

# The Debian Project

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# Summary

- Introduction in Debian philosophy
- Specific concepts
- Statistics
- The global community
- The Romanian community
- How to become a member? Why?

## Concepts specific to Debian

- Not owned by a company
- Ensuring freedom of ideas and included software
- The biggest community-driven project
- Universal - runs on many platforms
- Accessible - optimized for users with physical disabilities



# Debian means Freedom



## Debian Social Contract

The essential document in the Debian - developers/users relationship

*Guarantees project's freedom, and its own persistence.*



## DFSG

### Debian Free Software Guidelines

*Extends Debian Social Contract by defining a set of rules to summarize free software concepts.*



# Debian means Freedom

## Indications extracted from the DFSG

### Free software characteristics:

- free redistribution
- source code availability and inclusion
- modification is allowed
- eliminates any group / intent / user discrimination
- ensures license keeping
- license must be kept outside Debian, too

Licenses accepted as free: GPL, BSD, CC-BY-SA

# Project structure

Debian is a trademark of SPI (Software in Public Interest)

His hierarchy and structure consists exclusively of project members

There is a Project Leader, chosen by annual election, who publicly represents Debian interests



Any Debian Member can have an opinion on the project's evolution, this usually leading to a community-driven decision.



# Availability and accessibility

## Hardware

In order to run Debian, you only need a minimalistic hardware setup.

## Architectures

Debian can be installed on various environments, such as personal computers, laptops, mobile phones, servers, embedded devices and so on...

## Ports

Debian isn't built only around Linux kernel. We now have ports to Hurd and kFreeBSD kernel alternatives.



# Availability and accessibility

## Accessible

Debian is configured out-of-the-box in order to be used by almost everybody.

- Very good support for Braille terminals
- Nice integration of text-to-speech engine
- Easy configuration method for the default console display, in order to set the default font family or size.
- Natural detection of auxiliary hardware, such as peripherals, cards and drives.
- Translated in over 50 languages.



## Some Debian numbers

### Developer-centric demographics

- Finland is on the first place with the biggest active members percent, it currently have 21 active developers and a strong proportion of 4 / million inhabitants
- **USA, Germany** and **France** are leading when it comes to total active developers, with **165, 155**, respectively **94** DD/DM accounts.
- Romania is on **46th** position, with 2 members, and only one active.

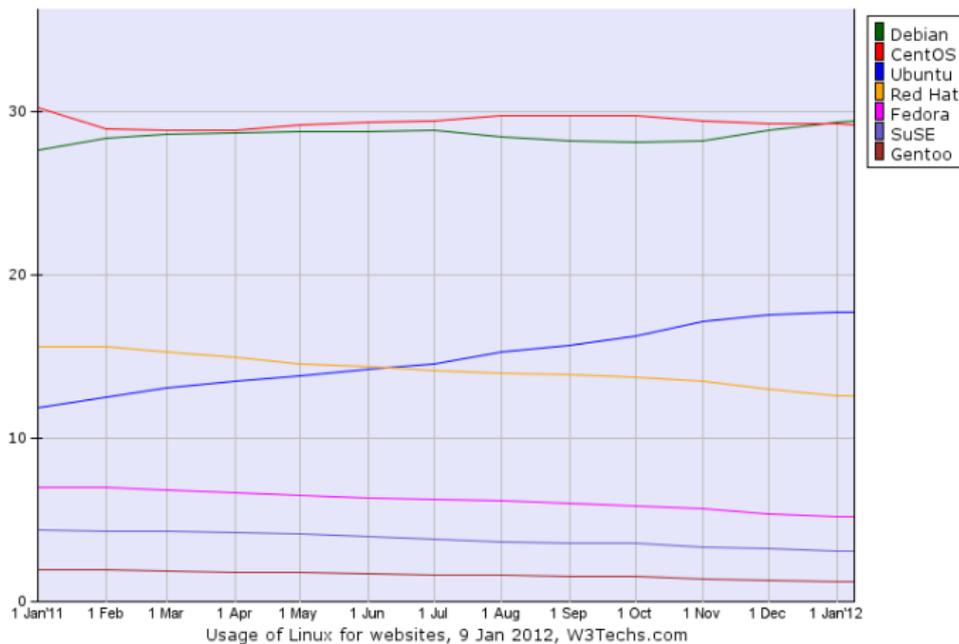
### General stuff

As a big total, we currently have developers from **59** countries. At this moment, **920**, out of **1490** are active and bringing important contributions to the project.



