

Exploring self-hosted Free Open Source Software projects in libraries

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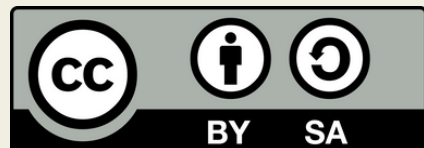
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BOBCATSSS 2023: A New Era - Exploring the Possibilities and Expanding the Boundaries

Bobcatsss 2023 will explore the possibilities for services and programming and the expansion of physical and virtual boundaries in this new era for libraries, archives and information services.

BOBCATSSSS 2023 (Oslo, Norway)

"Exploring Free Open Source Software projects in libraries"

Libraries should be digital services providers through self-hosted FOSS solutions

BOBCATSSSS 2023 (Oslo, Norway)

"Exploring Free Open Source Software projects in libraries"

**Our work tries to
answer the
following
questions...**

**Why Free Open Source
Software?**

Why self-hosted?

**Why should we [as
librarians] care about it?**



SOURCE: [GNU.ORG](https://www.gnu.org)

What is Free Open Source Software (FOSS)?

A type of software that **allows the user to RUN, COPY, DISTRIBUTE, STUDY, CHANGE AND IMPROVE** the software itself.

SEE **"THE FOUR FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS"** EXPLORED PREVIOUSLY BY COMPUTER SCIENTIST **RICHARD STALLMAN (FREE SOFTWARE FOUNDATION)**

KEY POINT: DIGITAL FREEDOM AS AN EXTENSION OF "MATERIAL" FREEDOM

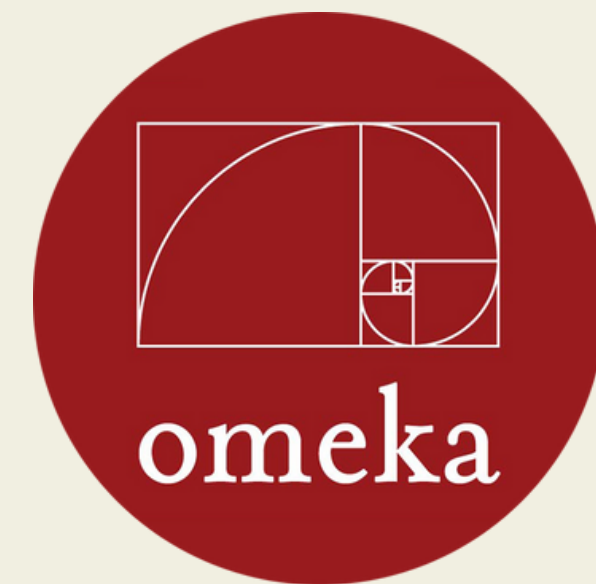
Examples of popular FOSS in the LIS field



INTEGRATED LIBRARY
SYSTEM

zotero

REFERENCE MANAGER



CONTENT MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM FOR DIGITAL
COLLECTIONS

Comparison of free and open-source software licenses

 [6 languages](#) 

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

(Redirected from [List of FSF-approved software licenses](#))

This comparison only covers [software licenses](#) which have a linked Wikipedia article for details and which are approved by at least one of the following expert groups: the [Free Software Foundation](#), the [Open Source Initiative](#), the [Debian Project](#) and the [Fedora Project](#). For a list of licenses not specifically intended for software, see [List of free-content licences](#).

FOSS licenses [\[edit \]](#)

FOSS stands for "Free and Open Source Software". There is no one universally agreed-upon definition of **FOSS** software and various groups maintain approved lists of licenses. The [Open Source Initiative](#) (OSI) is one such organization keeping a list of open-source licenses.^[1] The [Free Software Foundation](#) (FSF) maintains a list of what it considers free.^[2] FSF's [free software](#) and OSI's [open-source](#) licenses together are called **FOSS** licenses. There are licenses accepted by the OSI which are not free as per the [Free Software Definition](#). The [Open Source Definition](#) allows for further restrictions like price, type of contribution and origin of the contribution, e.g. the case of the NASA Open Source Agreement, which requires the code to be "original" work.^{[3][4]} The OSI does not endorse FSF license analysis (interpretation) as per their disclaimer.^[5]

