

# ICIJ's leak refinery



**Mar Cabra - Data editor  
International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ)**



*The World's Best Cross-Border  
Investigative Team*

ICIJ

THE INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM  
OF INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISTS

**+190 journalists in  
more than 65 countries**

**12 staff members** (USA, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Germany, France, Spain)  
50% of the team = Data & Research Unit

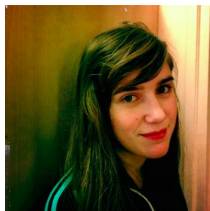
**ICIJ Data&Research unit**

Editor  
(Spain)



Deputy director  
(USA)

Data  
journalist  
(France)



**Project**



Research editor  
(Venezuela)



Reporting



Data  
checkers



Data analyst  
(Costa Rica)



Web developer  
(Germany)

Publication



Developer  
(Spain)



**Project**

**260 GB - 100,000 companies**

**SECRECY FOR SALE**

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF  
**OFFSHORE**

**Luxembourg  
LEAKS**

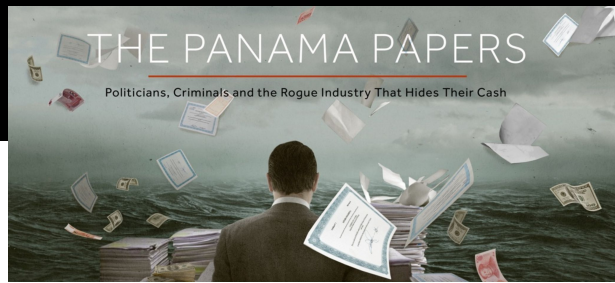
**More than 100,000 HSBC clients  
\$100 Billion**

**#luxleaks**

**SWISS  
LEAKS**

**#swissleaks**

**+500 secret tax  
agreements (PDFs)**



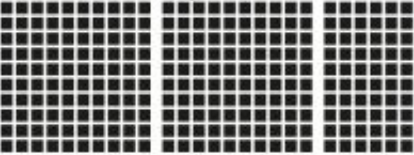
## The scale of the leak

Volume of data compared to previous leaks

**1,7 GB**  
Cablegate/Wikileaks (2010)

■ ■

**260 GB**  
Offshore Leaks/ICIJ (2013)



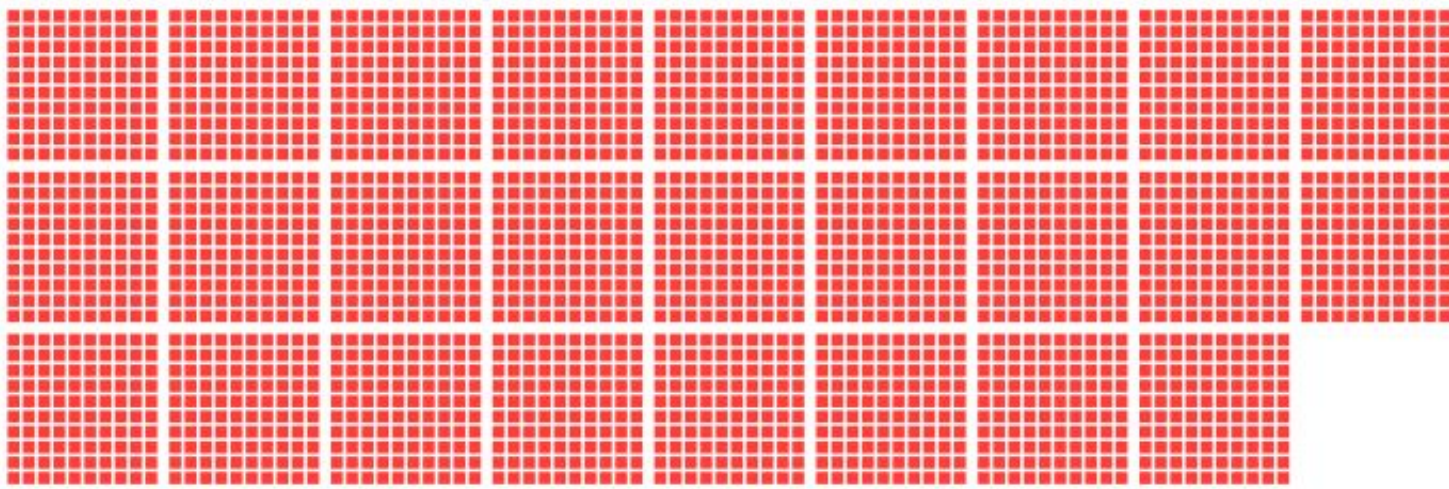
**4 GB**  
Luxemburg Leaks/ICIJ (2014)

