



# Open Source Software: an expression of freedom

Andre da Silva Mano

ITC – University of Twente, The Netherlands

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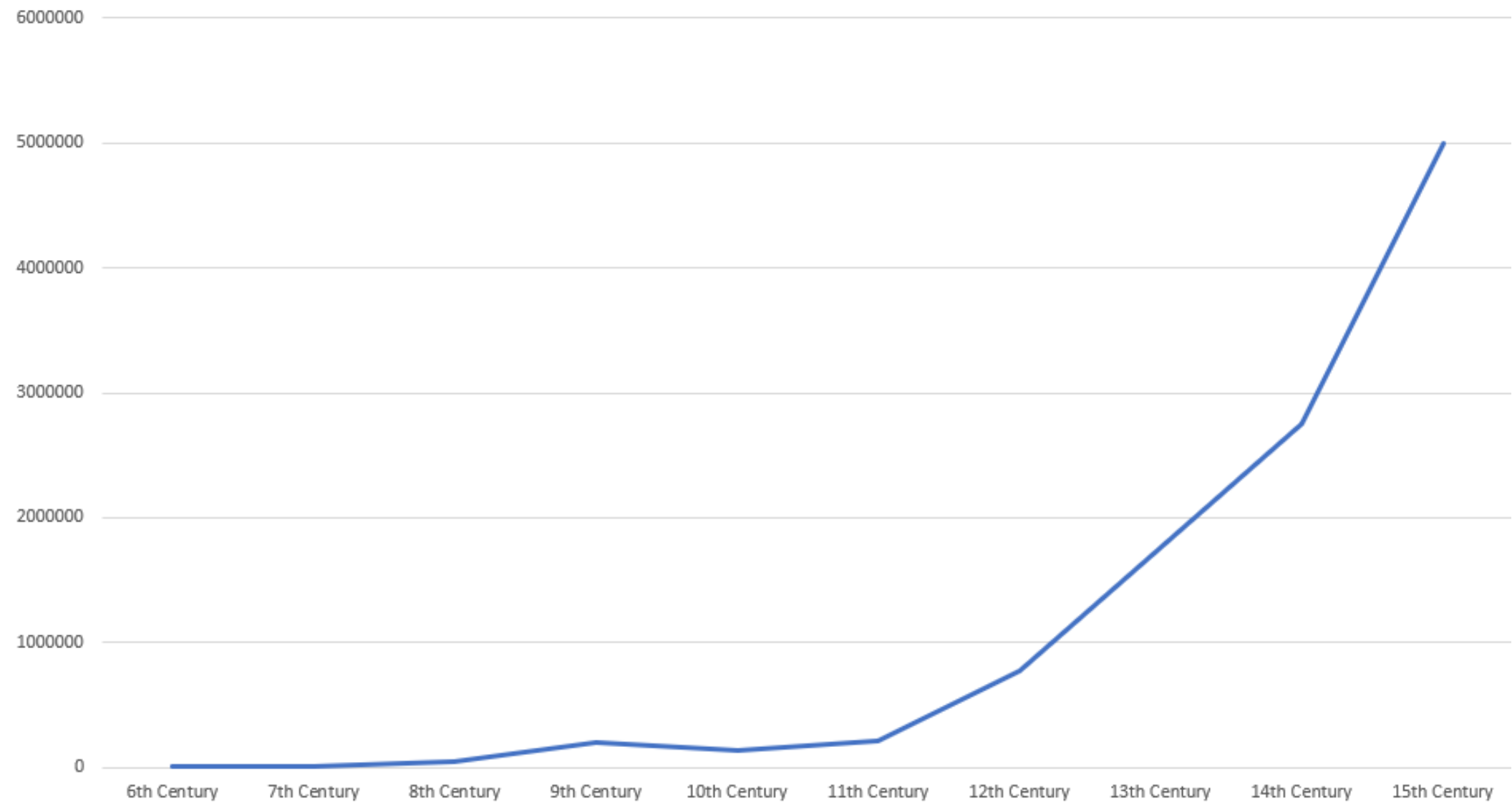


