



## Open Source Observatory Policy Factsheet

# Serbia

# OSOR

### 1 General Information

As a candidate country for EU accession, Serbia increasingly aligns its digital transformation with EU standards and guidelines. However, open source software has not emerged as a strategic priority. Digitalisation issues within public administration remain fragmented, and open source is absent from recent legislation, despite the presence of key principles that could support its future inclusion. Interest in open source within civil society has declined since the early 2000s, shifting instead toward digital rights, transparency, and open data, while the development ecosystem has become more oriented toward startup culture.

### 2 Actors

#### POLICY MAKERS

**The Ministry of Information and Telecommunications** is responsible for information, telecommunications, and information society matters.

**The Office for IT and e-Government** is tasked with the design, harmonisation, development and operation of e-government and information systems, as well as managing the infrastructure used by state administration bodies and government services.

#### STRATEGIC PLAYERS

**LUGoNS** is the Linux user group of the city of Novi Sad, maintaining an active open source community by regularly organising events and activities.

**SHARE Fondacija** is an organisation focused on advancing human rights and freedoms online, as well as promoting the positive values of an open and decentralised internet.

### 3 Policy and Legal Framework

#### LIST OF STANDARDS OF INTEROPERABILITY

Released by the Office for IT and e-Government in 2021, the list includes a recommendation for the use and implementation of open standards, in alignment with the European Interoperability Framework.

#### E-GOVERNEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR 2023–2025

Adopted by the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, the strategy outlines principles close to open source, including sustainability, transparency, interoperability, and user-centricity, creating a policy environment conducive to open source adoption.

### 4 Open Source Software Initiatives

#### BalCCon

Organised by LUGoNS every September, this annual event brings together an international community of hackers and computer enthusiasts. It provides a space for networking, learning, and exchanging ideas and experiences, fostering collaboration and community building.

#### Net.kabinet

Developed by the Petlja Foundation, net.kabinet is a free and open source educational platform for learning computer science. The platform includes learning materials available in Serbian and English, and follows the official curriculum of formal undergraduate education.

#### Open Data Portal

The Office for IT and e-Government developed the National Open Data Portal in 2017. Based on the French portal, it is the official place for the publication of public institutions' data sets. Data from the National Open Data Portal is automatically published on the European Open Data Portal.