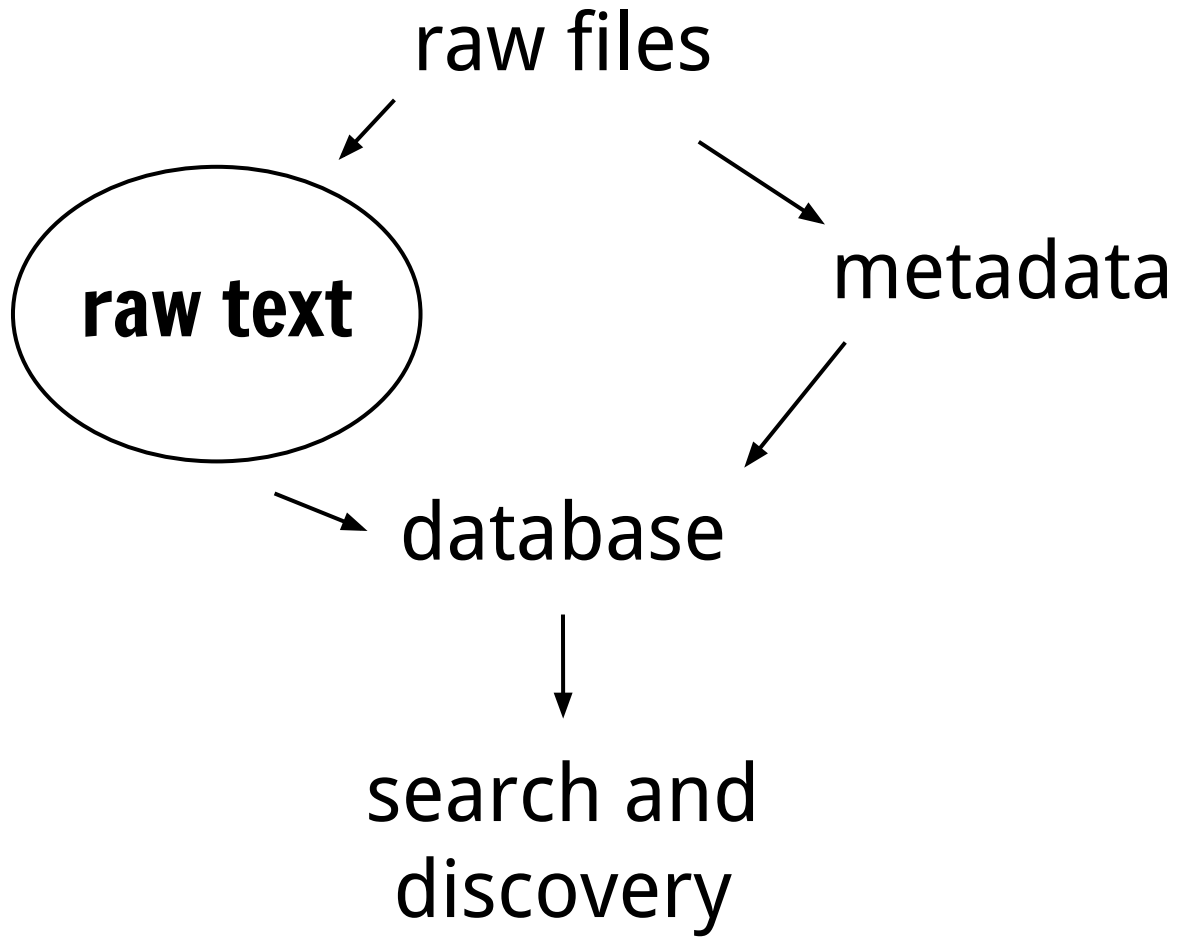
■ ■ ■ ■ ■

**3,3 GB**  
Swiss Leaks/ICIJ (2015)

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

**≈ 2,6 TB**  
Panama Papers/ICIJ (2016)





file, attachment or  
embedded object

```
graph TD; A([file, attachment or embedded object]) --> B[detect the type]; B --> C[do we know how to extract the text?]; C -- no! --> D[log and tackle later]; C -- yes! --> E[extract, OCR and repeat];
```

detect the type

do we know how to extract  
the text?

