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WYD – a next generation decentralized blockchain – based digital environment – the future for the WYD community

1. Introduction

The foundation of every environment is a certain space providing essential conditions and diverse incentives which form directions of growth. Ecosystems are built by the functionality of an environment and on characteristics of the space in which they thrive. Social ecosystems aim towards progressive cyber revolution underlined with safety and privacy. Both values represent the way of defining innovation in the cyber era. Safety is being identified with highest possible forms of security for personal data, and privacy seeks its foundation in decentralization.

Decentralization is also the basis of safety. It determines new directions for the technological growth of 4th generation based on blockchain – the modern and creative vision of the internet, which had its beginning with the first cryptocurrency named Bitcoin. Currently Blockchain is sought

as the pillar of security, privacy and possibility of growth for post-modern civilization. As an ideology Bitcoin is closely connected to the person of Satoshi Nakamoto, the founder of Bitcoin. It is thought that blockchain created the new generation of the internet where protection of personal data, privacy and functionality give possibility to carry out diverse range of transactions with the use of new generation technology.

Intelligent contracts and modern agreements give basis for cyber contacts. Blockchain gives not only the possibility of registering economic transactions but also every activity generating any given value. Records perfectly secured by duplication chain are not stored in one main data base, they are not in any one particular place, which gives possibility of their verification. There is also no possibility to damage data because of their decentralization. This is thought to be both the advantage and defect of Blockchain that data is commonly accessible for every user (data is being copied through millions of computer devices all over the world) and processed in a way preventing access for unauthorized persons.

The ideology of sustainable growth is based on the optimal usage of sources with the consideration of current and future needs of different societies all over the world. Current technological solutions develop cyber information society in postmodern era. Progressing cyber revolution aiming to build modern society in digital version focuses on different social groups for which there are certain platforms built which recall social media.

The ideology of communication platforms is based on safety and breaking the boundaries of distance dividing the users of the social web. Platforms based on Blockchain guarantee the safety and growth of each ecosystem, supporting the protection of personal data and allowing users to carry out information and data transfer with the use of intelligent agreements. This cyber environment created for the needs of society which constantly develops is not only a futuristic solution, providing members of WYD community with autonomy and individualism, it is also the answer to the communication needs of the decentralized network of members of WYD community.

Members of WYD community live and function in diverse places and countries all over the world, meeting only once in 5 years in a predeter-

mined place. A communication platform based on blockchain technology, granting safety and growth, is an essential tool for communication and social purposes, supporting and strengthening ties and friendships between the members of the World Youth Days community. The activation of such a social platform becomes a basis for strength and growth of interactions between members, allowing for the creation of a new cyber society in which technology is just one of the many ways of overcoming the distance barriers.

World Youth Days as a gathering which had its origin in the 80's of the twentieth century enjoys growing recognition in many social groups all over the world. Event participants living in different countries come to this worldwide meeting once in every five years held in one place. It is the only opportunity for them to make new connections and strengthen the already made ties in real time assured with possibly the best level of safety of all participants. The current website <http://worldyouthday.com> is only an informative site being the perfect starting point for creating cyber communication, as an instrument of payment and as the basis for exchange of data between platforms in which the WYD token could be used.

The aim of this article is to show the importance of technological development as the future for the World Youth Day community worldwide.

2. Technology and society

The development of technology has contributed to create an idea and model of the information society which implies a community when computers and software are widely used by almost every member of society.¹ Technology nowadays is apparent in every step of human functioning. One finds its application in both business and institutional contacts as well as private lives. Constantly developing and modified social media used, at first, as a source of fun for users became a perfect marketing and promotion tools where contacts of informal groups make up for only

1 P. Nogal, *Bezpośrednie inwestycje zagraniczne a innowacyjność społeczeństwa informacyjnego w Polsce*, in: *Strategie rozwoju organizacji*, red. A. Stabryła, Kraków 2012, p. 241–255.

a part of whole communication process. Terms of interests of the humanities are being redefined. One of the fundamental bases to create societies and groups are social ties, which could be seen as relations between the members of a particular social group, and attitudes of these members towards each other and other people as well as aims of the existence of the social group.² In the humanities social ties are seen as:³

- ▶ Relationships between people relating to the blood ties, community of origin, territory, language, culture, and common way of organizing life together;
- ▶ Particular states and acts of consciousness, for example, the feel of mutual correlation manifesting through attitudes, behaviors and acting individually or as a group.

