



# Software Heritage

THE GREAT LIBRARY OF SOURCE CODE

**Collecting, Preserving and sharing all the source code**



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<http://archive.softwareheritage.org/>

## Paris Call on software source code

*Software source code is the result of a significant part of the intellectual creative efforts of humankind over the last decades, and is becoming an important part of our cultural heritage.*



*Our ability to use, understand, adapt, correct, and evolve the devices on which our lives have come to depend relies on our ability to access, understand, adapt, correct, and evolve the software that controls them.*

*Ready access to the source code of the software involved in automated processes is one of the prerequisites to ensure transparency and accountability [of public administration].*

*We need [...] a “very large telescope” of source code.*

Cultural Heritage



Industry



Research



Public Administration



Software Heritage

**One shared infrastructure serving multiple needs**

## Software [is our] Heritage

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.

## About Us

Software Heritage is a non profit multi-stakeholder initiative launched by Inria in partnership with UNESCO, hosted by the Inria Foundation, and with a growing number of partners. It is building the **universal archive and knowledge base of software source code**, at the service of society as a whole.



*Software source code represents unique knowledge of humanity's recent history. It is therefore crucial to work together collectively so that the knowledge embedded in software source code is properly preserved, valued and shared with all. This lies at the core of UNESCO's cooperation with Inria to support the creation of Software Heritage, the global archive of software source code.*

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