no!  
log and tackle  
later

yes!  
extract, OCR and  
repeat

A photograph of a human skeleton lying on a server rack in a dark, dimly lit server room. The skeleton is positioned horizontally, with its head to the left and feet to the right. The server racks are visible in the background, and the overall atmosphere is eerie and abandoned. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**3 million files**

**x**

**10 seconds**

**per file**

**=**

**1 year**





Redis queue



35 x g2.xlarge Amazon instances with Ubuntu + Tesseract + Extract



$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \text{ year} \\ \div \\ 35 \text{ machines} \\ = \end{array}$$

11 days



Everything

"joaquin loera"~2

Search

Limit your results

Data update

Path

Year created or sent

Type

You searched for: "joaquin loera"~2



Start Over

400 users

1 - 4 of 4

Sort by Relevance

10 per page

1.

Bookmark

Text:

of Joaquin Guzmán Loera

Joaquin Guzmán Loera

Subject:

Date:

Creator:

Lucene syntax queries with proximity matching!



## Unstructured data extraction

- ICIJ Extract (open source, Java: <https://github.com/ICIJ/extract>), leverages Apache Tika, Tesseract OCR and JBIG2-ImageIO.

## Structured data extraction

- A bunch of Python

## Database

- Apache Solr (open source, Java)
- Redis (open source, C)
- Neo4j (open source, Java)

## App

- Blacklight (open source, Rails)
- Linkurious (closed source, JS)

Stack

1 SELECTED NODES

**SANDS INVEST & FINANCE LIMITED**  
#246682

**pinned Company**

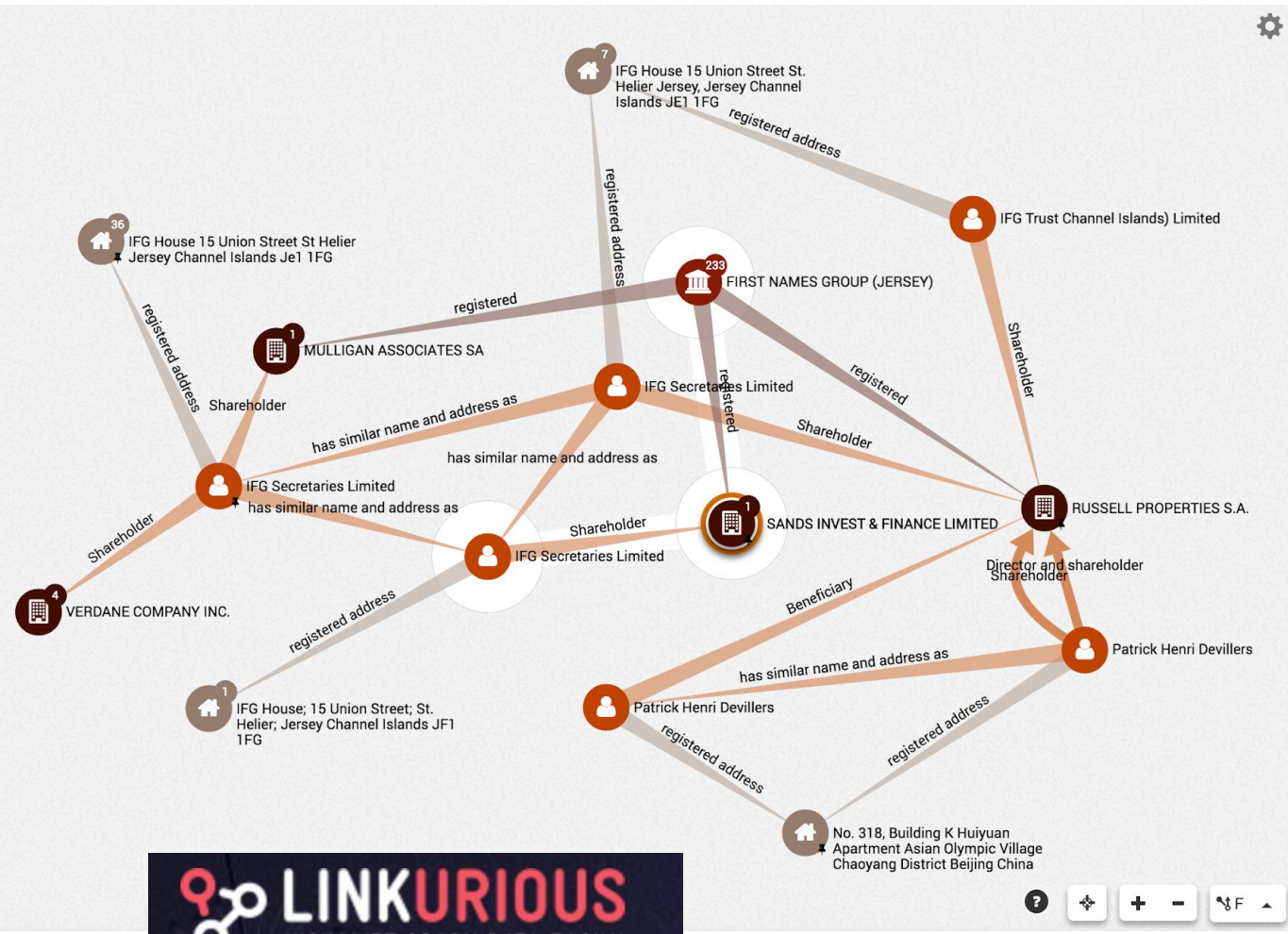
Select... Deselect Hide Expand...

