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February  
2025

# OSOR Handbook

A guide to open source in the public sector

interoperable  
europe

# OSOR



## **Open Source Software News**

Articles on developments in the use of Open Source in public administration and monthly OSOR newsletter



## **Knowledge Centre**

Reports, guidelines, research papers, case studies, and repositories useful for public administration and for all users of FOSS.



## **Community Events**

OSOR community meets in workshops and events to exchange experiences, discuss common challenges, or share success stories.



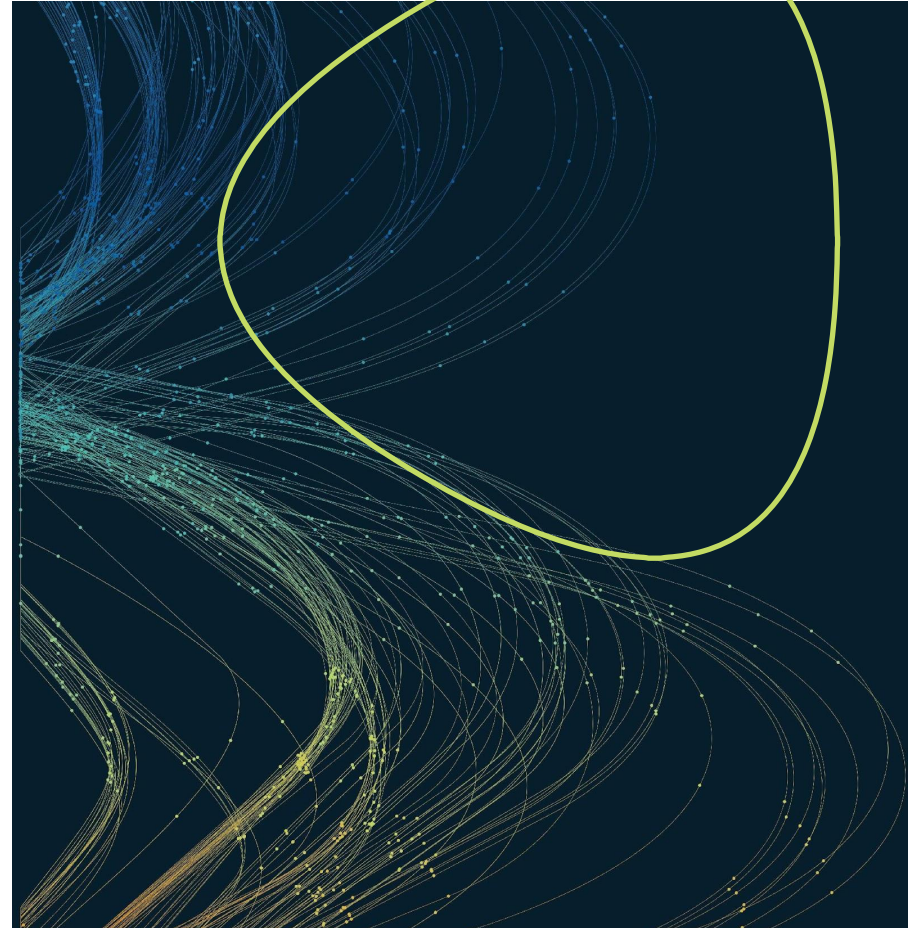
## **OSOR latest milestones**

OSOR Handbook, new training courses, paper on policy and trends

# The OSOR Handbook

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- What is the OSOR handbook?
- Purpose and Audience
- Key Sections
- Main challenges



# Chapter overview

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**Introduction**



**Finding and using OSS**



**Developing Software**



**Co-developing and participating in OSS communities**



**Specific aspects of open source funding**



**Legal Framework**



**Structuring the use of FOSS**



**Getting Help**





### **First public consultation**

A series of 3 closed workshops and 3 open webinars were held to discuss the needs of public sector users of open source



### **First draft of the handbook**

After compiling the input received during 2022/2023, the OSOR team drafted a first version of the handbook.



### **Consultation and v1.0**

After a month-long consultation and a workshop, the handbook is being reworked to integrate the feedback received.

# Results of the consultation

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1

## Month of consultation

Consultation was held from 30 October to 30 November

10

## Main contributors

Public sector representatives, open source advocates, associative and private sector are represented.

144

## Comments and input

As well as numerous text changes, the input covers all chapters as well as the structure of the handbook itself.

# Type of input received

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12

## **Addition**

New content, additional information, link to be added...

26

## **Clarification**

Definition of notions or vocabulary, as well as general meaning of the sentence.

33

## **Modification**

Readability, and clarification of certain grammatical choice as well as structural change to a paragraph.

73

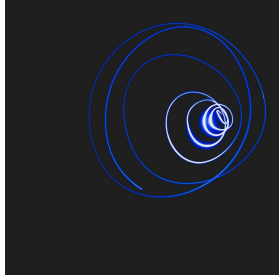
## **General comments**

Discussion on the editorial choices of the Handbook, on its structure and miscellaneous.

# Choices for the handbook revision were based on:







# Lessons learnt from creating a guide on the use of open source



1

# Consultation

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2

## Simplicity

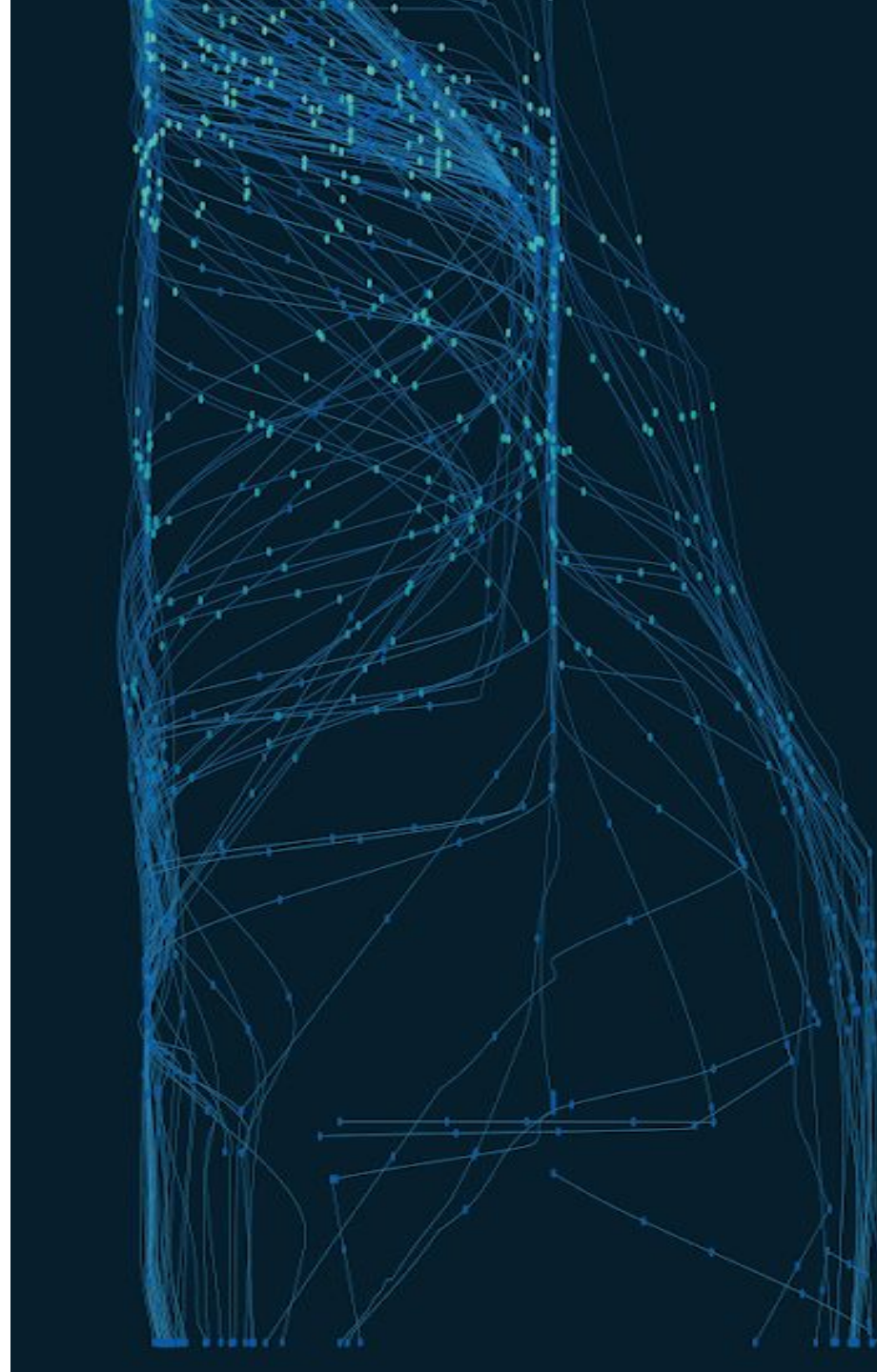





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## Community

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The background features a complex, abstract pattern of glowing green and blue lines and particles. The lines form a central, somewhat circular shape with two pointed ends extending horizontally. The particles are scattered throughout, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall color palette is dominated by dark blue, with vibrant green and blue highlights.

What is the one  
resource you always  
recommend?



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