

Public Money? Public Code!

Modernising Digital Public Infrastructure

Max Mehl – Program Manager – @mxmehl

11 September 2018 – DrupalEurope (Darmstadt)





Max Mehl Program Manager, FSFE

Twitter:@mxmehlMastodon:mxmehl@mastodon.socialDiaspora:mxmehl@diasp.euEmail:max.mehl@fsfe.orgBlog:blog.mehl.mx



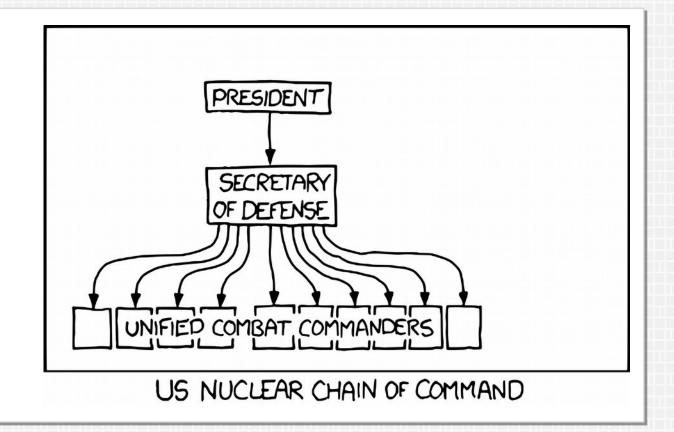


Free Software Foundation Europe is a charity that empowers users to control technology.





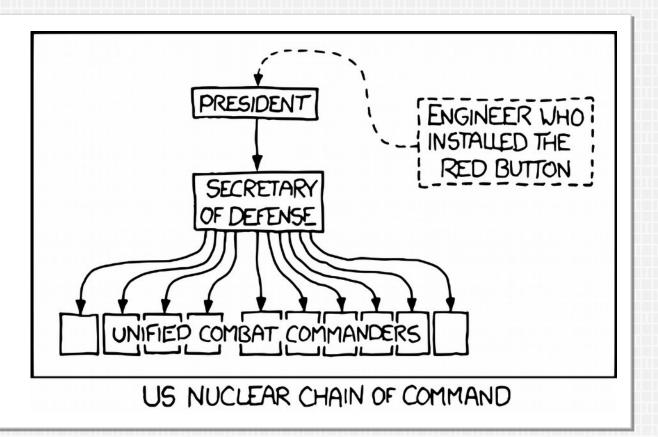
Free Software Foundation Europe is a charity that empowers users to control technology.



CC-By-Nc 2.5 https://xkcd.com/898



Free Software Foundation Europe is a charity that empowers users to control technology.



CC-By-Nc 2.5 https://xkcd.com/898

Free Software



USE

The software can be used for any purpose without restrictions

SHARE

The software can be shared

with friends without limitations.

The price doesn't matter



STUDY

The software and its code can be studied by anyone

IMPROVE

The software can be modified by you or others to give back to the community

a.k.a. Open Source, FOSS, FLOSS...

Pillars of Our Work





Community

Represent users and developers, build a strong community, and give them a voice

Legal

Connecting legal experts with the Legal Network, facilitating a safe platform to solve legal issues and create change



Policy

Pushing Free Software from European to regional levels, support political change with our expertise, and build collaborative networks

Exemplary Activities



FOSS4SMEs



REUSE



Save Code Share

SAVE CODE SHARE

Current EU Copyright Review threatens Free and Open Source Software. <u>Take action now</u> to preserve the ability to collaboratively build software online!

Free Your Android



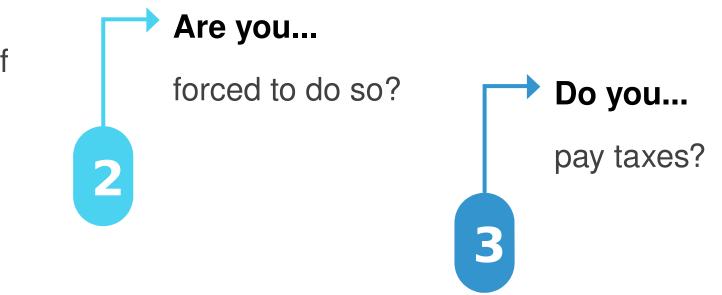
Some Honesty



→ Do you...

1

finance the development of non-free software on a regular basis?





Why is software created using taxpayers' money not released as Free Software?

Code paid by the people should be available to the people!

If it is public money, it should be public code as well!

publiccode.eu



We're not alone!



More than 18.400 individuals

and 153 organisations



Imagine for a moment

Reasons for Public Code



Tax Savings

Similar applications don't have to be programmed from scratch every time.

Security

Free Software enables

independent security audits and

transparent contributions.



Collaboration

Major projects can share expertise, risks and costs.

Innovation

With transparent processes, others don't have to reinvent the wheel.

(Digital) Public Infrastructure



What are we talking about?