PROPERTIES

Find a property...

file_number	6015821
inactivationDate	18-FEB-2013
jurisdiction	BVI
name	SANDS INVEST & FINANCE LIMITED
registrationDate	20-APR-1998
status	DIS
struck_off_date	31-OCT-2013

2 EDGES / 3 IN DATABASE



# Our platforms by the numbers

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- + 14 million documents, 20 formats
- 500 users\* - 100 active each week, close to 200 per month
- 1 full-time programmer for improvements

**Open-source\*\* + exclusive expertise**

\*not unique users

\*except graph database

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**Not just a network...**

**... but a community**

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## RECENT FILES

[UPLOAD FILE](#) 
 RECENT FILES

 FEATURED FILES

 TOP RATED ITEMS

 CATEGORIES

 BROWSE BY TAGS


PDF

**Bolton Group -  
Greek...**

By Harry Karanikas



PDF

**Bombardier...**

By Kristof Clerix



PDF

**Bombardier...**

By Kristof Clerix



PDF

**Hutchison  
Whampoa...**

By Colm Keena



PDF

**Hutchison  
Whampoa...**

By Lars Bové



PDF

**kastra investments  
ltd**

By Colm Keena



PDF

**TMT II Luxco Sarl**

By Colm Keena



PDF

**Black & Decker...**

By Colm Keena



PDF

**skype technologies**

By Colm Keena



PDF

**Disney // Disney  
Stores...**

By Jan Kleinnijhuis

# Oxwall







# Global I-HUB



Please read ou

**SEARCH**

Search people, plac

**USERS**



**FORUM TOPICS**

Global I-Hub  
General » Gener

## PLEASE SIGN IN

Username/Email

.....

Your Google Authenticator current valid code:

....

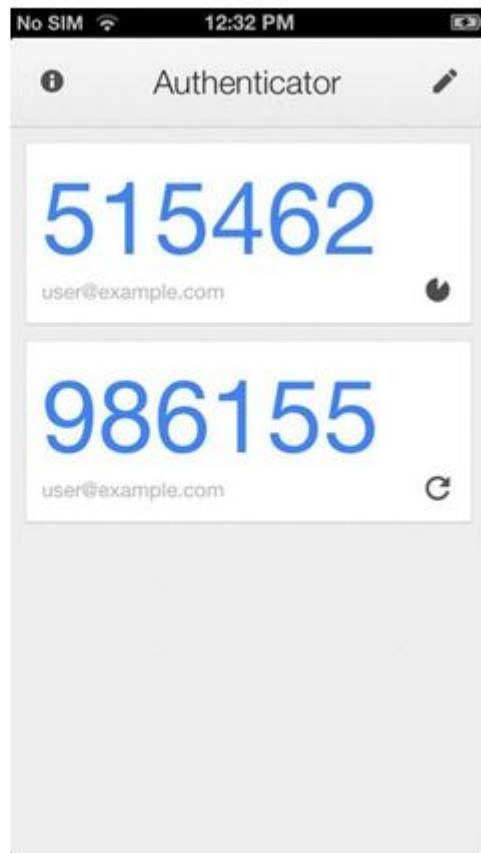
Remember me

[Forgot passphrase](#)

**SIGN IN** ➔

osting any material.

