

# Mozilla, the European perspective

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Mozilla Europe



# The Mozilla structure

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## Project led by a non-profit: Mozilla Foundation

- ♦ 2 direct subsidiaries:

Mozilla Corporation (Web and labs)

Mozilla Messaging (Thunderbird)

- ♦ 3 regional affiliates

Mozilla Europe

Mozilla Japan

Mozilla China



# A few facts about Mozilla in Europe

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- ♦ 45% of Firefox users are in Europe (~150 million)
- ♦ ~32% market share in Europe (vs 23% world)
- ♦ Regional affiliate to Mozilla (Mozilla Europe)
- ♦ Firefox in 41 European languages
- ♦ Dynamic professional market based on the Mozilla platform or using pieces of it (Mozdev Group, Zoomorama, Briks, Glaxstar, Disruptive Innovations, TomTom, 3Liz, Nokia...)



# France: a fertile field for Mozilla

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- ♦ Strong and organized community of developers building applications with the Mozilla platform
- ♦ Organized community with several not for profit organizations (frenchmozilla, geckozone, xulfr)
- ♦ Mozilla Europe is based in Paris
- ♦ Professional market for Xul outside of Firefox add-ons (intranet applications, large scale deployments of Firefox/Thunderbird, industry applications...)





# The European Mozilla Community





# European events on Mozilla Technologies

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Two annual European-wide meetings for Mozilla

1. FOSDEM, in Université Libre de Bruxelles

2. MozCamp Europe

+ Direct education outreach with Mozilla Add-ons  
Workshops across Europe



# Why Mozilla Education in Europe?

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- ♦ The Mozilla project values are based on sharing of knowledge and meritocracy, values shared with Education
- ♦ Open Source is quickly gaining acceptance both in the industry and the public sector in Europe, making Mozilla technologies an asset on the job market
- ♦ The Web was invented in Europe in CERN !



# MMTC course in Madrid, 2009

## Collaboration with URJC

- ♦ A 3 months course online, started with a one week live session of teaching in Madrid.
- ♦ 30 students, 15 projects (UX, design, code...)
- ♦ Teaching format similar to the Comete project in Evry





# Getting Education into the ecosystem

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*Integrating Education programmes into the Mozilla ecosystem means understanding why people contribute to open source and see where formal education fits and possible synergies.*

