The EU FOSSA-2 project

The EU-FOSSA project – short for Free and Open Source Software Auditing – aims to improve the security and integrity of critical open source software. The European Commission launched it at the instigation of the European Parliament after the discovery of the Heartbleed bug in 2014, a severe vulnerability in the OpenSSL library that affected a lot of systems and software worldwide. In 2015, the European Commission launched the EU-FOSSA pilot project as a call to action to audit the security of the EU's most critical open source software.

Following the success of the EU-FOSSA pilot, the project was renewed for another three years in 2017 as EU-FOSSA 2, a preparatory action. The project was extended to include open source software used in other European institutions and deployed innovative techniques such as:
- setting up bug bounty programmes,
- organising hackathons and conferences, and
- engaging and participating in developer communities.

Furthermore, EU-FOSSA 2 is expanding its scope to a wider range of software projects and communities.

Interactive sessions

As part of the EU-FOSSA 2 project, several critical FOSS projects and communities have been identified as targets for a first engagement. By discussing security-related issues, practices and needs in interactive sessions with the developer communities, the European Commission hopes to improve the security of these projects in particular, and FOSS in general.

The EU thinks it is important to connect with and build relationships with key developer communities around critical FOSS projects.

The EU FOSSA 2 team

Marek Przybyszewski is the Programme Manager for the EC Open Source Strategy and the EU-FOSSA 2 project. After completing his computer science studies at Warsaw University, he worked as a developer, project manager and software architect in various sectors, including banking, accountancy, NGO and market research, as well as in a start-up delivering IPTV solutions based entirely on an open source software stack. He has been working as a civil servant at the EC since 2006, and in 2014 he joined DG Informatics where, among other projects, he is responsible for the Open Source Strategy and the EU-FOSSA project.

Saranjit Arora is the Project Manager for EU-FOSSA 2. After graduating from the University of Nottingham in mathematics with computing, he worked at Esso, PwC and FileNet before venturing into entrepreneurship. Besides setting up and managing several businesses over the last 20+ years, he is an experienced Prince 2 certified programme manager with specialist knowledge of digital, security, open source and IT outsourcing.

More information

More information on the EU FOSSA-2 project can be found here.