Social ties in cyber society is the basis of growth and technological development. It is the sum of cyber correlations between users of particular social groups. In reality, belonging to a particular group is defined by the degree of correlation of the individual's beliefs with those of the group. If the values and ideology of the virtual group match the values of the individual they become a member of this group.

The general model of building virtual groups can be divided into two categories: first, there are groups for which the virtual space is a way of overcoming the distance and decentralization barriers; secondly, there are groups in which the possibility of becoming a member is a subject to the approval of the admin.

Contemporary models of creating social ties are based on interactions in the virtual environment. Since the end of the 70's of twentieth century there is a recognized dependency of economy, social life, politics and ecology as well as psychology on knowledge and information.⁴ Theoretical knowledge became the foundation of innovation: innovation creates new directions for future development, especially in the technological context. Intellectual technology is understood as a common good

2 B. Maj, *Rola małżeństwa i rodziny w życiu człowieka (na podstawie badań zrealizowanych wśród mieszkańców powiatu wrocławskiego)*, „Państwo i Społeczeństwo” (2011) No 3, p. 9–37.

3 W. Aue, *Człowiek w środowisku*, Warszawa 2006, p. 80–90.

4 *Kompendium wiedzy o gospodarce*, red. E. F. Cyron, Warszawa 2000.

created as a result of pursuing sustainable growth. One of the ways of using it is through constantly emerging cyber social groups, tied by formal or informal correlations.

In the twenty-first century, technology creates a certain way of developing any society, it determines, in a way, the future of society, setting out boundaries of ties created in a virtual way. On the ground of the humanities there is a visible divide of society into two social classes: first, the innovative and modern members of different social groups, where the basis of belonging is the ability to operate the cyber media; second the representatives of the traditional group who do not operate new technologies. Archaic professions (much-needed) stopped to determine the basis for future development according to these new trends. It does not mean that such a group is not needed but its development is less dynamic than the development of cyber society.

One point of reflection, relating to the development of modern societies, that is being pointed out is that rich societies can afford creating information civilization, cyber cities, virtual parks and common access to information media, while poor societies stay in the shadow because of lack of access to technological development.⁵ Digitalization is a basis for postmodern civilization but it also becomes a certain barrier which increases the level of social exclusion.

The creation of the innovative and modern cyber platform based on most technologically advanced solutions for the members of WYD community aims to counteract the social exclusion increasing the possibility of development worldwide as a result of decentralization. This common space for WYD members is the new future of the WYD community. A new generation technology – the blockchain technology is the basis of a future for a modern community.

Social networks, digital media and a digital divide are consequences of the digital revolution. A very important part of this revolution is to create a friendly digital environment for members of WYD community.

5 K. Krzysztofek, *Technologie informacyjne a rozwój cywilizacyjny*, in: *Polska w drodze do globalnego społeczeństwa informacyjnego. Raport o rozwoju społecznym*, red. W. Cellary, Warszawa 2002, p. 73–77.

3. The Wyd.com idea and its meaning

Cyber divide is one of the most common occurrences in societies. Its core is constantly deepening social inequalities, which can be seen in differences on an economic level in Poland. Part of society which was not totally modernized still has little access to technology and is not interested in technological development on the scale needed by the modernized part of society. In a farm environment, technology's main purpose is to support the development of the conditions for growing farm animals, the development of agriculture and or changing, the improvement of the overall condition of the agriculture sector. In an information society technology is the basis for development, the creation of needs and the answer to increased diverse needs of members of innovative community.

The idea of the Wyd.com platform is focused on providing members of the World Youth Day community with tools for efficient communication. Its core is to give the WYD community the mechanisms and tools to support the process of exchange of data. It should create a cyber environment supporting the development of the whole community.

