

# TECHNO-ANTHROPOLOGY & PARTICIPATION



## THE TECHNO-ANTHROPOLOGY & PARTICIPATION (TAPAR) RESEARCH GROUP AT AALBORG UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING TECHNICAL FACULTY OF IT AND DESIGN

TAPAR is an interdisciplinary research group dedicated to research of new and emergent technologies, where we focus on the relations between technology, humans and society.

### RESEARCH

#### KEY RESEARCH AREAS

Our key vision is democracy in tech innovation and our mission is to contribute to responsible technology innovation and use.

We do this by researching complex problems related to emerging technologies and tech innovation processes.

This includes research on ethical assessment of new and emerging technologies, human-centered and participatory technology innovation, engineering practice and transition processes.

#### HOW WE WORK

We conduct empirical studies that contribute insights on the interplay between humans, technology and society within multiple areas with special attention to health/welfare technology and green/sustainable technology.

We research technology with ethnographic, action oriented and participatory design methods.

### EDUCATION

#### STUDY RELATED ACTIVITIES

The research group has the main responsibility for the educational programme in techno-anthropology at the bachelor's and master's level and teaching in socio-technical theory at engineering educations.

### COLLABORATION

#### WHO BENEFITS FROM OUR RESEARCH

Our research is relevant to companies and public authorities that work with innovation, implementation and use of technology.

Our research is highly interdisciplinary and we collaborate with researchers from other disciplines - our research especially contributes to extending existing technology innovations to provide quality to people, communities and society in general.

#### EXTERNAL PARTNERS

The research group has a long-lasting tradition of collaborating with industry partners, public sector authorities, international universities and other departments at the university.

#### Current partners include

National eHealth Authority, North Denmark Region, Forskningsenheden for Almen Praksis, MIMI: Mærsk Mc-Kinney Møller Institutet etc.

### PUBLICATIONS

#### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- › Børsen, T., & Botin, L. (red.) (2013). *What is Techno-Anthropology?* Aalborg: Aalborg Universitetsforlag
- › Kanstrup, A. M., Bygholm, A., Bertelsen, P. S., & Nøhr, C. (red.) (2017). *Participatory Design & Health Information Technology*. IOS Press. *Studies in Health Technology and Informatics*, Bind. 233

#### ALL PUBLICATIONS

- › Visit VBN: <https://vbn.aau.dk/en/or-ganisations/tekno-antropologi-participation>



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### KEY PROJECTS

#### EXOTIC

Exoskeleton technology is a promising emerging technology - a wearable robot designed to support functions of the human body. TAPAR researchers are part of an interdisciplinary research project to bring people living with severe forms of paralysis and their requirements for assistive technology into the innovation of an exo arm.

#### DIGI

Digital social relations among youth living with cognitive disabilities. The DiGi project researches how an under-researched target group experience and can be supported in the use of digital technology to form and maintain social relations.

#### EHEALTH OBSERVATORY

Annually, the eHealth Observatory gathers 600+ stakeholders from the Danish eHealth community. Further, the Observatory supports Danish Centre for Health Informatics' research on monitoring citizens' use of eHealth in Denmark.

### VIDEO PRESENTATION



### CONTACT

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