Collaboration space - Mar 12



# Our community by the numbers

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- +600 users\*
- Shared status in +21,000 occasions\*\*
- 1,500 forum topics with 5,400 posts\*\*
- Uploaded +600 files\*\*

\*not unique users

\*\*October 2015

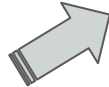
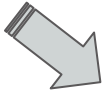
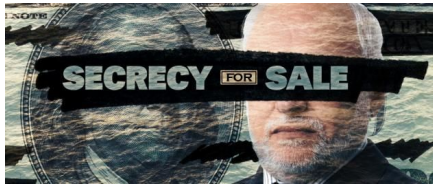
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# the next steps

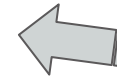
- entity extraction
- making our data silos talk

# Next: ICIJ Knowledge Center

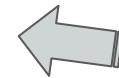
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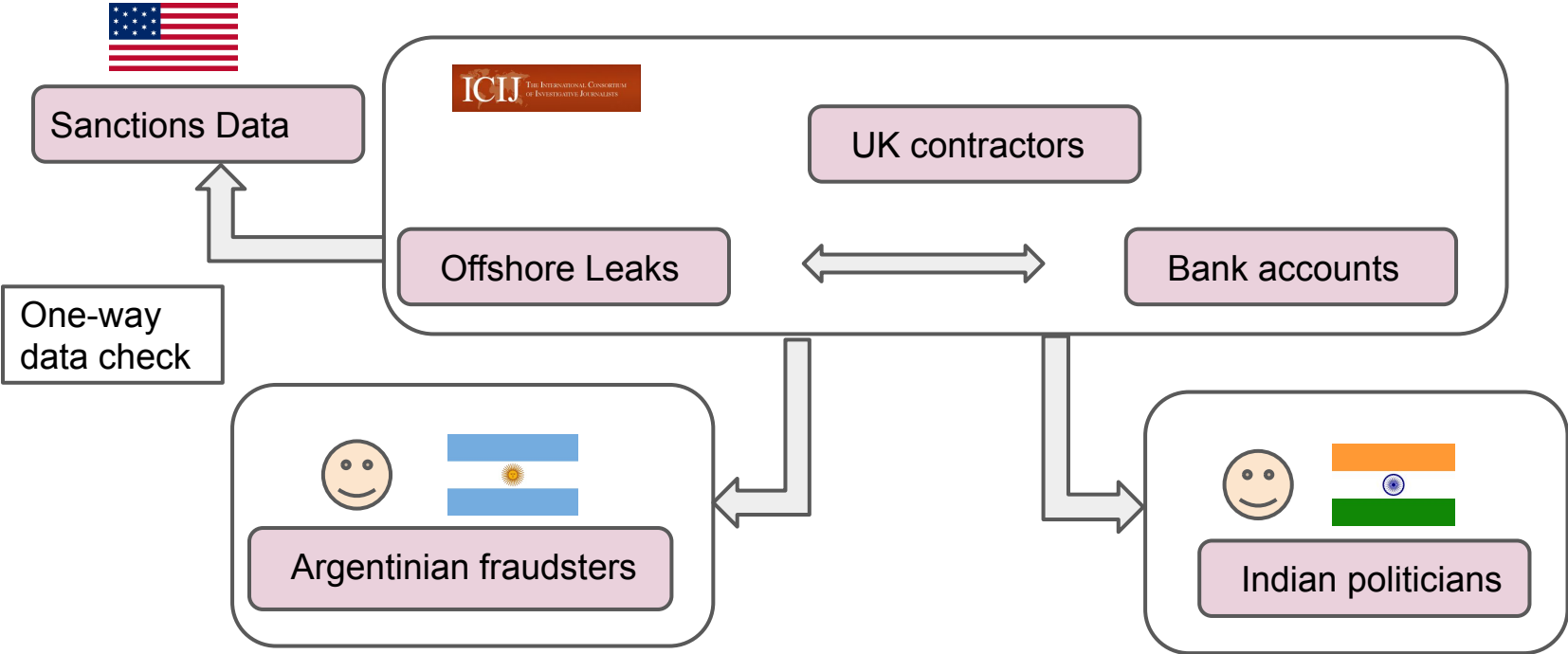
**EVICTED  
& ABANDONED**