The FSF's Free Software Definition focuses on the user's unrestricted rights to use a program, to study and modify it, to copy it, and redistribute it for any purpose, which are considered by the FSF the *four essential freedoms*.^{[6][7]} The OSI's open-source criteria focuses on the availability of the [source code](#) and the advantages of an unrestricted and community driven development model.^[8] Yet, many FOSS licenses, like the Apache License, and all Free Software licenses allow commercial use of FOSS components.^[9]

SOURCE: [WIKIPEDIA](#)

BOBCATSSSS 2023 (Oslo, Norway)

"Exploring Free Open Source Software projects in libraries"

Why choose Free Open Source Software (FOSS)?

There are many reasons, but the one's related to our field...

Openness

Promotes and bases its existence on **OPENESS**, as libraries do:

- Open Access
- Open Standards
- Open Knowledge

Recognised by the UNESCO as an **"Open Solution"**

Values

Shares some values with libraries, like...

- Collaboration
- Freedom of speech
- Autonomy and privacy
- No financial interest
- Creation of communities

What does "self-hosted" mean?

"Self Hosting is a form of running your own website or application by setting up a server and network yourself. Instead of using a Platform as a Service or a Public Cloud Provider, **those who choose to self-host will run their own networks and be responsible for the maintenance and uptime** in addition to building their website or application."

SOURCE: [HQ INSIGHTS](#)

What do you mean by "libraries as digital services providers" ?



Is it worth the responsibility?

We highlight the following benefits

Reduced costs (vs third-party vendors) and **more sustainable**

Ethical data control and **avoidance of vendor lock-in**

An opportunity to **rethink the function of libraries** in the digital age and be **active and autonomous institutions**

Customization of the software and its **functionalities** to the needs of the **library user's needs**

But there are some challenges we need to address

Some of them, identified by previous literature

Lack of training for librarians in this field (digital skills)

Institutional policies may not contemplate the use of FOSS

Limited budget for the acquisition of hardware and broadband

Reorganize some aspects of the internal structure and set up **ethics committees, IT departments...**

**Libraries as
self-hosted
digital services
providers**

**Library
Recommendations
(**IFLA**)**

SDG's (UNESCO**)**

**Next Generation
Internet (**European
Comission**)**

FOSS in different international initiatives



IFLA

IFLA has produced multiple documents around the SDG's of the **2030 Agenda**. The statement published last October 2022 highlights **the need for accountability in this area**.



UNESCO

Recognises FOSS as a tool to "**create, exchange, share and exploit software and knowledge efficiently and effectively**". It also recognises its **sustainable** nature because of its **openness and freedom**.



Next Generation Internet

The EC has conducted studies which conclude that **FOSS is an excellent way to support open standards, interoperability and create communities for knowledge sharing**.

FOSS as a tool to help libraries accomplish some SDG's



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Disappearance of economic gaps between students because of the low or zero cost for licenses.



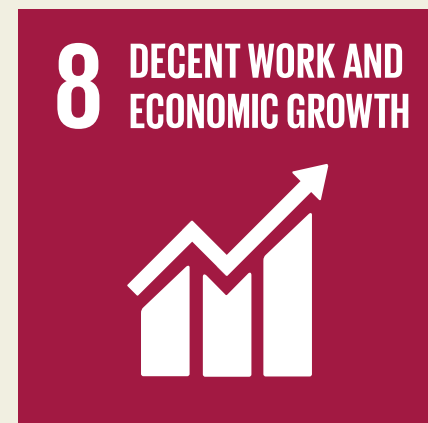
Some authors have identified that **FOSS fosters creativity**, thus opening up the possibility that **libraries could become incubators for FOSS IT projects**.



Empowering girls and women to actively participate in the development of software, reducing the **gender gap in tech**.



Users are allowed to acquire skills in a software that they can use on their devices **regardless of their economic level** and that uses **open standards**.



The European Commission has identified that this type of software **contributes to an increase of returns on R&D investments**.