وزارة التنمية الاجتماعية  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



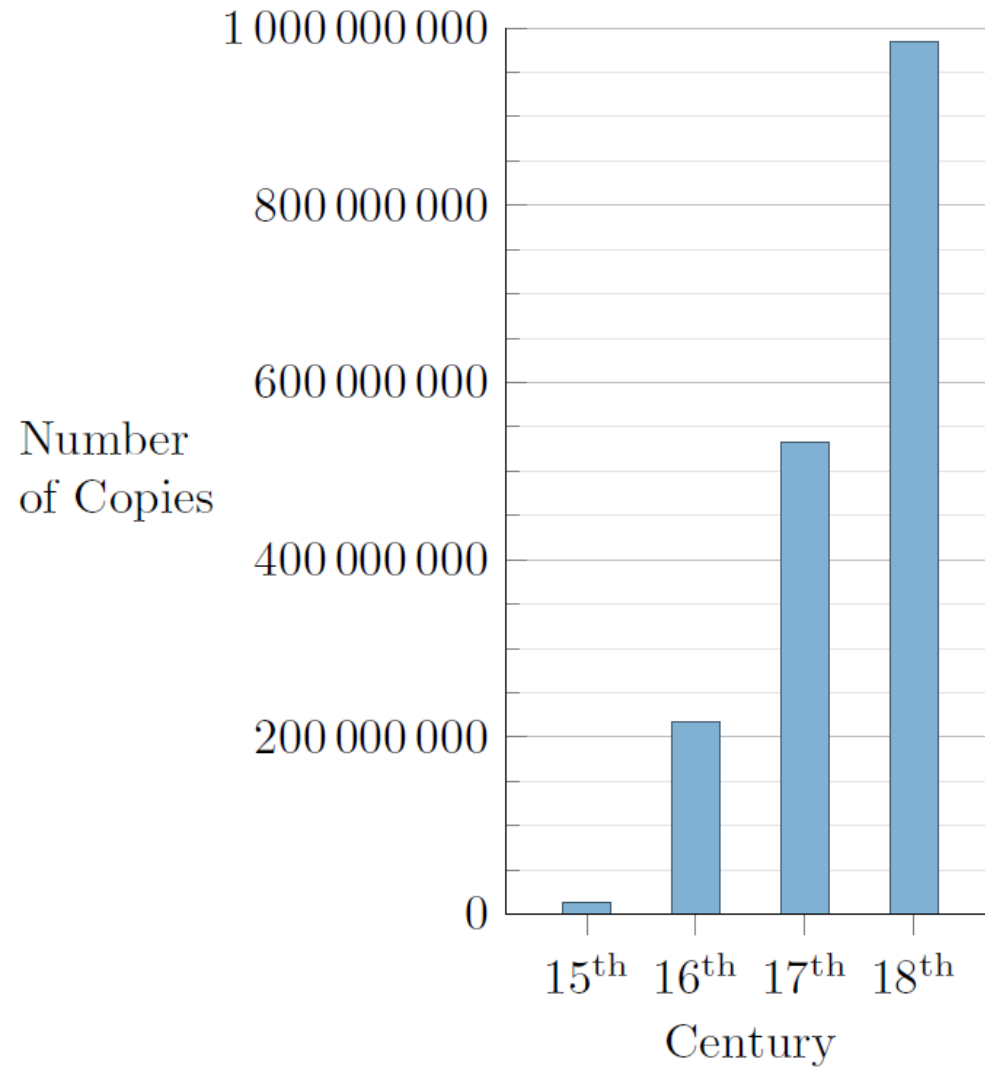
**Nuffic**  
meet the world

MANUSCRIPT PRODUCTION IN ABSOLUTE NUMBERS PER CENTURY (in Western Europe)<sup>1</sup>



Source: Buringh et al.  
(2009)

