



Webinar

The new OSOR and its Knowledge Centre



European Commission Open Source Observatory (OSOR)

11 February 2020

Agenda

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Background

03 | The new OSOR

04 | Knowledge Centre

05 | Conclusions

Context and Background

OSOR



INFORMATION OBSERVATORY

Publishes information, experiences and best practices around the use of open source software in public administrations. Additionally, the [Knowledge Centre](#) gives access to key resources such as studies and guidelines.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Promotes open source software through community engagement activities such as participation in events, social media, and production and publication of content.

ASSISTANCE & SUPPORT

Provides information and offers ad-hoc legal support services on the licensing of open source software solutions in cooperation with the [EUPL collection](#).

“OSOR aims to become a trustworthy observatory that provides FOSS expertise and information as well as serves as middle ground to connect European Public Administrations with other relevant stakeholders. To reach this objective, OSOR will support a dynamic community and further promote the use of Free and Open Source Software.”

OSOR relies on the community

Workshops

- OSOR mandate
- The future of OSOR
- OSS Beyond 2020

Surveys

- Evaluation of the user experience
- Guidelines for sustainable OSS communities in the Public Sector



Events

- Ciutat Oberta Biennial de pensament 2018
- Paris Open Source Summit 2018 and 2019
 - Openfest Sofia 2018
 - Sharing & Reuse 2019
 - FOSDEM 2020

Webinars

- The new vision and strategy of OSOR
 - Knowledge Centre
- Country intelligence reports (*upcoming*)

The new OSOR

What are the novelties of OSOR?



Open Source Observatory (OSOR)

Last update
about 5 hours ago

486 Members
0 Solutions



Overview

Members

About

OSOR Newsletters

Knowledge Centre

Be part of the OSOR community and make your voice heard! The Open Source Observatory (OSOR) serves as a place where the open source software community can come together to publish news, find out about events, find relevant open source software solutions and read about the use of free and open source in public administrations across and beyond Europe. Mission "OSOR aims to become a trustworthy observatory that provides FOSS expertise and information as well as serves as middle-ground to connect... [Read more](#)

 **2070**
News

 **627**
Events

 **384**
Documents

[MORE](#) 

About: [all policy domains](#)  [advanced search](#)



