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Obama and MacBeth: Political figures with a lot in common.
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Barack Macbeth's 'Murder' of Net Neutrality (News, Switzerland)

"Pictures are louder than promises. They are also, unlike words, more easily turned into gold. For instance, FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler, a decades-long lobbyist for mobile networks and cable operators (that says it all about Barack Macbeth - that he would appoint someone like this to direct a government agency), allows Netflix to have faster and more efficient data transmission - at higher cost, of course. Inequality as usual in the United States, and now on the Internet as well. You think that is unimportant, irrelevant, and the 'normal course of events?' You are so very wrong."

By **Regula Stämpfli**



Translated By **Stephanie Martin**

May 4, 2014

[News - Switzerland - Original Article \(German\)](#)

Announcement: The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the U.S. agency for media and telecommunications, recently announced that it intends to abandon [network neutrality](#). Those who pay more



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will get better network access. It's high time to consult Shakespeare.

Prominent Internet activist and law professor [Tim Wu](#) is saying these days that Barack Obama personally swore to him that he would defend a cost neutral Internet. What if a presidential candidate promised the Black community, putting his own integrity on the line, that once elected, he would defend integration at all cost, only to introduce an unequal voting system?



Federal Communications Commission Chairman Tom Wheeler insists his new proposal for a more 'open Internet' will not harm the Web and threaten free access now protected under net neutrality.

[National Cable and Telecommunications Association Video: FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler defends his proposal that would allow certain content providers to pay for greater access to the Internet, April 30, 00:39:14](#)

When Shakespeare wrote Macbeth, he knew nothing of Barack Obama, and yet the first Black president resembles this literary anti-hero like no other. Macbeth clearly saw what needed to be done, and with eyes wide open, set about doing the opposite. Not unlike Obama. Both - the literary model and the real-life American president - revel in a kind of inferiority complex colored by a certain willingness to commit violence (see Obama's saber rattling with respect to Russia) and a narcissistic claim to exclusivity ("I can"). Both Macbeth and Obama are encouraged in their actions by "enablers." For Macbeth, it's his "lady," and for Obama, the rulers of Wall Street. No one in 2008 thought the "Scottish play" would run in Washington again and again. In 2007, Barack Macbeth - like his model - still had what it takes to be hero as well as villain. As with Macbeth, Obama's first murder (drones) and his first lie (Guantanamo) were the initial sparks for later acts of inhumanity. Lady Macbeth - a.k.a. Larry Summers and Timothy Geithner - knew exactly what this weak-minded man wanted and needed - and gave it to him.

Instead of finally curbing Wall Street in its role as tail wagging the dog of trade and the real economy, Obama's first act was to introduce a state health insurance plan that allows American bio-capitalism to continue running rampant, anchoring capitalism in the human body as the future gold standard.

This truly monstrous act, not unlike Macbeth, removed all barriers to further betrayals, lies, intrigues, and power. Those familiar with the negotiating strategy for [TTIP](#), the U.S. free trade agreement with the E.U., and with the result of those negotiations, know that Shakespeare's characters were sitting directly across the conference table. At first glance, violence just looks different.

In the case of Macbeth, sex drives the plot, whereas now, greed and money are the primary plot engines. The Wall Street Company knew, like Lady Macbeth, that if her lord took the first step toward evil, a deeper



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wade into the "river of blood" would occur as a matter of course, until "returning" to being a decent politician would be as hard as ["continuing to step through the river of blood."](#)

Macbeth divides our family, as does Obama. There is the classical socialization faction: "he can't help himself." Among sympathizers, there are of course the old sexists: "Without the lady, never a murder." Or the observers: "Politics is always a dirty business." Those with some knowledge of the philosophy of law, on the other hand, see only a one responsible individual, even if his guilt could be spread over several shoulders: It's the main character who gives the play its title.

Barack Obama has broken, denied, and turned every campaign promise into its opposite - other than the introduction of universal health insurance (which, as previously mentioned, primarily benefits bio-capitalism - but that would be a detour to Shylock and *The Merchant of Venice* - perhaps another time). And now, in the last few weeks, the final blow: Barack Macbeth as murderer of net neutrality.

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Pictures are louder than promises. They are also, unlike words, more easily turned into gold. For instance, FCC Chairman [Tom Wheeler](#), head of the regulatory board for media and telecommunications, a decades-long lobbyist for mobile networks and cable operators (that says it all about Barack Macbeth - that he would appoint someone like this to direct a government agency), allows Netflix to have (yes, those with *House of Cards*, according to media reports, Obama's favorite show) faster and more efficient data transmission - at higher cost, of course. Inequality as usual in the United States, and now on the Internet as well. You think that is unimportant, irrelevant, and the "normal course of events?" You are so very wrong.

Under Barack Macbeth's protection, what Wheeler is proposing is nothing less than the introduction of a two-class voting system. Permit a momentary digression to Orwell: "Some are more equal than others" After all, why should literary pigs use different arguments than real ones? ["Some pigs are more equal than others" is a

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3,291	475
3,237	470
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quote from Orwell's [Animal Farm](#)].

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Americans are actually allowing themselves to be taken for the fools that the U.S. entertainment industry has been showing them for years. The result of all the bread and circuses is that Americans no longer appear to have any clue about what politics is all about. Obama was hoisted into office with a beauty that hasn't manifested itself in the United States since John F. Kennedy. That politics would turn the beauty of "Yes, we can" into "Yes, we can screw you" has stunned nearly everyone. How can he? How can he? How can he? Lies for self-preservation are one thing, but to do the opposite of what one has promised violates every human and higher commandment. Obama is proof that the opposite of "the good" is often "well-intentioned."

By May 24, 2014, Americans must succeed in [submitting 100,000 signatures against Internet inequality](#) to the White House. Then, the court that surrounds Barack Macbeth will at least be forced to adopt a position on what's happening. But as Shakespeare would likely say, "Hell is empty, all the devils now own the Net." Thanks, William! (Based on Shakespeare's original quote: "Hell is empty, the devils are all here.")

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