## European Output of Printed Books ca. 1450–1800<sup>2</sup>



\*without Southeast Europe (Ottoman realm) and Russia

## MANUSCRIPT AND BOOK PRODUCTION IN ABSOLUTE NUMBERS PER CENTURY (in Western Europe) <sup>1,2</sup>



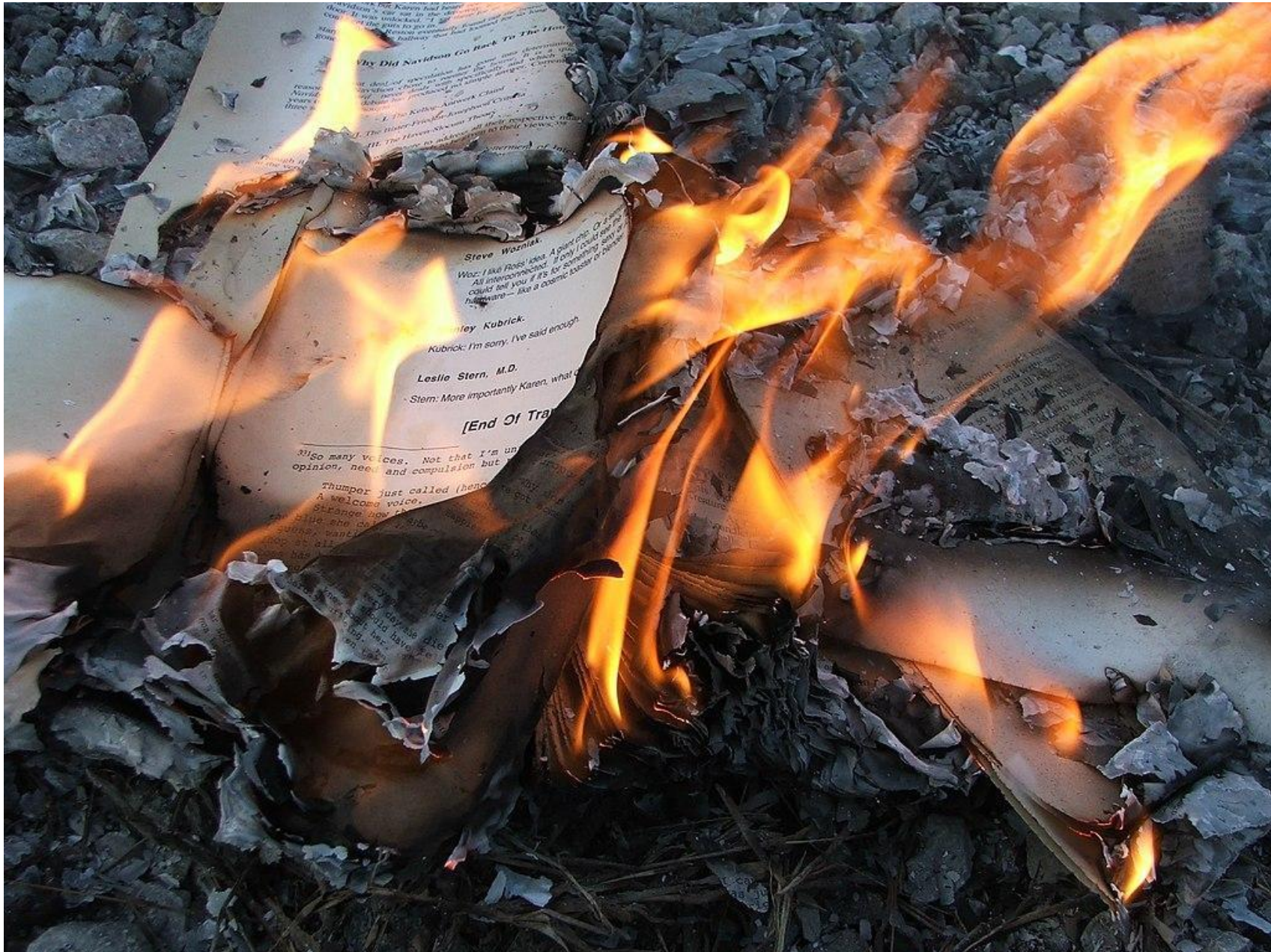
# The Printing Press!



