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The Foundation Update

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A Foundation? Which Foundation? 🤔

The Matrix.org Foundation C.I.C.

- UK non-profit company (C.I.C.)
- Neutral guardian of the Matrix standard
- Releases all IP as unencumbered permissively-licensed open source software (Apache v2)
- 5 directors (“Guardians”, one to be hired)
- A Managing Director
- 4 full time staff (Program, Standard, Trust & Safety)
- A Spec Core Team of subject matter experts that manage the specification
- A Governing Board made of various stakeholders
- Responsible for growing Matrix as a public common good



“The Matrix.org Foundation exists to act as a neutral custodian for Matrix and to nurture it as efficiently as possible as a single unfragmented standard, for the greater benefit of the whole ecosystem, not benefiting or privileging any single player or subset of players.”

The Four Missions of the Foundation

Concretely, the Foundation's mission can be split across four main axis:

1. An unfragmented and unencumbered protocol.

⇒ A monolith specification managed by the Spec Core Team within the Foundation.

2. A widespread (ultimately ubiquitous) standard.

⇒ Promotion of the protocol and support of the ecosystem by a strong Foundation.

3. All players in the ecosystem are heard.

⇒ Representation of all members of the ecosystem and creation of collaboration spaces.

4. A safe network.

⇒ A professional Trust & Safety team developing tools and moderating the free public server run by the Foundation (matrix.org).

The Four Missions of the Foundation

In short:

1. **An unfragmented and unencumbered protocol.**
2. **A widespread (ultimately ubiquitous) standard.**
3. **All players in the ecosystem are heard.**
4. **A safe network.**

⇒ Tech, governance, marketing, trust & safety

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So, what happened in the last year?

Governance

- Focus on setting up the Governing Board in a working mode
 - Finalising the processes
 - New tooling
 - Setting up Committees and Working Groups
 - Second election → renewed half of the Governing Board

⇒ *come hear the Governing Board keynote tomorrow 10:30am for the details!*

- Ramp up on enabling Volunteers
 - Working Groups
 - More tooling (Discourse, handbook)

Huge progress but a lot more to be done!

Ecosystem Collaboration

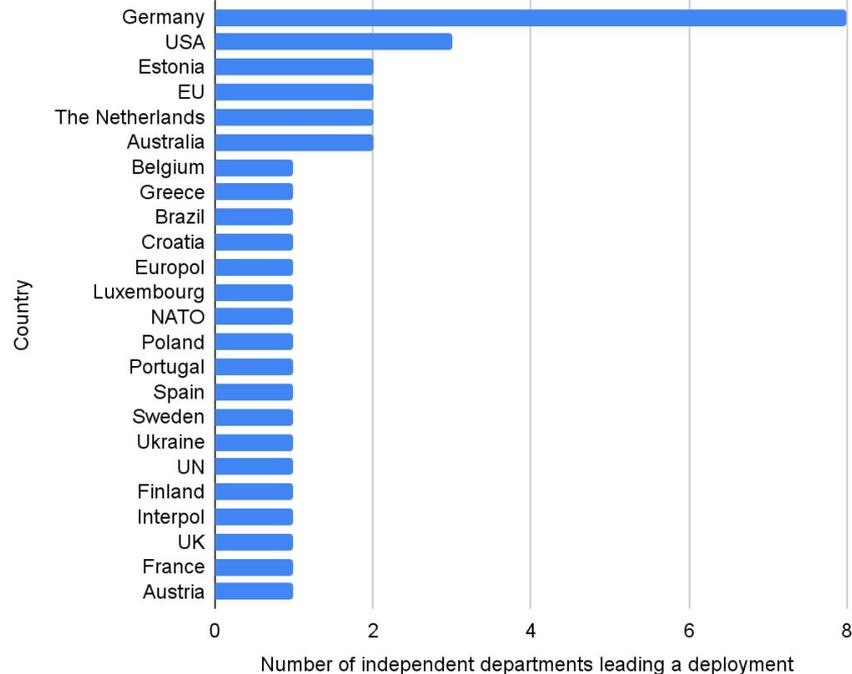
- More teaming up & tooling around Trust & Safety
 - Contractors
 - Partnership like ROOST
 - Policy servers
- SCT continues refining its approach, stronger leadership
- In kind partnerships with Discourse and LiveKit
- Experiment more with bringing verticals together: first attempt with the *Matrix for Public Sector* initiative

Talking of Public Sector...

