



# Software Heritage

</> Newsletter </>

Issue #2, August 20, 2020



## Our commitment to preserve the web of knowledge

The unprecedented global crisis that we are facing has exposed at the same time our fragility when confronted to unknown threats, and the importance of *open, unfettered access to knowledge* in tackling these new challenges.

Here at Software Heritage, we are fully committed to contribute to the global knowledge commons by building an open, shared, non profit, multi stakeholder infrastructure that collects, preserves, and makes easily accessible the source code of all the software that is publicly available. We do this because software is knowledge: a unique, precious form of knowledge, designed by humans to be readable by humans, and executable by machines.

The news reported in this edition of the newsletter are a great opportunity to learn about our continuous effort to *ensure that the web of knowledge will not be disrupted in the long term*. We explain the advantages of *intrinsic* identifiers, like the *SWHIDs* we provide for all kind of software artifacts. We show how we are connecting with advanced initiatives, like *Nix and Guix*, that strive to create fully reproducible software systems. And we report on our first agreement with *IPOL*, an open access, reproducibility aware journal, to ensure that the source code described in all their articles is archived in Software Heritage.

And we are excited to announce [the opening of a video channel](#), where you will find keynotes, tutorials, and videos from conferences and events.

Roberto Di Cosmo  
Director  
Software Heritage

## OUR MISSION

[We collect and preserve software in source code form](#), because software embodies our technical

and scientific knowledge and humanity cannot afford the risk of losing it. Software is a precious part of our cultural heritage. We curate and make accessible all the software we collect, because only by **sharing** it we can guarantee its preservation in the very long term.

**Collect**



**Preserve**



**Share**



Software Heritage will provide solid, common foundations to serve the different needs of [heritage preservation](#), [science](#), and [industry](#).

**IT'S NEW!**



**SUBSCRIBE**

#### Welcome to our video channel

We are delighted to announce that [Software Heritage has a video channel](#) where you can find all of our presentations describing our mission, actions, and next steps.

[Take a look at it!](#)



#### Intrinsic and Extrinsic identifiers

The distinction between intrinsic and extrinsic identifiers is crucial when it comes to long term preservation. Our new blog post tells the story of the forgotten intrinsic identifiers and how they can change the academic identification landscape.

[Learn more](#)



#### Expanding coverage of the archive: welcome Nixpkgs!

we're excited to announce the first tangible results of this community effort: after an intense collaboration with our team, [Tweag](#) has developed an adapter that allows Software Heritage to archive more than 20.000 source code tarballs used to build the [Nix](#) package collection!

[Learn more](#)



**IPOL archives research software in Software Heritage**  
Supporting Open Science and reproducibility of research is part of our mission, and we are excited to announce that the [Image Processing On Line journal \(IPOL\)](#) has decided to deposit systematically in the Software Heritage archive all the software artifacts associated to the articles it publishes.

[Learn more](#)

## YOU CAN HELP!



Discover the growing number of [institutions, organizations and companies that sponsor Software Heritage](#), and those that express support for the [software preservation mission](#). [Take a look at their testimonials!](#)

Individual [donations](#) are also most welcome, in any amount, just click on the button below to give to the mission.

**Donate**



The Software Heritage archive will serve the needs of the many, from [cultural institutions](#) to [scientists](#) and [industries](#).

Everyone can help us achieving these ambitious goals and there are several ways to help.



### Become a sponsor

Pursuing our roadmap for the archive requires significant resources. We welcome companies, institutions, and individuals who would like to join our sponsorship program and sustain the



### Tackle scientific challenges

Building, maintaining, and exploiting the universal source code archive poses relevant scientific challenges. We welcome scientists who would like to contribute to this mission

Software Heritage.

[Discover our sponsorship program!](#)



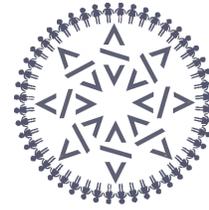
### Code with us

All the software we develop ourselves is open source. We welcome contributors that are willing to delve into it and help us building the many components that are needed to make the archive progress towards the next milestones.

[Dive into the code!](#)

by participating in our research activities.

[Join our research community!](#)



### Host a mirror

Institutions and companies from all around the world are welcome to join our mirror program. This is essential to prevent information loss, and will greatly simplify access to humankind's software heritage.

[Contact us to host a mirror!](#)

## SELECTED MILESTONES



### Software Heritage sponsors meeting at UNESCO's headquarters

At a meeting organized on [UNESCO's headquarters](#) on February 4th 2020, we have been delighted to bring together over 30 participants, representing the expanding network that supports our mission, to learn about the progress made so far on Software Heritage's implementation and contribute to the discussion on the next steps and strategic directions for the next years.

[Read more about it...](#)

## READ OUR LAST ANNUAL REPORT



### Software Heritage in 2019: a progress report

Pursuing our [mission](#) to collect, preserve and share the source code of all software ever written, 2019 was a year of great achievements for Software Heritage.

Today is a good time to talk about what has been accomplished in 2019.

[Read more.](#)

## PREVIOUS ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER

You can find the previous issues on the [newsletter home page](#), let's spread the word!

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*Thank you for your attention, and we hope you had a great Summer!*



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