FLA – Lessons learnt

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FOSDEM 2014 | Brussels

About me

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➔lawyer
➔tea addict
➔geek

Goals of the FLA

Benefit the Free Software project and community:

- ➔easier licensing maintenance
- ➔can protect the projects/code
- ➔can protect **the contributors**
- ➔code will carry on
- ➔project stays Free Software

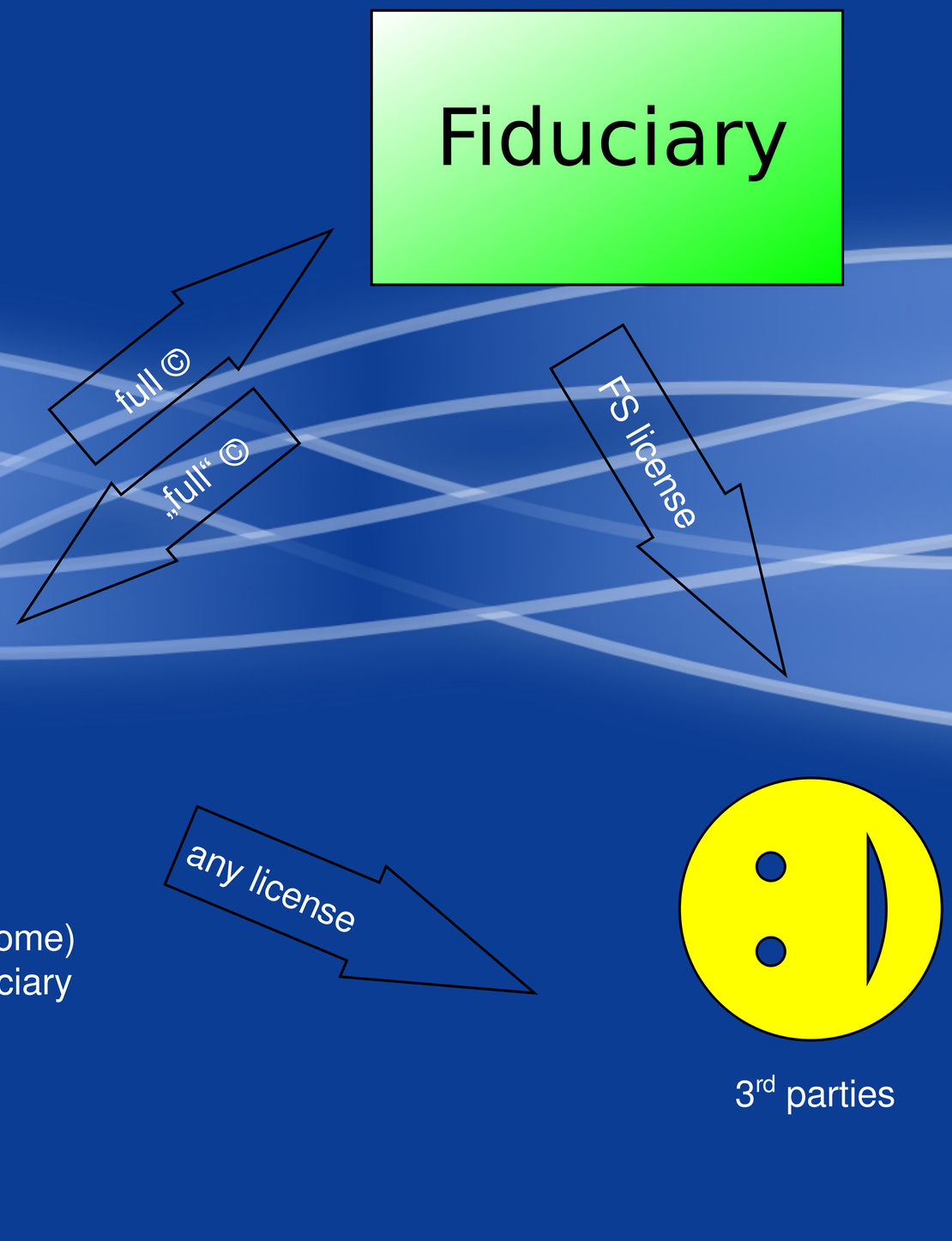
How does FLA work?

Beneficiary ⇒ Fiduciary:

- full © / exclusive, global license to *inter alia*:
- reproduce
- redistribute
- make available
- authorise 3rd parties to make derivatives
- original or modified work
- (excluding moral rights)

Fiduciary ⇒ Benefiricary (on own work):

- non-exclusive, global, unrestricted, perpetual version of above
- + non-exclusive, transferable license to use, reproduce, redistribute, make available under any license



Checks & balances

- ✔ Beneficiary basically still has all rights
- ✔ Fiduciary gains **responsible** power
- ✔ FLA is a versioned text (you agree to the version you signed)
- ✔ breach of trust ⇒ all rights back

Case: Aeonic

small project

FLA 1.2 ⇒ FSFE

2007 ⇒ 2009: FLA & GPLv2 ⇒ 2014(?): (A)GPLv3

Case: Bacula

project w/ ~60 devs

FLA 1.1 ⇒ FSFE +
CA ⇒ Kern Sibbald ⇒ FLA 1.1 ⇒ FSFE

2000 ⇒ 2002: GPLv2 & FDLv1.2 ⇒ 2006: FLA & MoU ⇒ 2008: CA & AGPLv3 + enterprise ⇒ 2013: agreement

Case: KDE

huge project

FLA 1.3.3 ⇒ KDE e.V.

1998: (L)GPLv2 ⇒ 2008: FLA* + FRP

* FLA not required, but warmly recommended

Case: SELF Project

EU-funded educational project on Free Software and Open Standards

FLA 1.2 ⇒ FSFE

(project ended in 2009
FSFE is member of the consortium)

What we learnt

- project's life made easier
- it is well accepted by beneficiaries, but needs some further explanation
- administrative overhead (d'uh)
- FRP and patch policy = awesome idea

Future (1.x, 2.0, …?)

- user friendlier
- even clearer wording
- more jurisdictions (e.g. Asia)
- (A)GPLv3
- patents
- trademarks
- …whatever the community needs

Questions, ideas?

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…or simply in person at the FSFE booth ☺

Razen kjer drugače nakazano, je avtor **Matija Šuklje** in je to delo ponujeno pod

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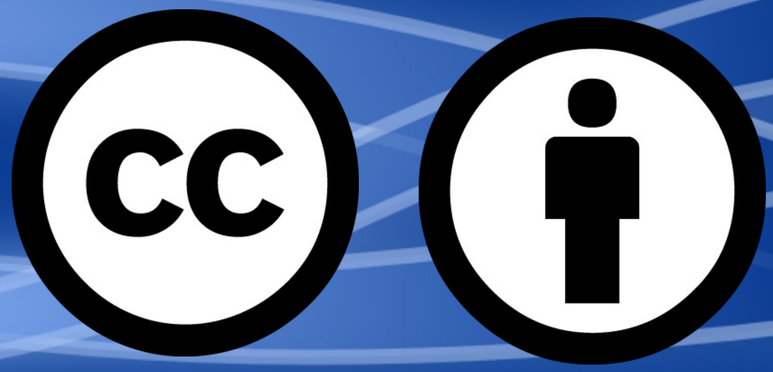

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