- Education
- Security Services
- Data Storage and Processing
- Geographical Analysis
- Participation Platforms
- Communication and information

Old and new challenges

Public Code can help



Problems of proprietary software

- Lack of interoperability
- Vendor lock-in
- Low acceptance by public
- No local investments and innovation
- Strong security concerns

- Interoperability through Open Standards
- Independence from single vendors
- Transparency by default
- Inclusion of regional providers
- Auditable and attributable code

Solutions by Public Code

A Word on Munich/LiMux...

- Large German city migrates from GNU/Linux to Microsoft
- Political victim of new mayor
- Scapegoat for organisational problems
- Focus on operating system is outmoded
 - \rightarrow Concentrate on freeing the custom applications first

Let's make Free Software the "product", not Linux!



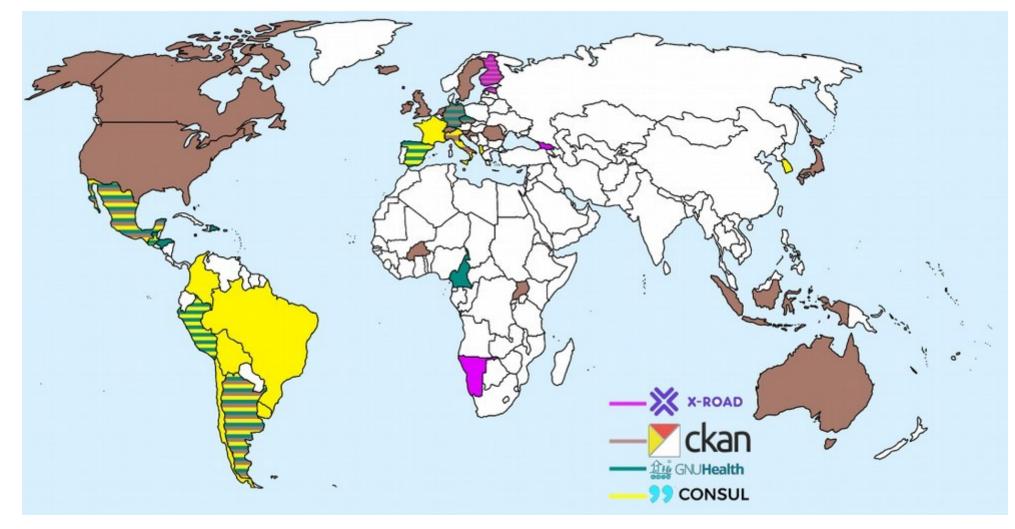


CC BY-SA-NC 4.0, Ajuntament de Barcelona



International Cooperation





Lessons Learnt



Improve Procurement

Enable smaller and regional providers to participate in tenders, and involve exit costs

Knowledge Transfer

Authorities should increase communication with each other, and share experiences



Policies > Laws

Policies are easier to create and implement, and closer to the actual aim

Cultural Change

We have to guide the necessary modernisation in public administrations

What can I do?

Sign the Open Letter

Go to publiccode.eu and raise your voice

1



Speak with your friends, colleagues, and political representatives

2

Support us

3

Contribute translations, tech help, and become part of the FSFE's supporter base



This is just the beginning!



16 video subtitles publiccode.eu in 18 languages

Brochure for decision makers

Video in 6 language versions

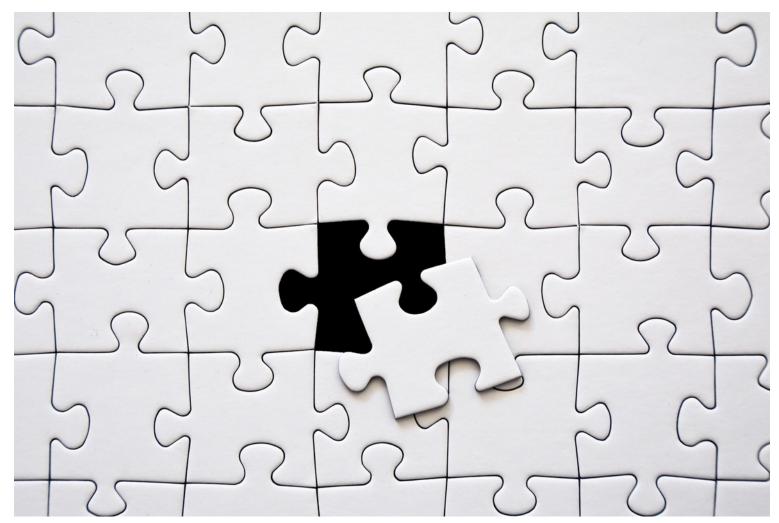
Stickers, posters, postcards

Interviews with stakeholders

Directory and map of public code

Be part of it!





See you on publiccode.eu and fsfe.org



Max Mehl

Program Manager, FSFE

max.mehl@fsfe.org @mxmehl

> Slides licenced under CC BY-SA 4.0 unless otherwise stated

Material Icons • v3.0.1 • by Google under Apache License 2.0
FontAwesome • v4.7.0 • by Dave Gandy under SIL OFL 1.1
Ionicons • v2.0.1 • by Ben Sperry under MIT