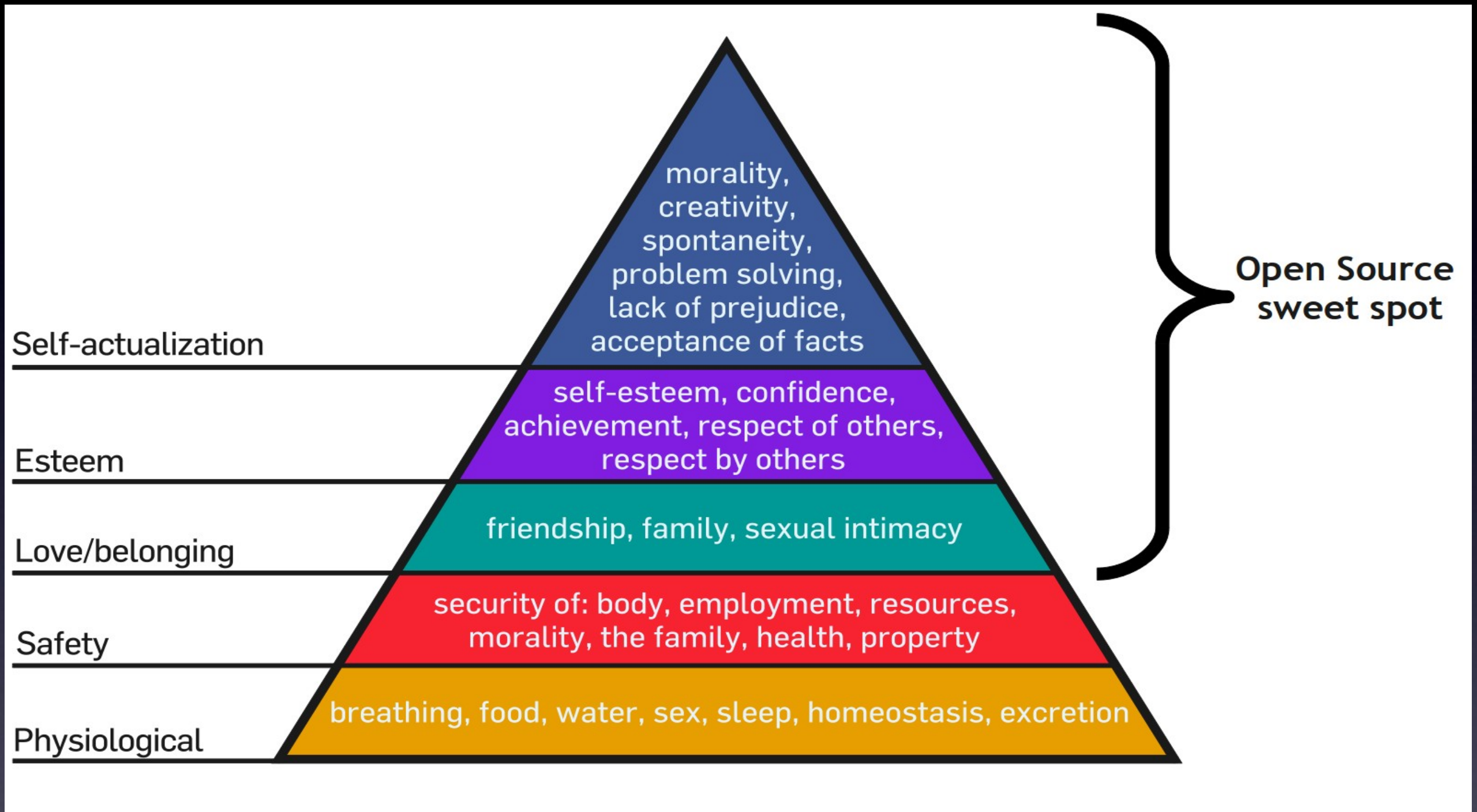


# Main motivations for Mozilla involvement

1. Belonging to a like-minded group
2. FLOSS/Open Web activism
3. Learning / Curiosity
4. Practicing dormant skills
5. Synergies with your own project (job/hobby)



# Motivation is usually at higher level



(Maslow's hierarchy of needs)





# Belonging

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Internet allows like-minded people to meet and collaborate online.

Getting involved in open source allows interaction with like-minded people, something not always possible in common social life (work, university...)

**Note:** *There is a similarity with involvement in traditional non-profit organizations, but being a non-profit is not a requirement in FLOSS.*



# Open source efficiency and activism

FLOSS is based on a philosophy of sharing, learning and openness.

Many developers are in open source because they think it is more efficient than proprietary software processes.

People also often participate in Free Software for similar reasons people enter a political party, the desire to « improve or fix the world ».



# Why not in proprietary software?

Are people motivated by open source or discouraged by the traditional model?

FLOSS licensing model means that you **CAN** fix broken software and participate to its creation if you have the technical skills.

The licensing model is also a way to empower people, removing a technical obstacle to participation.





# Education and self-teaching

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Open source is an opportunity to learn new skills and technologies for a variety of reasons (curiosity, value on the job market, university research...).

*Ex: Translating XUL documentation to learn it.*

Open Source is traditionally strongly supported in higher education, but this is not a strong field for the Mozilla project (hence the Mozilla Education project recently initiated).



# Practicing Dormant Skills

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Many people are underemployed, unemployed or simply have skills that their current job does not allow to use.

Ex:

- ♦ Practicing foreign languages
- ♦ Practicing programming languages unused at work (ex: ASP/IIS at work, PHP/Apache in FLOSS)
- ♦ Higher responsibilities in Mozilla than at workplace



# Synergy with your own project

- ♦ I localize Firefox because I want to help my language exist on the Web (ex: Maya, Occitan...)
- ♦ I use Mozilla code in my own application therefore I help maintaining it (Redhat, IBM, Sun...)
- ♦ My PhD is about a Mozilla technology or my final year project is based on Mozilla technologies
- ♦ I work on an open standard (ex: Ogg Theora) and help implementing it in Firefox
- ♦ etc.





# Why participating?

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In images →





# Belonging





# Fun





# Adventure





# Even Aliens use it!

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# Questions?





A stylized, dark gray silhouette of a T-Rex head, facing right, serves as the background for the slide. The head is composed of several overlapping shapes, giving it a layered, graphic appearance. The eyes are small and dark, and the mouth is slightly open, showing a row of small, sharp teeth.

# Thanks

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