



Criminal Justice Matters >

Volume 98, 2014 - [Issue 1](#)

844 | 7 | 6
Views | CrossRef citations to date | Altmetric

TOPICAL ISSUES AND COMMENT

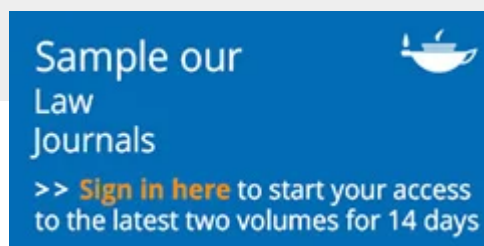
Inside Darknet: the takedown of Silk Road

Marie-Helen Maras reports on the unexplored underworld of cyberspace

Marie-Helen Maras

Pages 22-23 | Published online: 10 Nov 2014

🗨️ Cite this article 🔗 <https://doi.org/10.1080/09627251.2014.984541>



📖 Full Article

📊 Figures & data

📚 References

🗨️ Citations

📈 Metrics

📄 Reprints & Permissions

Read this article

🔗 Share

Abstract

The anonymity afforded by the Internet provides perpetrators with an environment within which they can operate with a low risk of detection. Nowhere is this more pronounced than in Darknet, which is considered the 'underworld' of cyberspace. Darknet consists of a collection of non-indexed domains; accordingly, these sites cannot be found using search engines like Google or Bing. To enter Darknet, Tor (the Onion Router), a privacy-enhancing application originally created by the USA Naval Research Laboratory, is used. Tor is 'an anonymous Internet communication system that provides individuals (and organisations) with the ability to share information and communicate over public networks without compromising their privacy' (Maras, [2014](#)). When Tor is used, the 'user's Internet traffic is routed through a worldwide network of volunteer computers to conceal the user's location and Internet usage' (United States v Ross William Ulbricht, Superseding Indictment, 2013, 1).

Additional information

Notes on contributors

Marie-Helen Maras

Dr Marie-Helen Maras is Associate Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York

Information for

[Authors](#)

[R&D professionals](#)

[Editors](#)

[Librarians](#)

[Societies](#)

Opportunities

[Reprints and e-prints](#)

[Advertising solutions](#)

[Accelerated publication](#)

[Corporate access solutions](#)

Open access

[Overview](#)

[Open journals](#)

[Open Select](#)

[Dove Medical Press](#)

[F1000Research](#)

Help and information

[Help and contact](#)

[Newsroom](#)

[All journals](#)

[Books](#)

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email



Sign me up



Copyright © 2025 Informa UK Limited [Privacy policy](#) [Cookies](#) [Terms & conditions](#)

[Accessibility](#)

 Taylor and Francis Group

Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954
5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG