

# How SELF helped building structures for freedom

Georg Greve

`greve@fsfeurope.org`

Free Software Foundation Europe



# Three levels of freedom in SELF

## **Software**

## **Standards**

## **Learning Materials**

Free Software and Open Standards are

## **Subject & Means**

# Goal

## Legal maintainability **during** and **beyond** project funding

- Questions to answer:
  - What is Free Software?
  - What are Open Standards?
  - What are Free Educational Materials?
- Write and maintain legal policy
- Check licenses and standards for compliance w/policy
- Document results of work

## Build infrastructure



# Approach

## **SELF Legal Experts Group (LEG)**

- Shane Coughlan
- Robin Gross
- Lucie Guibault
- Mathias Klang
- Catharina Maracke
- Axel Metzger
- Jonas Öberg
- Mary Wong
- Raquel Xalabarder

# Definitions for SELF

- **Free Software**

<http://www.selfproject.eu/FSD>  
– identical to definition of FSFs

- **Free Educational Material**

<http://www.selfproject.eu/EMD>  
– derived from Free Software Definition  
– governing principle: “securely free enough”

- **Open Standards**

<http://www.selfproject.eu/OSD>  
– engaged in wide dialogue including policy, governments, organisations in various fora

# Ongoing work

- Pre-existing materials under more restrictive licenses?
  - Reference Materials Exception
- Multimedia/video formats?
  - Heavily patent encumbered area
  - Ogg Theora probably okay
  - Dirac only safe choice

<http://selfproject.eu/LEG/FreeVideoFormats>

- Maintaining lists of licenses and standards:

<http://selfproject.eu/Software-Licenses>

<http://selfproject.eu/EM-Licenses>

<http://selfproject.eu/standards>

## Copyright Consolidation

### ● Why?

- Re-Licensing
- Assurance
- Compliance

### ● How?

- Fiduciary Licence Agreement (FLA)
- Ensure administrative handling
- Ensure competency
- Prepare defense

## **SELF is not the only one**

- Legal maintainability affects confidence
- Lack of compliance can harm projects
- Legal and technical fields co-develop
- Legal competency deciding factor

Requirements:

**Independence**

**Sustainability  
Competence**

# FSFE's Freedom Task Force (FTF)

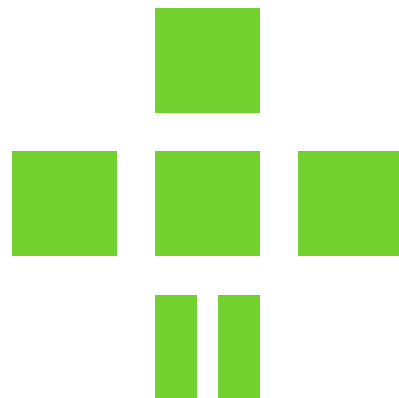
<http://fsfeurope.org/ftf>

- A general service provider for Free Software
- Main activities:  
**Education, Fiduciary, Compliance**
- Development and spreading of legal competency
- Extensive legal network:
  - More than 80 Legal experts
  - Covers 18 European countries
  - Includes Canada, the USA, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan and Australia
- Fiduciary activities for Free Software, e.g. Bacula.org



## Thank you for your attention!

### Questions?



- Free Software Foundation Europe:  
<http://fsfeurope.org>
- Get involved, defend your freedom:  
<http://www.fsfe.org>