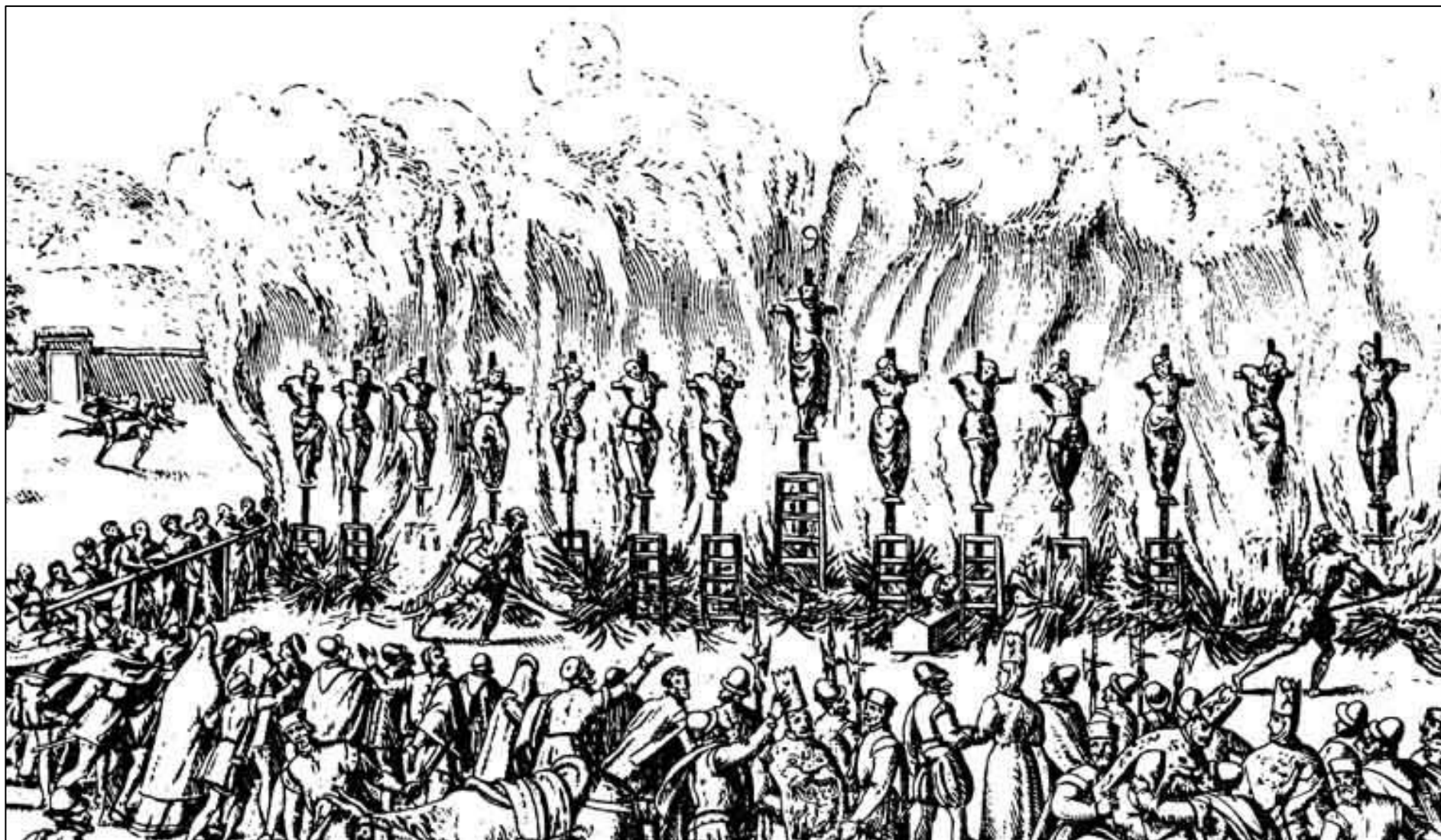
# Some tried to control the press...







