Don't defend your values by diluting them : end
letters.

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Abstract

A last series of letters that accompanied our research.

Half free, half imprisoned. – letter to the *FSFE*, 22/07

To : Matthias Kirschner and the rest of the FSFE staff.

In reaction to : ‘Public Money Public Code’, a petition by the FSFE
<https://publiccode.eu/>

I signed this petition with the following note :

*ALL publicly financed software should be Free Software - not
just “developed for the public sector”. (We don’t use words
like “open source”)*

I don’t see how it is the FSFE’s role to promote ‘open source’.

I can perfectly see how it is a “strategic move”, and even a “realistic”
one... [However :]

The FSFE should set the standards for Free Software in accordance with
the FSF and [the] GNU [project]¹.

We don’t defend our values by diluting them.

(unless the FSFE intends to become some sort of center-left [SPD] version
of the FSF – figuratively speaking)

¹<https://www.gnu.org/philosophy/free-sw.en.html>
<https://www.gnu.org/philosophy/open-source-misses-the-point.html>

PUBLIC MONEY

PUBLIC CODE

ABOUT

REASONS

TAKE ACTION

RESOURCES

SPREAD THE WORD

LANGUAGE

TELL YOUR REPRESENTATIVES!

In our [OPEN LETTER](#) we demand:

"Implement legislation requiring that publicly financed software developed for the public sector be made publicly available under a [Free and Open Source Software licence](#)."

170 organisations and 22531 individuals already support this call for action by signing our [open letter](#). You can help us make a much bigger impact by signing it, too! We will hand over all signatures to representatives all over Europe that are debating software freedom in public administration.

Name (required)

Email (required)

Your Country

Zip Code

Your comment (max. 140 characters)

☐ I have read and accepted the [privacy statement](#)
☐ I want my signature to appear in the [list of signatures](#)

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A cyber letter lost – to the *EFF*, 22/07

*“If you are going to use the value of privacy in your marketing, I think you have an obligation to your consumers to tell us what that means,” said India McKinney (...)*²

This, of course applies, to everyone (EFF included).

As yet another of their staffers publishes in yet another newspaper whose website contradicts their purported values in most obvious ways, we refrained from writing another letter.

Let alone this particular publication being among the properties of one Jeff Bezos (Amazon).

If the *Electronic Frontier Foundation* weren't so busy fighting “Big gov”, it would be what it claims : a defender of privacy against all threats; it is not, and perhaps has never been.

But, like the American Frontier, after which it was most likely named, it has many histories and many delusions...

²Albergotti and Romm. 2019. “Apple preaches privacy.” 15/07, *WP*.