

Seminar, 14th February 2020, 1.15 pm
Module: Transformation by Design
Seminar Leader: Lukas Fuchs

Questions for Discussion:

- 1) What are your key takeaways from the lecture?
- 2) What did you not understand during the lecture?
- 3) Read Raymond's characterisation of the development of Linux. Why might the "bazaar" style be particularly suitable for digital projects? Where else could it be useful?
- 4) Which phases did the public digital development go through? Can it compare to that of other countries?
- 5) Are the different phases reflections of different Public Administration practices? (New Public Management vs Digital-era Governance)
- 6) What is the "Square of despair" (see bottom)? Which motivations (of politicians, users, developers, public administrators) can lead to such a situation?

The Cathedral and the Bazaar

"Linus Torvalds's style of development - release early and often, delegate everything you can, be open to the point of promiscuity - came as a surprise. No quiet, reverent cathedral-building here - rather, the Linux community seemed to resemble a great babbling bazaar of differing agendas and approaches (aptly symbolized by the Linux archive sites, who'd take submissions from *anyone*) out of which a coherent and stable system could seemingly emerge only by a succession of miracles. The fact that this bazaar style seemed to work, and work well, came as a distinct shock."

- Eric S. Raymond, "The Cathedral and the Bazaar"

