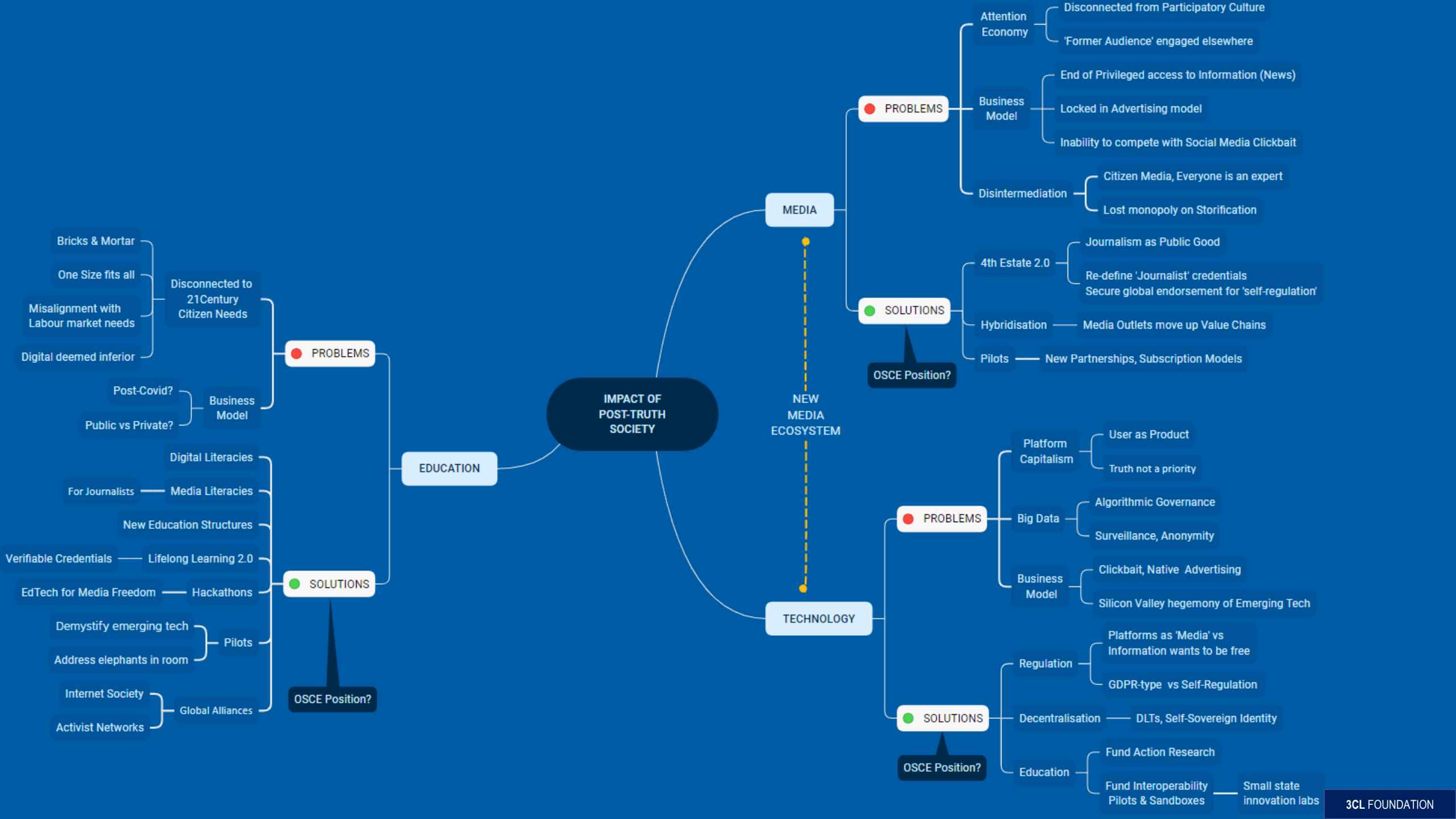
Education

- Fund Action Research
- Fund Interoperability Pilots & Sandboxes — Small state innovation labs

OSCE Position?

EDUCATION COMPONENT







The important question we need to answer is whether emerging technologies can eventually contribute to an immediate future where monopoly (of information) is impossible.

Digital disruption
can be found in the
most mundane of
applications



THE ALTERNATIVE IS NOT INFERIOR

THE ALTERNATIVE IS INCREASINGLY LIKELY TO BECOME
MAINSTREAM ONCE COVID-19 IS A MEMORY





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