**Public  
databases**



# Our current challenge (*global data sharing*)



# Encrypted email (easy)

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[Review of tools](#)

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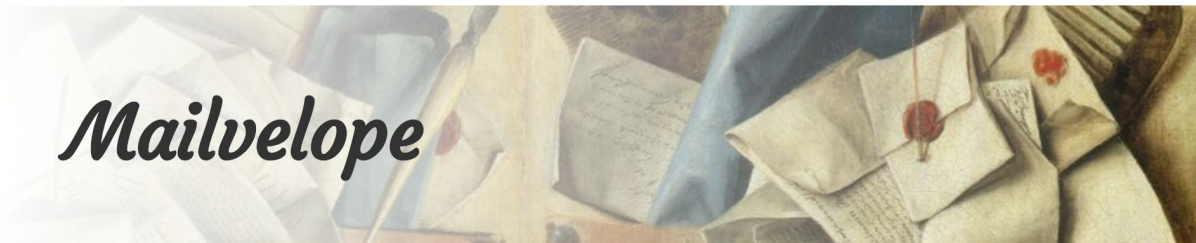
# Encrypted email: PGP

```
-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
Version: GnuPG/Mailvelope
Comment: GPGTools
```

```
mQENBFHQousBCADDR
K11z179iK838+1F7C
3UQ1luPiWSSw5gl3f
t69OchQeCW9/WcDuf
koLpdnhmF19fIPkII
+Anym4uKAs0wwswwn
LmNhYnJhLnZhbGVyk
BQsJCACDBRUKCQgLE
kIO8MpLX/E7RSw7FM
s9+bEQs4ZL7C99RFE
cRa5qL8fX/g1L+gat
pBAAtDQgNS0Pckurf
vXG6EEIgfVF2/84XH:
G/5+Qf1N54e5AQ0Ei
naHbrs7d10aM2rBEI
SXkMPtba6zuCHXkiC
tfOq2AbCgdNm38Br1
NCGscM+sZDgUbd7z
iVmILshM4K7260zgF
DwUCUdCi6wIbLgUJF
nC6MNNw3ms99B/9W/
seWrnzGMUtzHYUkE(
NgjQUM0rXI80p5i+H
9kfXkXP4YGxolrni
uESe4niNyvxJR1tbc
BdlkIabDNwxipM0/£
czTmmIgauHdti7d+e
+tyqNCeCQ8A0IaTZ:
oc6lc5Ie+tUli3bn+
EqBiQCQ9WJKgDLd(
MI96RWTZVG1ks8iKv
=zCct
-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
```

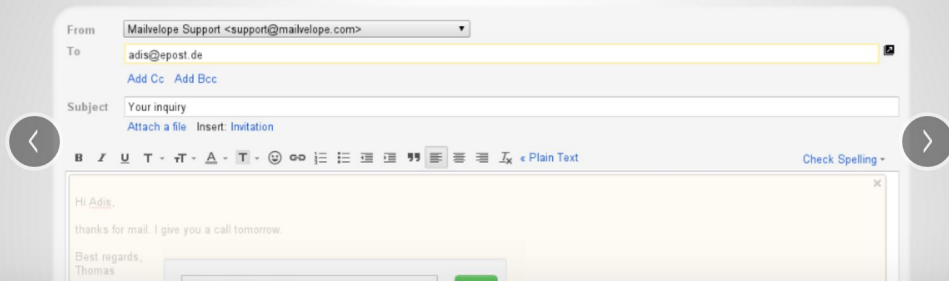
Mailvelope

Home Documentation FAQ Blog About



PG

## Mailvelope integrates directly into the Webmail user interface



ViN



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**Questions?**

**Thanks!**

**[mcabra@icij.org](mailto:mcabra@icij.org)**

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