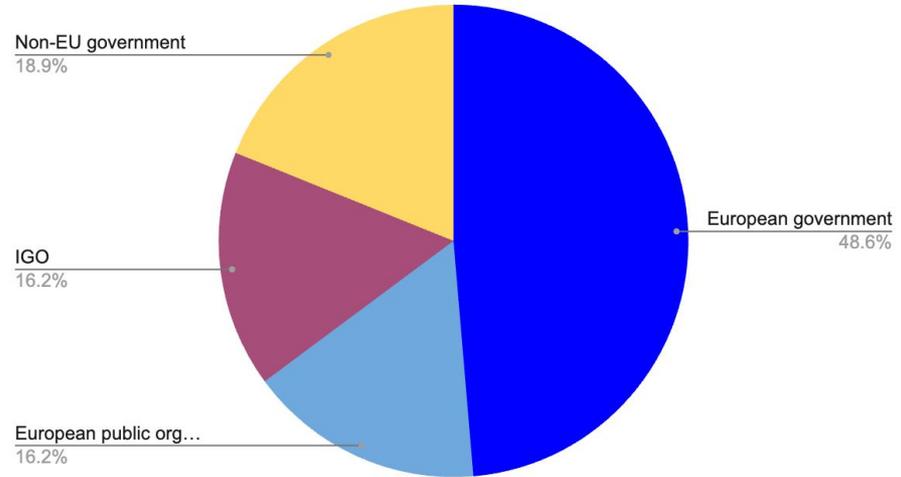
More than 24 Public Sector organisations* are or have tried using Matrix.

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Countries and IGOs



Organisation Type



* That we know about

And it keeps growing
as deployments expand.

Matrix for Public Sector Initiative

- Aims to:
 1. Determine what Public Sector organisations need to be successful in deploying Matrix between country and with the Foundation
 2. Define how the collaboration can happen
 3. If successful: reproduce it with other projects
- Example topic:
 - How to pitch Foundation funding or licence purchase to one's hierarchy?
 - How to explain the need for Digital Sovereignty?
 - How to shape funding for it to be granted?
 - How to jointly fund roadmap development
 - ...

We'll report next year!

And if you're a public sector organisation and want to be involved, come talk to me!

What about money  ?

To keep Matrix thriving and free, the
Foundation needs income.

Minimum Viable Yearly Expenses Overview



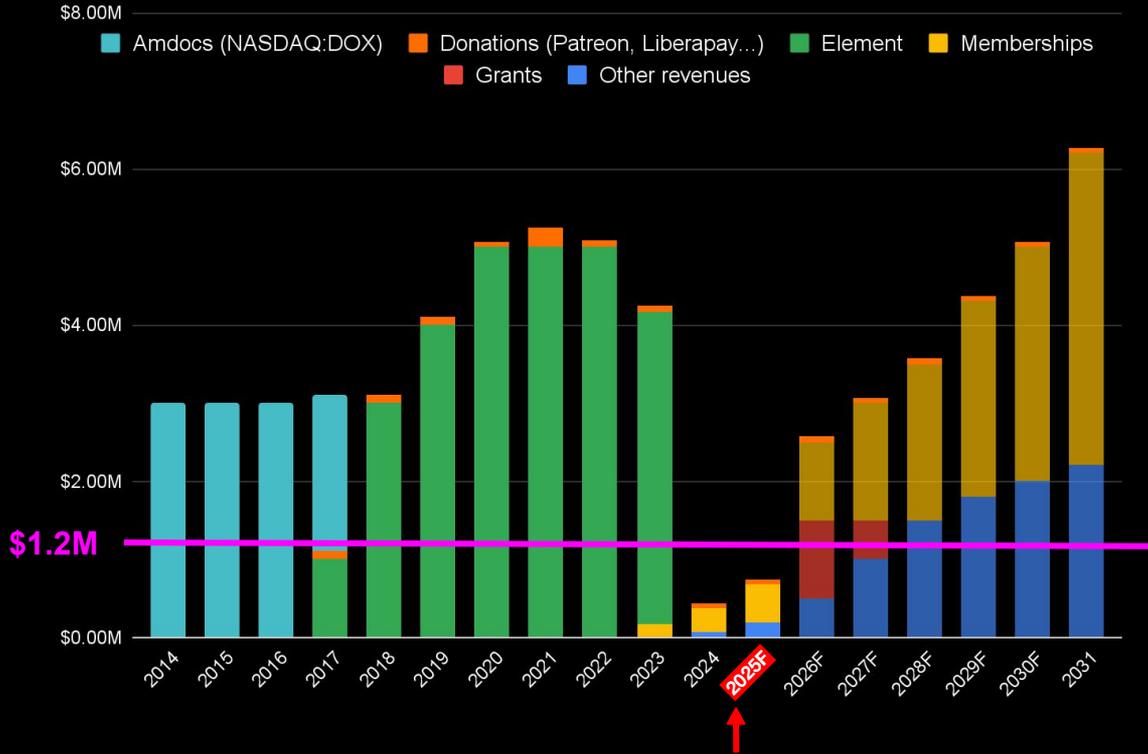
Costs constantly being optimised but today our MVP set-up requires ~\$1.2M a year, across:

- **Trust & Safety** (staff and contractors)
- **Infrastructure** (server bills and SREs, i.e. matrix.org server)
- **Management staff** (focused on fundraising, open governance, community relations, and people management)
- **Events organisation & sponsoring** (Matrix Conf and others)
- **Other staff and contractors** (including program management, legal, compliance, finance, governance consulting, and bridge maintenance)
- **Other assorted expenses** (travel and lodging, donation platforms, productivity tools, etc)

Foundation Funding



Matrix.org Foundation Income Sources



- The Membership program is the main revenue stream today
- We are exploring other streams to be deployed in 2026
- We need to free more time to apply for grants whilst these new incomes reach the necessary levels
- **And we need more and bigger Members!!!**

Tell me more about Foundation membership
Amandine!



Foundation Membership

- **Why become a member?**
To support the Matrix project, share insights and guidance, and pool resources to make projects happen.
- **Who can become a member?**
Any person or organisation who wants to support and influence the project.
- **What does membership entail?**
An annual membership fee, the opportunity to sit on the Governing Board of the Foundation, marketing benefits, recommendation on the Spec Core team priorities, and more.

Our Current Funding Members

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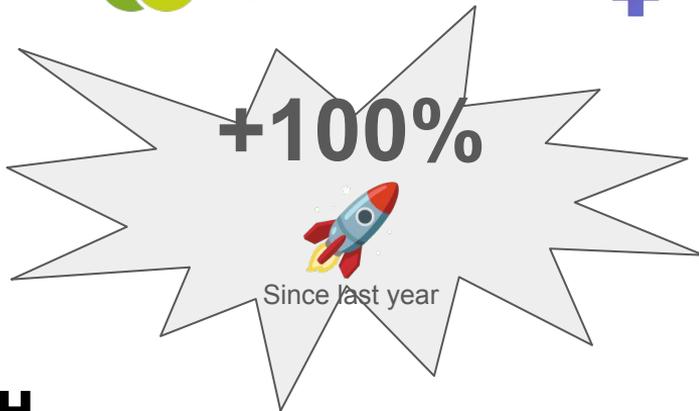
AUTOMATTIC



Filament



Federated



But who is the 20th?



 <p>GOVERNEMENT</p> <p><i>Liberté</i> <i>Égalité</i> <i>Fraternité</i></p>	<p>Direction interministérielle du numérique</p>
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Joins the Foundation as a Silver member
and our first State Government member!



Ecosystem Members

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Community
Moderation
Effort



Draupnir



Rory&::LibMatrix



Associate Members

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So what about 2026?

There is a lot to do!

- Governance
 - Build on the norms we've established and iron out the processes seeking greater engagement and velocity
- Volunteer enablement
 - Better integration with the staff, recruit more to existing WGs
- Ecosystem collaboration
 - Concretise, potentially duplicate, the *Matrix for Public Sector* initiative and find other collaboration angles
- Sustainability
 - Launch new revenue streams (eg premium accounts on matrix.org, certifications...)
- Recruiting for the next chapter of growth
 - Robin will be leaving the Managing Director role in 2026, so we will be looking for a different profile to support our new stage of development

But until we become break-even, funding will
always take priority over the rest.

So if you are dependent on Matrix
commercially or professionally:

please get involved at
matrix.org/membership





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Thank You!