The EC Open Source Software Strategy 2020-2023 recognizes FOSS **as a way to make good use of public money**, as well as a way to save it and **increase citizens' trust in public services**.



REAL LIFE EXAMPLE: Deutsche Staatsbibliothek and openbiblio.eu

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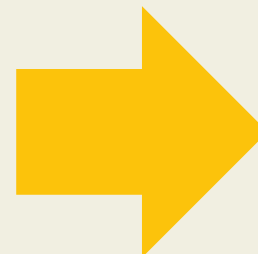
Hier ist openbiblio.eu

Projekte

- <https://jobs.openbiblio.eu/> OpenBiblioJobs – Stellenangebote von Bibliotheken, Archiven und Informationseinrichtungen
- <https://discourse.openbiblio.eu/> Ein bibliothekarisches Forum
- <https://bibcast.openbiblio.eu/> Webcasts zu Bibliotheksthemen
- <https://badge.openbiblio.eu/> Open Library Badge – Ein Anreizsystem für mehr Offenheit in Bibliotheken
- <https://openbiblio.social> Wie Twitter – nur besser, weil Open Source und selbst gehostet. Und mit Schwerpunkt auf die Bibliothekswelt. Teil des [Fediverse](#).
- <https://oervz.openbiblio.eu/> Verzeichnis von (offenen) Lehrmaterialien in bibliothekswissenschaftlichen Studiengängen

Hast Du eine andere Projektidee? Dann schreib' an: phu@openbiblio.eu oder <https://openbiblio.social/@phu>

2022



openbiblio.social - a self-hosted "Twitter" (microblogging network) for librarians and users!



Der Einstieg in das Mastodon-Netzwerk für
Bibliotheksmenschen

ADMINISTRADO POR:



OpenBi...
@admin

ESTADÍSTICAS DEL
SERVIDOR:

628
usuarios activos

Saber más

THROUGH A SELF-HOSTED SOFTWARE (MASTODON),
ALLOWS THE LIBRARY TO:

- **EXPAND ITS IDENTITY INTO THE DIGITAL WORLD**
- **DEVELOP ITS OWN TERMS OF USE, AS IT IS NOT RELYING ON A THIRD-PARTY SERVICE**
- **BE MORE AUTONOMOUS**
- **IMPLEMENT AND UPGRADE NEW LIBRARIAN ROLES (SYSTEM LIBRARIANS)**

Cerqueu o escriu l'URL



@monicabautista

Edita el perfil



Què tens en ment?



CW

CA

500

Publica-ho

[openbiblio.social](#): [Quant a](#) · [Convida persones](#)
· [Directori de perfils](#) · [Política de privadesa](#)

[Mastodon](#): [Quant a](#) · [Aconseguix l'app](#) ·
[Dreces de teclat](#) · [Mostra el codi font](#) ·
v4.0.2

Línia de temps local



Bayerische Staatsbibliothek
@bsbmuenchen

🌐 fa 1 hores *

Fehlen Ihnen noch Bilder für die Dissertation? Oder benötigen Sie alte Ortsansichten für die Heimatchronik?

In unserem [#Webinar](#) „Da schau her! Recherche im Bildarchiv der Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek" zeigen wir Ihnen wie Sie im Bildarchiv-OPAC der [#BSBmuenchen](#) fündig werden.

Am 25. Jan. um 15.30h – kostenfrei!
bsb-muenchen.de/webinare/da-sc...

Foto: BSB/ Bildarchiv
[#DigitalEvents](#) [#BSBBildarchiv](#) [#historischeFotos](#) [#Fotografie](#)



mastodon

Inici

Notificacions

Explora

Local

Federat

Missatges directes

Preferits

Marcadors

Llistes

Preferències

Conclusions

Offering self-hosted FOSS digital services in libraries is a great opportunity ...

For meeting the needs of users in the digital age.

Follow the recommendations and mandates of international organizations.

To update the image and function of libraries and librarians without renouncing their core values.

For making its users digitally literate through ethical solutions.

Thank you!

Any questions...?