Introduction to the new OSOR and its Knowledge Centre

11/02/2020  event



More democracy with oss

France, open source, Decidim

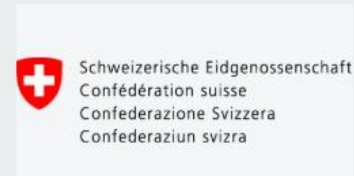
news 



OSOR at FOSDEM20


Workshop, FOSDEM

news 



Free to share

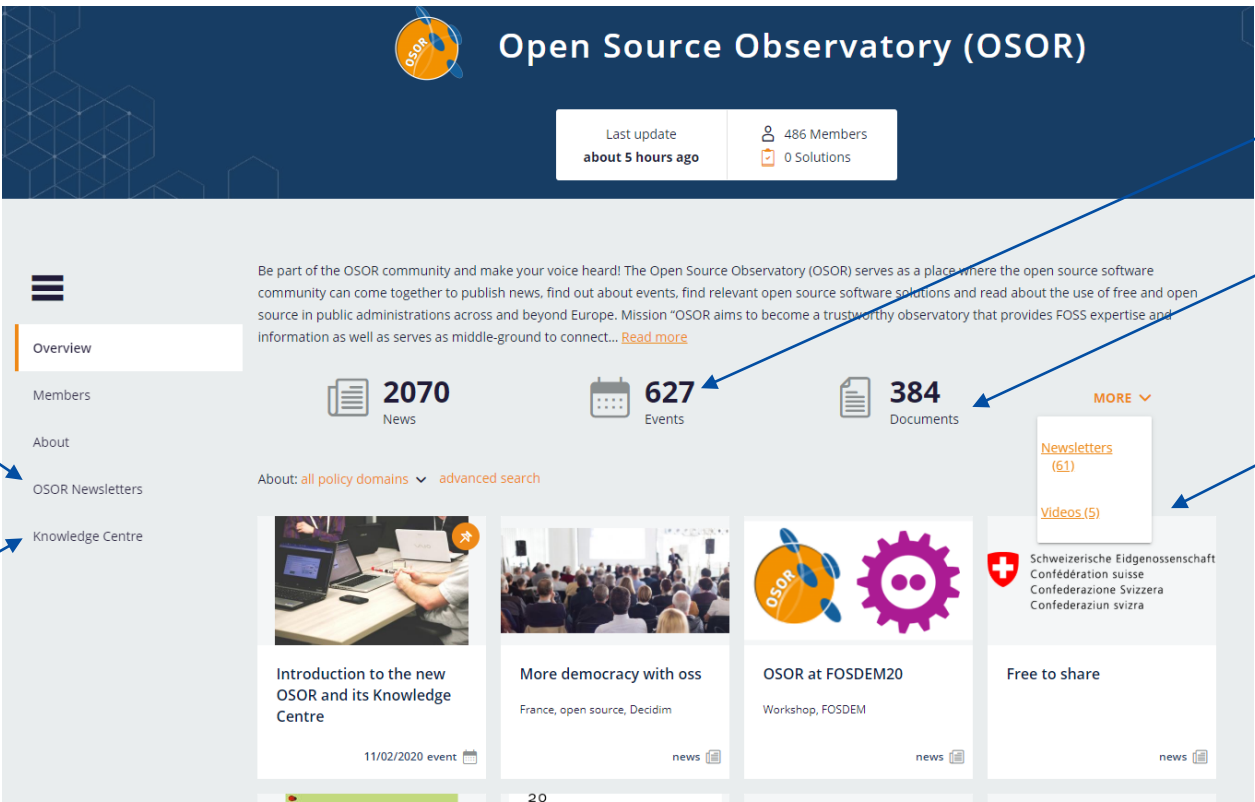
news 

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Your turn to shape OSOR!

Tailoring OSOR to your needs.

What do you use most on OSOR?



The screenshot shows the OSOR website interface. At the top, it says "Open Source Observatory (OSOR)" with a logo. Below that, it displays "Last update about 5 hours ago" and "486 Members" with "0 Solutions". A navigation menu on the left includes "Overview", "Members", "About", "OSOR Newsletters", and "Knowledge Centre". The main content area features statistics: "2070 News", "627 Events", and "384 Documents". There are also links for "Newsletters (61)" and "Videos (5)". A search bar is present with "About: all policy domains" and "advanced search". The bottom section shows several news items, including "Introduction to the new OSOR and its Knowledge Centre", "More democracy with oss", "OSOR at FOSDEM20", and "Free to share".

Newsletter (document icon)

Knowledge Centre (stack of books icon)

OSOR and other events (calendar icon)

Case studies (briefcase icon)

News items (megaphone icon)

What feature would you add/improve on OSOR?

OSOR Knowledge Centre

What is the OSOR Knowledge Centre?

Who will use the Knowledge Centre?

OSOR Community,
European public
administrations, OSS
enthusiasts, private
sector, and students



What is our objective?

To give access to key information to foster the reuse of OSS within the public administrations and beyond

What can you find on the Knowledge Centre?

- OSS country intelligence reports
- Guidelines for sustainable OSS communities in the public sector
- Case studies
- Specific resources

What can you find on the Knowledge Centre?



The screenshot shows the OSOR Knowledge Centre website. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the OSOR logo (an orange circle with a blue satellite-like icon and the text 'OSOR') and the title 'Open Source Observatory (OSOR)'. Below the header, a white box contains two pieces of information: 'Last update about 7 hours ago' and '486 Members' with '0 Solutions' below it. On the left side, there is a navigation menu with a hamburger icon and the following items: Overview, Members, About, OSOR Newsletters, and Knowledge Centre (which is highlighted with an orange bar). The main content area is titled 'Knowledge Centre' and contains the following text: 'This page is periodically updated. If you wish to make a contribution, please do not hesitate to contact us by email: osor@wavestone.com.' Below this, it states: 'The Knowledge Centre gives you access to key information published by the Open Source Observatory as well as external resources to learn more about the development of OSS throughout the European Union and beyond. In particular, here you can find:' followed by a bulleted list:

- **Country intelligence** - Country intelligence on open source software policies and initiatives within Member States
- **Make your open source community sustainable** - Guidelines for creating sustainable open source communities
- **Case studies** - More than 100 case studies on the deployment of open source software within public administrations
- **Specific resources** - A list of open source software associations, competence centres, initiatives, and points of contact

Below the list, it says: 'To access these resources, click on the following links:' followed by four icons in hexagonal frames: 1. A gear, a lightbulb, and a cloud icon, labeled 'OSS COUNTRY INTELLIGENCE'. 2. A signpost icon, labeled 'GUIDELINES'. 3. A laptop with a bar chart icon, labeled 'CASE STUDIES'. 4. A circular flow diagram with three people icons, labeled 'SPECIFIC RESOURCES'. At the bottom right, there is the European Commission logo, which includes the European Union flag and the text 'European Commission'.

Share your thoughts!

What are you looking for in OSOR's Knowledge Centre?

Questions & Answers (1/4)

OSOR website

Q. Is OSOR intended to be a replacement for GitHub?

A. No, OSOR does not provide a software forge and the provision of a software forge, such as GitHub. OSOR is intended to be **an information observatory** to bridge the middle ground between public administrations and open source software (OSS) communities. We are promoting the use of OSS within public administrations and beyond.