Debian and other Linux distributions

# Debian and server applications

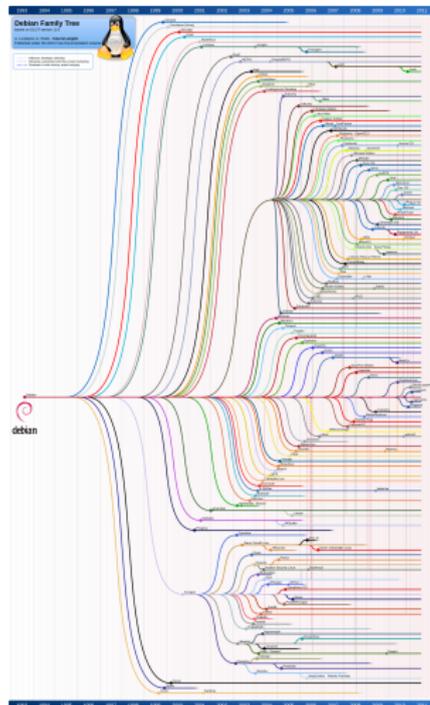




Debian and other Linux distributions

## Debian - genealogy

- Ubuntu
- Linux Mint
- MeeGo
- Knoppix
- DSL (Damn Small Linux)



## Debian 7.0 - Wheezy?

### When?

At the end of June 2012, Debian/testing will enter *freeze*, while everybody will work intensively to fix the remaining RC bugs.

We expect a Wheezy release for the first half of 2013.



# Freeze





# What's new?

## Multi-arch

The possibility to create packages for different architectures without actually needing to install / bootstrap them (dpkg/multiarch).

## debian-installer accessibility

Default support for WPA authentication  
Native ARM support

## Kernel update

Debian GNU/Linux will run on top of a 3.x kernel.



# Debian Planet

What's that? What's so special about it?

- People from many different domains and activities
- People who only meet rarely, and happily!
- Activists in favor of software and general freedom
- Journalists, engineers, passionate users, hackers or artists, they all work on the same





Why bother?

## Why? How? Me?!

### The Good

- You can have an influence about where Debian is going
- The opportunity to work with some brilliant people
- Whatever you might do well, you can do it here too
- Immediate recognition and feedback for your efforts
- A very friendly environment

### The Bad

- Good decisions are usually coming slowly
- Responsibility grows together with the amount of derivatives that might use your work
- This global scatter can make online synchronization very difficult



# The debian-linux.ro story

...began in February 2011, with the help of ServerHost.

What we've built so far:

- A web forum
- An informative Debian website
- The foundation for a local community



# The debian-linux.ro story

...and it will gain strength in June 2012!

What we want to do:

- A website filled with useful resources
- Guides, tutorials, classes and workshops
- Translate and promote





## What are we up to now?

- Translation of the free *Debian Administrator's Handbook*, written by Raphael Hertzog and Roland Mas
- Planning the debian-linux.ro website in order to rebuild a part of it (we recently bought debian.org.ro domain)
- Organizing meetings!
- Keep in touch with the community



## What can we do next?

- Workshop.deb (or "how to package stuff for Debian")
- Installfest
- Technical meetings with DMs ( MiniDebConf)
- Bug Squashing Panties
- Launch parties (*not that hard, they are rare* 😊)



## What do we want?

- An increased number of 100% "Made in Romania" contributions
- Even more Debian Members and Debian Developers
- Fully, regulated translation of the DPN (*Debian Project News*)
- Increased popularity for the operating system amongst GNU/Linux users



Questions?