

# Hedegreen Research Is Going to Brussels

A small public announcement before the Democracy Shield Hackathon

2026.06.17 18:45 DENNIS HEDEGREEN OPEN V1.0

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## A small public announcement

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Hedegreen Research is going to Brussels.

On 22-23 June 2026, I will participate in the Democracy Shield Hackathon in Brussels.

I want to say this clearly from the beginning: Hedegreen Research is not an EU project.

It is not funded by the EU. It is not endorsed by the EU. It is not an official institution.

It is something I am building.

Hedegreen Research is a public research and thinking system made from articles, tools, notes, prototypes, questions, and unfinished ideas. Some of it is rough. Some of it is too early. Some of it may later be wrong, downgraded, corrected, or discarded.

That is part of the point.

I have many ideas about Europe.

Ideas about AI as infrastructure, not authority. Ideas about language access. Ideas about saved working time. Ideas about public tools. Ideas about readable markets, civic systems, and democratic capacity.

But ideas do not become serious by staying in my own room.

At some point they have to meet other people, other systems, other questions, and other limits.

That is why I am taking this chance.

There is also a technical reason for this note.

This article is part of a mobile upload test.

Not because mobile upload is the subject of the article. That subject has already been written about elsewhere.

Here the test is more practical: can a real public note be drafted, packed, checked, and moved through the mobile intake path without losing the boundaries around source-checking, transparency, and release control?

That matters because if Hedegreen Research is going to work from real life, then the system has to survive real-life conditions: phone, travel, nerves, limited time, and unfinished thoughts.

A mobile upload test should not make the article less careful.

It should prove whether the careful parts can travel.

### **Three months**

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There is also a more personal part.

I am nervous.

I have never really done something like this before.

Around the time I arrive in Brussels, it will be only about three months since I seriously began building Hedegreen Research.

That is strange to write.

In my head, this was supposed to be a slower plan. I thought I would build, document, test, publish, correct, and slowly become more ready.

Instead, the work has moved much faster than I expected.

Not because everything is finished.

It is not.

Not because I suddenly became an institution.

I did not.

But because the work started connecting faster than I had planned. Articles became tools. Tools became questions. Questions became possible conversations. And now one of those conversations leads to Brussels.

That is exciting.

It is also uncomfortable.

I am not going there as someone who has everything under control.

I am going there as someone who has built something real enough to test, but early enough to be challenged.

That is probably the honest place to be.

### **The trip is now practical**

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The trip is no longer only an idea.

A flight ticket has been arranged.

That changes the feeling.

Before that, Brussels was still partly abstract. A date, an invitation, a possibility.

Now there is a ticket.

Now it is a real trip with a body, a bag, a phone, a laptop, cables, sleep, food, nerves, and practical problems.

That also means the practical layer has to be handled honestly.

The Brussels trip will be treated as part of the Hedegreen Research transparency record.

That does not make Hedegreen Research an EU project.

It does not make the hackathon a sponsor of my conclusions.

It simply means that when support, access, travel, hardware, or other practical help becomes relevant to the work, it should be declared plainly.

The rule is simple:

Support can buy time.

It cannot buy the conclusion.

## **Asking is uncomfortable**

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There is another honest part.

I find it uncomfortable to ask for support.

It feels awkward. Almost embarrassing.

But I am also learning that this is how many things actually begin.

Not with a perfect funding strategy.

Not with a large sponsor.

Not with someone magically noticing the work from a distance.

Sometimes it begins by walking into a local repair shop and asking a simple question.

Do you have anything useful lying around that could help me travel prepared?

A cable. A powerbank. A USB stick. An adapter. A laptop bag. Something small that still works.

That is not glamorous.

But it is real.

Before the trip, I will try to visit a few small IT repair shops and ask whether anyone wants to support the trip with a small travel-ready package.

Not luxury equipment.

Just useful things that can help an independent project arrive prepared.

And if Hedegreen Research is going to talk about infrastructure, repair, civic tools, and practical capacity, then maybe the first support should also look like that: local, reused, useful, and visible.

If anything is donated, it will be declared through the Hedegreen Research transparency record.

A cable is a cable.

A conclusion is still mine.

## **If you are reading this**

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Hedegreen Research does not have many readers yet.

That is also part of the honest record.

Most of this work is still early, small, and easy to miss.

So if you are reading this, you are not a metric to me.

You are probably one of the few people who actually found the work while it is still forming.

You do not have to correct the article.

You do not have to agree with it.

But if you have a question, a practical lead, a repair shop connection, a civic-tech contact, a language-access problem, a Brussels suggestion, or just a reason you think I should hear from you, you are welcome to email me.

Not because Hedegreen Research needs applause.

Because early work sometimes needs real contact before it knows what it is becoming.

[contact@hedegreenresearch.com](mailto:contact@hedegreenresearch.com)

## **Field test**

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I am not going to Brussels to pretend that Hedegreen Research is finished.

I am going to test whether some of the questions I have been working on can survive contact with a real civic technology environment.

Maybe they can.

Maybe they cannot.

Both outcomes matter.

If something useful happens, it should be documented.

If nothing useful happens, that should also be documented.

For me, this is not a victory lap.

It is a field test.

A small independent project is leaving the desk for a moment and entering a European room.

Not as an answer.

As a chance.

With kind regards,

Dennis Hedegreen

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RELATION MEMORY

NEARBY [The Saved Hours Doctrine](#) · Both pieces ask who benefits when tools save time.

NEARBY [Publishing Became a Command](#) · Both pieces turn publishing workflow into visible infrastructure.

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