Q. Is there a LinkedIn group for OSOR? The link at the bottom of the Joinup page is broken.

A. Although OSOR does not have a LinkedIn page, it contributes the LinkedIn group, "[Government Open Source Software Resource Center \(GOV-OSS-RC\) - a Global Resource](#)". We are following up to fix the broken link on Joinup that was pointed out to us by the webinar participants. For your information, we are very active on Twitter ([@OSOReu](#)).

Q. The navigation between the different custom pages and items [published in the OSOR collection] could be improved.

A. OSOR is hosted as a collection on the Joinup platform. For that reason, it is highly dependent on its navigation style. Nevertheless, the OSOR team will take this comment into account to improve the user-friendliness of the navigation.

Q. Do you consider creating synergy between source openness and multilingualism via machine translation feasible?

A. At the moment, the Observatory's main language is English, but this comment will be considered for future improvements to OSOR.

Questions & Answers (2/4)

Country reports

Q. Are you going to mainly follow a desk-based research process for the OSS Country Intelligence reports? Or are you planning on doing field work, meetings or events?

A. The OSS country intelligence reports are compiled mainly through desk research. Additionally, the OSOR team collects feedback from different stakeholders (e.g. national points of contact, organisations, etc.) on a voluntary basis. If you would like to share additional information that we have not covered in the reports, please contact the OSOR team and we will update the documents accordingly.

Q. Which Country Intelligence reports will be published next?

A. We will be publishing country intelligence reports on the 27 EU Member States and the UK. The timeline for publication has been selected based on the availability of the national contact points in each country. Ten country reports to be published in February/March 2020: Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Portugal, Sweden, Slovenia, and Slovakia. The remaining country reports will be published in the upcoming months.

Connecting with the OSS communities

Q. Are you intending on giving a workshop or presentation at Open Expo in Madrid?

A. Our participation at the Open Expo is under consideration. We aim to participate at the OpenTech Summit in Berlin, Germany. Keep an eye on OSOR for further updates and if you are aware of any upcoming events that could be of interest to OSOR, please feel free to let us know.

Questions & Answers (3/4)

Connecting with the OSS communities

Q. What email address can we use to provide further feedback?

A. OSOR users can contact us by email either at OSOR@wavestone.com or ISA2@ec.europa.eu.

Q. Instead of trying to build a new community, perhaps the OSOR team could leverage existing communities?

A. OSOR aims to act as a bridge between different communities. We have been in contact with several communities to promote their work. If you know any additional communities that we should contact, please send us an email.

Q. Will there be a transcript of the webinar?

A. The webinar is not recorded. However, the material used during the presentation and the discussion that took place have been documented and will be shared with the registered participants.

Scope of OSOR

Q. Will there be a list of recommended OSS solutions for public administrations, like the French SILL list?

A. The OSOR team does not intend on making recommendations and evaluations. Rather, we aim to encourage the use of OSS in public administrations. We can provide case studies in order to make OSS solutions more visible to the OSS community.

Questions & Answers (4/4)

Scope of OSOR

Q. With regards to scope, have you considered doing one- or two-month sprints with a particular scope? For example, focusing on regional government or open source for budgeting. Different regions could be selected and key figures from different communities could work to identify the most active OSS projects.

A. The OSOR team is will be following up on this suggestion. We will discuss the feasibility of implementation and the timeline and communicate this back to the OSOR community. Thank you very much for the suggestion.

Q. Will there be a curated list of the most reused codebases within European public administrations? I am aware that some lists exist, but they are lacking a sense of community health. Could we monitor how many contributors and maintainers are active on the platform?

A. With regard to the curated list of codebases, the OSOR team is currently evaluating the possibility of supporting an 'open source directory' where users will be able to search for OSS projects and initiatives in public administrations. This initiative is just starting and as soon as we have our first insights, we will share it with the OSOR community.

Thank you for your contributions!

What are you looking forward to?

Country intelligence on open source software policies and initiatives within Member States



OSS COUNTRY INTELLIGENCE



GUIDELINES

Guidelines for creating sustainable open source communities

More than 100 case studies on the deployment of open source software within public administrations



CASE STUDIES



SPECIFIC RESOURCES

A list of open source software associations, competence centres, initiatives, and points of contact

Which improvements would you like to see?

Next steps

Next steps



OSS Country Intelligence

The 10 first country reports and factsheets will start being uploaded soon!



Guidelines

We are closing the survey on 29 February 2020 and will start interviews in March!



Case studies

We are currently drafting a case study on *Tchap*, used by the French public administration.



Specific Resources

The list of specific resources is currently being updated with both private and public OSS players.



Take your feedback into account

Thank you for your contribution in this webinar, we will take all your feedback into account!

STAY IN TOUCH

Get Involved – Stay Informed



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Reach out at ISA2@ec.europa.eu
or osor@wavestone.com

Thank you



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Slides 2, 21 pictures, source: Wavestone library; Slides 7, 9, 12 screenshots, source: osor.eu



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