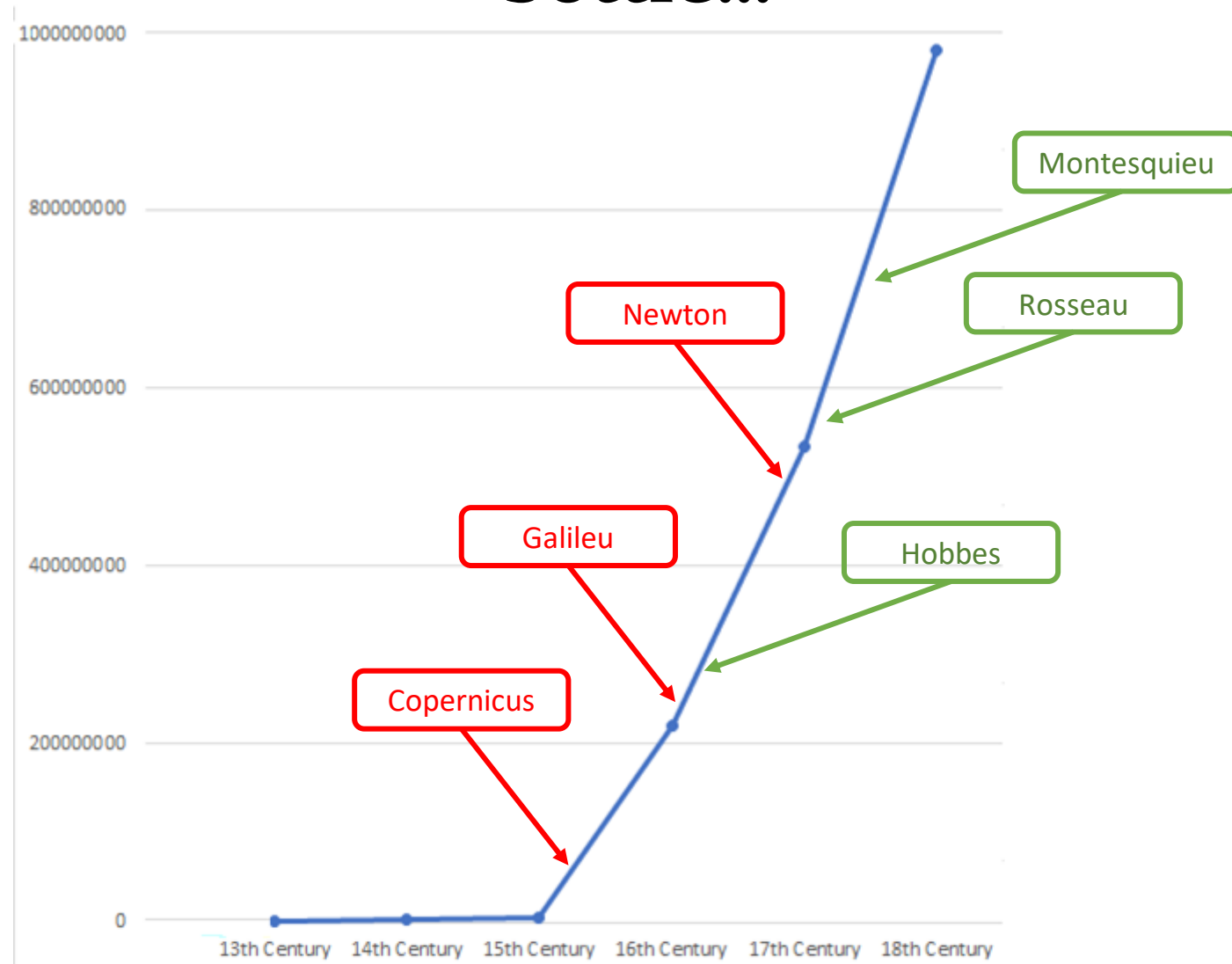




Source: Contemporary illustration of the Auto-da-fé held at Valladolid Spain 21-05-1559