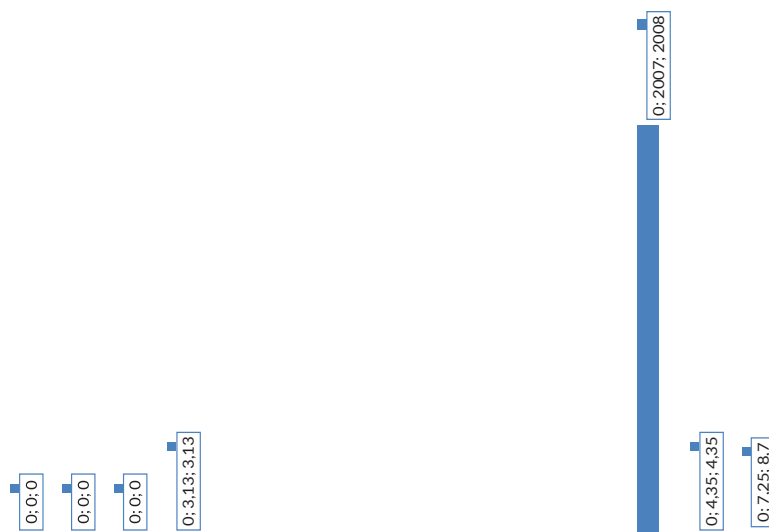
3.1. A short history of the WYD community and statistical data

World Youth Day is recognized as the phenomenon of Christian youth, gathering in certain time intervals in different places in the world⁶ which underlines the decentralized character of the idea itself. Decentralization means cultural, social and territorial belonging of the members to different geographical areas, where its core finds the idea of the decentralized communication platform based on blockchain technology.

WYD, during the last twenty years, became the reason for the encounter of the largest group of young people in the world. Despite the fact that the project is aimed at people aged 15–35 years old, everyone who wishes

6 E. Bogacz-Wojtanowska, *Metodologia badań w projekcie Światowe Dni Młodzieży 2016 jako fenomen społeczny, kulturowy i religijny*, in: *Światowe Dni Młodzieży 2016 jako fenomen społeczny, kulturowy i religijny*, red. E. Bogacz-Wojtanowska, Ł. Gawęł, A. Góral, Kraków 2016, p. 11–25.

Chart 1. A number of WYD participants since 1984



Own study – based: <http://sdm.org.pl> (15.08.2017).

can take part in the event. E. Bogacz-Wojtanowska⁷ points out that participants go into direct interactions with each other becoming both spectators of the event and functioning creators of the environment and space.

In 2016, during the World Youth Days in Krakow, over 3 million pilgrims from 187 countries from all over the world took part in a celebratory mass said by Pope Francis. To provide the safety of this event there were 38 thousand people involved: over 17 000 police officers, 11 600 Border Patrol Officers, 9000 Firemen and over 800 people from the Government Security Office⁸. The number of the participants changes from one WYS to another. During first WYD, which took place in Rome, in 1984, there were nearly 300 000 people. The year after that, during the official WYD event, the same number of participants confirmed their attendance. In Argentina, in Buenos Aires, in 1987, there were nearly 900 000 people, and in Poland, in 1991, in Częstochowa, there were over 1,6 million people. The

⁷ E. Bogacz-Wojtanowska, *Metodologia badań w projekcie Światowe Dni Młodzieży 2016 jako fenomen społeczny, kulturowy i religijny*, op. cit.

⁸ K. Domagała-Szymonek, *Światowe Dni Młodzieży 2016 w liczbach. Podsumowanie*, „Dziennik Zachodni” 1 of August 2016, p. 7.

dynamics of the changes in numbers of people taking part in the event is presented on a chart below.

In 1995, in Manila in the Philippines, 5 million people attended the most prestigious religious event. The average number of participants is about 1 500 000 persons, and the number of participants depends on the place when the event is being organized. In the case of the United States a lower number of participants is understandable because of the problems related to the entering this country's territory. Increased interest in this religious event, which is being recognised as a social, cultural and religious phenomenon, raises the need for the breaking of communication and territorial barriers, and this is possible with the modern cyber environment, secured with currently the best blockchain technology.

3.2. The idea of the wyd.com platform

The name of the WYD.com platform is the short name of the World Youth Days Community. The blockchain is the name of a next generation of the technological data base. The data base includes constantly growing numbers of information. The blockchain should be a warranty of security and privacy for every single user. The idea of chains in blockchain is based on copying data from one chain to the next, which is supposed to make any changes or interference impossible. Blocks of chain are linked in a way that the next chain has data about the time of creation (timestamp) and short version of contents of the previous block (hash). From a technological point of view interference with transferred data is impossible, and in practice, this way of coding is meant to secure the privacy of the user, increasing their possibilities for communication and generating new chains.

