



Open Source Observatory Policy Factsheet

Spain

OSOR

1 General Information

The use of open source software solutions in public administrations in Spain has advanced over the last years in certain areas, even though the Spanish national government has not adopted a comprehensive open source software policy. Yet, guidelines for public administrations on the use of open source software and management of open source software projects were updated. On the regional level and municipal level, many initiatives to create open source participatory government platforms have been created.

2 Actors

POLICYMAKERS

The **Ministry for Digital Transformation**, oversees telecommunications, digital society, digital transformation and AI development policies. In parallel, it implements government policy regarding public administrations, the civil service and public governance. Attached to it is Red.es, a public business entity with the goal of collaborating with the regional and municipal level.

STRATEGIC PLAYER

KDE España is the Spanish chapter of the international KDE open source community. It has a dedicated working group on promoting open source software and training courses for public administrations, such as its collaboration with the Free Software Foundation Europe (FSFE) for Free Software Day, or the Barcelona Free Software meetup which has regular contacts with the Barcelona city hall.

3 Policy and Legal Framework

REUSE OF IT SOLUTIONS: GUIDE ON THE PUBLICATION AND LICENSING OF IT SOLUTIONS

The General Secretariat of Digital Administration (SGAD) created these guidelines to support public administrations in the implementation of Law 40/2015 and Royal Decree 4/2010. The documents include licensing guidelines and instructions to publish and reuse IT solutions.

LAW 40/2015 OF 1 OCTOBER 2015 ON THE LEGAL REGIME OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR

This horizontal law sets the framework for Spanish public administrations, including the obligation to reuse applications. To ensure technology transfers among public administrations, the law mandates all public administrations to keep interoperable repositories.



4 Open Source Software Initiatives

ALIA

This AI public infrastructure provides access to a wide range of linguistic tools and datasets in Spanish and other official languages. It includes language models, multimodal models (covering text, voice, and image). ALIA-40b is composed of pre-trained multilingual AI models, and is released under an Open Source Apache 2.0 licence.

DECIDIM

This is a digital infrastructure for participatory democracy led by the Decidim association and the Metadecidim platform. The municipality of Barcelona and Decidim community started it in 2016 using the Consul model, but it soon developed its tools with a more modular approach and its library. In Spain, Decidim has active projects with local entities in Catalunya.

CONSUL DEMOCRACY

The municipality of Madrid developed the Consul Democracy open source software as a digital platform for the participatory budget project. The Consul Democracy Foundation was created in 2019 and took over the role of the Madrid municipality. Consul Democracy manages 33 active projects with Spanish public administrations at the local and regional levels.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTRE

This is the directory of reusable applications for Spanish public administrations. The Spanish government created the CTT as a response to the requirements created by the Public Sector Law 40/2015 and goals set in the Royal Decree 4/2010 that regulates the National Interoperability Scheme. The CTT comprises 364 IT solutions, which include open source and proprietary ones.