# But the genie was out of the bottle...



# Fast forward to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century



# The Internet: the new printing press



**Amount of available information**

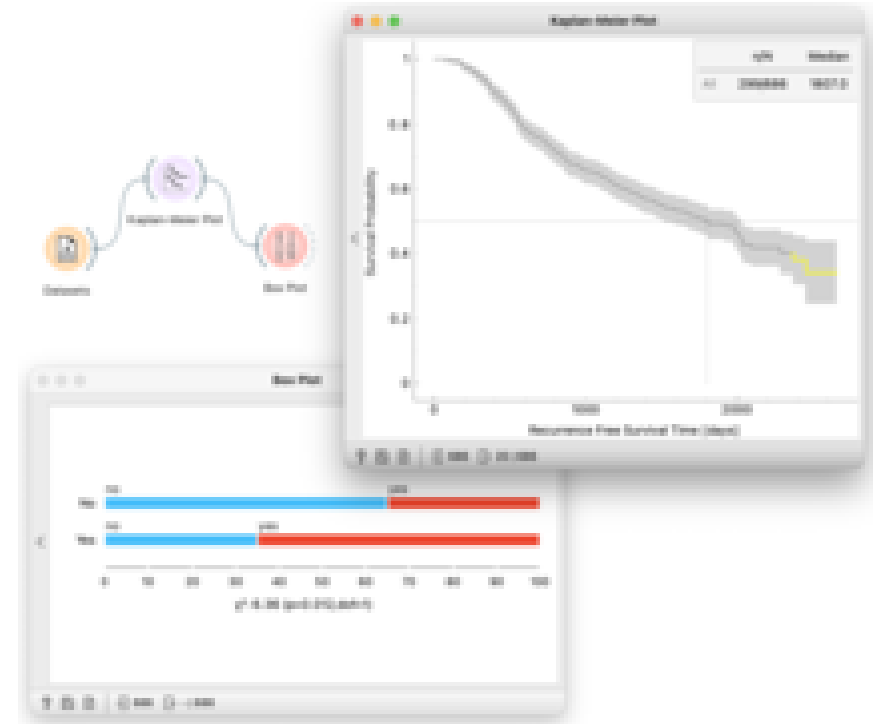
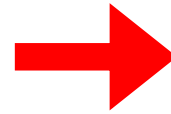
# What to do with all this information?



**→ Knowledge**



# Software: tools for information



# Open software: freeing information

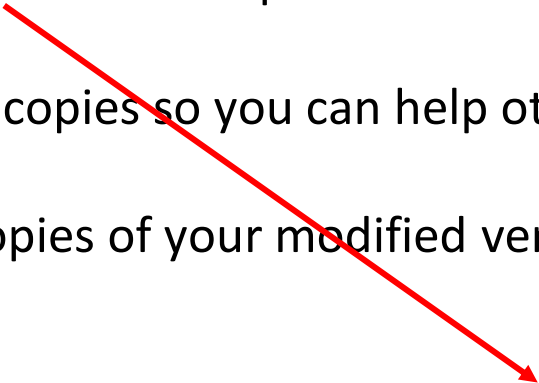
- Open software allows for total sovereignty over information;
- From information, we build knowledge;
- From knowledge we build impact.

**Societal impact is facilitated if the software used to process the data is Open!**

# What are those freedoms?

1. The freedom to run the program as you wish, for any purpose.
1. The freedom to study how the program works, and change it so it does your computing as you wish. Access to the **source code** is a precondition for this.
1. The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help others.
1. The freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions.

**By doing this you can give the whole community access to your changes. Access to the source code is**



```
function enEdition(){
  /* Ne rien faire mode edit + preload */
  if( encodeURIComponent(document.location).search(/%26preload%3D/) != -1 ) re
  turn;
  // /&preload=/

  if ( !wgPageName.match(/Discussion.*\//Traduction/) ) return;
  var diff = new Array();
  var status; var pecTraduction; var pecRelecture;
  var avancementTraduction; var avancementRelecture;

  /* ***** Parser ***** */
  var params = document.location.search.substr(1, document.location.search.len
  gth).split('&');
  var i = 0;
  var tmp; var name;
  while ( i < params.length )
  {
    tmp = params[i].split('=');
    name = tmp[0];
    switch( name ) {
      case 'status':
        status = tmp[1];
        break;
      case 'pecTraduction':
```

source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Source\\_code\\_in\\_Javascript.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Source_code_in_Javascript.png)

