

TECH POLICY PHILOSOPHIES

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CORE BELIEFS

OFTEN FOUND IN

ARCHETYPE

NATURAL ALLIES

NATURAL OPPONENTS



Cyber Libertarians

Technology, particularly the internet, is a transformative force for individual freedom; minimal government intervention

Civil liberties organisations, open-source communities

John Perry Barlow
Poet & founder of
Electronic Frontier
Foundation

Digital Decentralisers (shared scepticism of centralised authority); Off-Grid Sceptics (shared rejection of government interference)

Social Interventionists (government intervention);
Regulatory Pragmatists (government intervention)



Digital Decentralisers

Decentralised technologies empower individuals, enhance transparency, and reduce reliance on centralised institutions

Blockchain projects, Web 3.0 startups, crypto communities

Satoshi Nakamoto
Presumed pseudonymous person or persons who developed bitcoin

Cyber Libertarians (opposition to centralisation); Techno-Solutionists (tech as a tool to solve problems)

Techno-Nationalists (focus on centralised power); Free Marketeers (accept centralised market power)



Techno- Solutionists

Technology is the most efficient way to solve societal challenges; progress should not be restrained

Tech startups, R&D labs, venture capital ecosystems

Ray Kurzweil
Computer scientist & author of The Singularity is Near (and Nearer)

Free Marketeers (emphasis on unrestrained progress); Digital Developers (benefits of tech)

Eco-Technologists (hidden costs); Regulatory Pragmatists (government intervention); Existential Humanists (long term tech risks)



Free Marketeers

Market forces drive efficiency, productivity, and innovation; oppose regulation as it stifles progress

Corporate lobby groups, free market think tanks

Peter Thiel
Entrepreneur, venture capitalist & political activist

Techno-Solutionists (minimal regulation); Cyber Libertarian (no role for government)

Regulatory Pragmatists (regulatory intervention); Digital Developers (role for government)

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Digital Developers

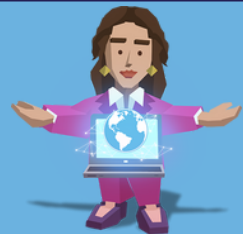
Technology is a tool for advancing social and economic equity, focusing on underserved communities

NGOs, international development organisations, education-focused initiatives

Payal Arora
Anthropologist & author of The Next Billion Users

Global Governors (international cooperation);
Intentional Innovators (ethical approaches)

Techno-Nationalists (zero-sum game of technology access);
Free Marketeers (focus on profit over equity)



Global Governors

Technology's risks and opportunities are global; advocate for international cooperation and governance with states at the centre

Multilateral and multistakeholder organisations, international policy forums

Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Secretary General of the International Telecommunications Union

Digital Developers (role of tech for development);
Eco-Technologists (cooperation on climate impact of tech);
Existential Humanists (global cooperation)

Techno-Nationalists (national focus);
Free Marketeers (anti-regulation stance);
Cyber Libertarians (oppose central role of states)



Techno- Evolutionaries

Big tech companies are global institutions reshaping governance and markets; they are partners to engage in domestic and global governance

Big tech companies, global governance discussions, cyber diplomacy

Ian Bremmer
Political scientist & founder and President of Eurasia Group

Free Marketeers (value of private enterprise); Techno-Nationalists (importance of national tech leadership);
Techno-Solutionists (power of tech companies)

Eco-Technologists (critique of environmental impact);
Regulatory Pragmatists (calls for accountability);
Global Governors (cooperation to constrain companies)



Techno- Nationalists

Technological development is critical for national security; government must support and drive innovation in a global competition

Defence agencies, government innovation programs, security think tanks

Eric Schmidt
Founding Partner of Innovation Endeavours & former CEO of Google

Techno-Evolutionaries (importance of tech leadership);
Global Governors (minilateral and multilateral collaboration with allies)

Cyber Libertarians & Free Marketeers (opposition to government involvement);
Global Governors (broad multilateralism)

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Intentional Innovators

Technology's potential must take a human-centred approach aligning with ethical, social, and environmental priorities; advocate deliberate progress

Ethics boards, human rights organisations, policy advocacy groups, academic institutions

Audrey Tang
Taiwan's inaugural Digital Minister, now Cyber Ambassador

Eco-Technologists (precautionary approach); Regulatory Pragmatists (role for regulation); Social Interventionists (mitigating tech harms); Digital Developers (equity of access)

Techno-Solutionists (unrestrained progress); Cyber Libertarians & Free Marketeers (resistance regulation)



Regulatory Pragmatists

Digital technologies are not novel; existing regulatory principles and frameworks can and must be adapted to address their risks and impacts

Government and regulatory agencies, antitrust and consumer protection bodies

Julie Inman-Grant
Australia's eSafety Commissioner

Intentional Innovators (guardrails on innovation); Global Governors (value of governance)

Techno-Solutionists (unregulated innovation); Techno-Evolutionaries (unique corporate role)



Social Interventionists

Technology should be regulated to prevent social harms, prioritising the protection of social values

Advocacy groups for child safety, family values, non-discrimination, educational institutions

Frances Haugen
Facebook Whistleblower & Online Safety Advocate

Regulatory Pragmatists (support for content control); Intentional Innovators (value of guardrails)

Cyber Libertarians (resistance to censorship and regulation); Free Marketeers (focus on minimal intervention)



Existential Humanists

Rapid technological evolution poses existential risks; global cooperation is needed to address x-risks

Philosophy departments, existential risk research institutes

Peter Singer
Moral philosopher & Emeritus Professor of Bioethics at Princeton University

Global Governors (global frameworks); Intentional Innovators (precautionary approach); Off-Grid Sceptics (fear the impact of tech)

Techno-Evolutionaries (recognising corporate power); Techno-Solutionists (focus on innovation over caution)

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Eco- Technologists

Innovation has hidden environmental costs; progress must balance benefits with ecological harm

Environmental advocacy groups, sustainability-focused tech companies

Sasha Luccioni
AI & Climate Lead at
Hugging Face

Intentional Innovators
(guardrails on innovation);
Existential Humanists (long-term risks)

Techno-Solutionists (blind optimism); Free Marketeers (profit-first approach)



Digital Detoxers

Tech has significant drawbacks on well-being and society; advocate for minimising usage but not total avoidance

Wellness movements, mindfulness advocates, self-help spaces

Catherine Price
Health and science
journalist & author of
How To Break Up with
Your Phone

Social Interventionists
(concerns about harm);
Intentional Innovators
(purposeful engagement with tech)

Techno-Solutionists (more tech is the answer); Free-Marketeers (pro-tech growth)



Off-Grid Sceptics

Tech is a means of control and surveillance by government and big tech, reject modern society entirely

Counterculture communities, eco-villages, anarchist groups

If you can name them, they are not an Off-Grid Sceptic

Existential Humanists (fear of long-term risks); Digital Detoxers (shared scepticism of tech benefits)

Techno-Solutionists (tech solves all problems); Digital Developers (pro-access and inclusion)

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