The WYD.com platform based on blockchain technology is the answer to the needs for an independent space for WYD community members. Its idea is focused on creating a friendly environment built on the common experiences of the users. The virtual environment, as place for the encounter of the young people taking part in the WYD event, is meant to be a safe space providing users with the possibility for the most secure way of transferring data and exchange of information. Its supplementation is WYD token cyber cryptocurrency created as tool to allow the ex-

change of data, creating of new events and (in the future) creating a mechanism of investments for both WYD community and external investors. Initial Coin Offering-WYD is meant to generate income allowing participants of the event to gather funds for both the development of the virtual platform and the actual event. WYD.com would be used as a tool for the safe exchange of data and as a mechanism of gathering funds for events created by WYD community members. The overall processes of supporting the development of a virtual community and environment would be focused on creating and supporting new initiatives of young people from all over the world. Blockchain technology would be the answer to any security concerns for both the token and the platform itself. Tokens could also be a way of supporting the WYD community by investments from external investors, with the simultaneous creation of new directions for development in the WYD environment.

4. The WYD.com and the WYD token as the future of the WYD community

The new generation internet is a decentralized web without payment in which the exchange of data between users is based on the rules of the free market.

The economic approach to creating cyber reality becomes a technological challenge Internet of Things (IoT). At its core it relates to the common usage of sources which is meant to provide users with possibility for free exchange. The main idea of the new generation of internet is the elimination of additional payments related to the usage of sources. IoT was created as an idea of development for businesses. The idea focused around the free exchange of sources and data by users, and the elimination of unnecessary costs put on users by the operators. The new generation of security measures for the platform based on the use of blockchain system provides both security and the free usage of sources⁹. Peer to peer mod-

⁹ Data source: [www.https://iota.org](https://iota.org) (15.08.2017), <http://internetofthingsagenda.techtarget.com/definition/Internet-of-Things-IoT> (15.08.2017).

el of exchange would be the solution for giving all users equal chance to access the technically limited sources.

Wyd.com as a platform based on the latest technological solutions is a concept created for the individual user. Total elimination of payments generated by the usage of sources becomes possible as a result of the application of new generation technologies, which support the idea of the free exchange of data and common access to the sources in a secure environment.

The WYD token would allow the financing of initiatives undertaken by participants of the event and platform users, and become the base for data exchange.

This solution gives the WYD community the possibility to gather funds for innovative projects realized under the concept of World Youth Days. This kind of project would increase interest in the ideology of WYD, giving access to external investors who could take part as investors and participants. The WYD idea would allow members of the community to initiate activities broadening the concept of cross-territorial cooperation to support the WYD and related concepts. WYD.com represented here as ICO gives support to the technological future of the platform and its members. Because of the growing interest in cryptocurrency and emerging new solutions in the area of safety and security of personal data the WYD token could be based on either ethereum or other different known solutions used in other cryptocurrencies (i.e. DASH).

5. Conclusions

The WYD community has over 5 million people. Members of this community represent different cultures for whom the only chance of meeting are currently the large gatherings which are organized in specific time intervals. The development of the Wyd.com platform with all the essential technological tools gives this community the possibility to generate new solutions in the area of joint projects, and this is regardless of time and place.

Every operation such as exchange of data, files and information is carried out in real time and thus greatly increases chances for projects to be successful. Additionally, the crowd funding method applied in ICO is

a tool supporting the development of the main event and projects related to it. This cyber platform, being a common meeting place dedicated to members of WYD community, is the answer to communication and development needs. It is a solution supporting new initiatives, as well as the main event which is the World Youth Days. Drawn from the concept of IoT, sharing of sources gives a chance for the digital future of a modern, decentralized and safe environment in virtual space. The exchange secured by token WYD accessible to WYD participants and investors in the first instance guarantees development creating possibilities for solutions to problems with the accessibility of sources. The lack of limitations and free transactions in a free market allow participants to initiate pro-developmental projects, thus broadening the idea dynamics of World Youth Days. Members of the event would gain access to a common place of meeting regardless of events organized at a particular time. Common place and a creative virtual space give the community a vast number of development possibilities regardless of territorial barriers and borders. Such a huge community should have a secure virtual environment generating prospects of meetings.

Wyd.com as a platform built on the latest technological solutions is the future of an innovative community, and the base for the development and the idea of creation of a safe environment. It is also the fundamental tool to strengthen created ties and making new ones between the members of the community. The new generation solution becomes the answer to creating new possible directions of future development for the World Youth Days community.

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