# Empowering example: IdeaMaps Sudan





# Empowering example: IDeAMap Sudan





# Empowering example: IDeAMap Sudan



Community training, Khartoum, November 2022

# Empowering example: IdeaMaps Sudan



## Explore Maps

Filters

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7 Maps found



▼ TEXT

Search



► KEYWORDS

► CATEGORIES

► RESPONSIBLE

► GROUPS

► GROUP CATEGORIES

► DATE

► REGIONS

► EXTENT

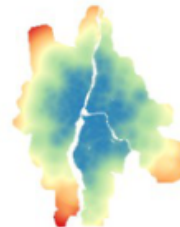
Unplanned urbanization index



Unplanned Urbanization Index

Fatima Ahmed 14 Feb 2023 15 0 0 View Map

Services index



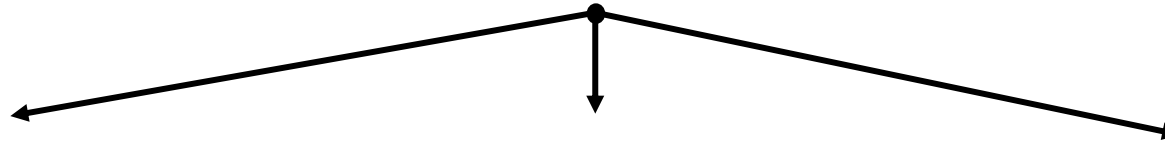
Services Index

Fatima Ahmed 14 Feb 2023 2 0 0 View Map

# Empowering example: IDeAMap Sudan



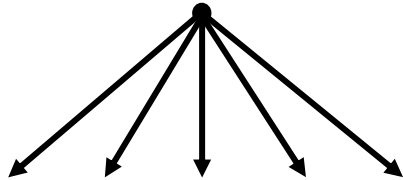
9 trainers



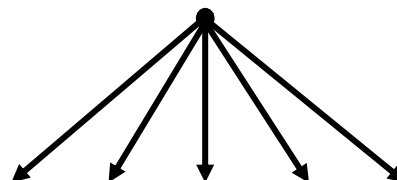
Community Workshop (22)

GIS Workshop (20)

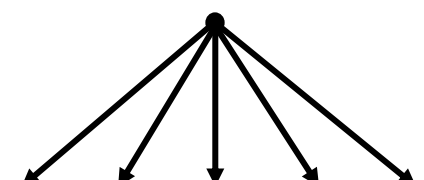
Community Workshop (27)



Continuous impact



Continuous impact



Continuous impact



# How to contribute to Open Source Software?

- Support the development of the source code:
  - Implement the new functionality yourself
  - Not a programmer? Hire one for the job (especially valid for institutions!)
- Contribute for developing and maintaining the documentation
- Contribute to the translation of the interface and documentation
- Experienced user? Share your knowledge:
- Are you/your business making good money by using an open source software? Consider a monetary contribution (you are actually protecting your interests!)

**It is NOT about price**

# How to interact with Open Source Software?

- Understand the developers owe you nothing!
  - Constructive criticism is welcome, nagging not so much!
- Need help?
  - Use dedicated mailing lists and forums; be clear when describing your problem/difficulty
- Found a bug/problem? Report it!
- Have an idea for a new functionality? Make a feature request!
- You still don't have the functionality or problem fixed? Consider hiring a professional (again, especially valid for institutions!)
- Respect the license and share any developments you make
- Collaborate and share experiences and knowledge.



QGIS UDAN

The logo for QGIS UDAN. It features the word "QGIS" in a large, bold, green sans-serif font. The letter "Q" is stylized with a 3D effect, showing an orange top face, a yellow side face, and a green bottom face. To the right of "QGIS", the word "UDAN" is written in a bold, sans-serif font, with "UD" in red, "A" in white with a black outline, and "N" in black.

# Common misconceptions

- Open Software is ‘ against’ proprietary software
- Open Software is more difficult/complicated than proprietary software
- Open Software has no professional support
- Open Software can not be used for ‘serious’ projects (that is why it is free!)
- Open Software has no costs
- Data produced with open source has to be open



عندما يكون البشر أحرارًا في الإبداع والتعاون ،  
دع البرمجيات تجسد هذه الفكرة .فإنهم يزدهرون

**When humans are free to create and collaborate, they  
thrive. Let software be the embodiment of that idea**

شكراً لك  
Thank you



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## REFERENCES

1. Buringh, E., & Van Zanden, J. L. (2009). Charting the “Rise of the West”: Manuscripts and Printed Books in Europe, a Long-Term Perspective from the Sixth through Eighteenth Centuries. *The Journal of Economic History*, 69(2), 409–445.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/40263962>
1. Global spread of the printing press. (2023, February 20). In *Wikipedia*.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global\\_spread\\_of\\_the\\_printing\\_press](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_spread_of_the_printing_press)
1. <https://www.gnu.org/philosophy/free-sw.en.html#four-freedoms>