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Aan: de informateurs
J.W. Remkes, W. Koolmees

en de ondehandelaars voor een nieuw regeerakkoord M. Rutte, S.A.M. Kaag, W.B. Hoekstra, G.J. Segers,
S.T.M. Hermans, R.A.A. Jetten, P.E. Heerma, C.J. Shouten

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Subject: Open letter – Attention for Free and Open Source Software

Dear J.W. Remkes, W. Koolmees and others,

The Free Software Foundation Europe (FSFE) is committed to digital civil rights, transparency and control over technology by stimulating Free Software (also called Open Source Software). Moreover, Free Software encourages innovation and prevents vendor lock-in. It is therefore important that there is attention in the coalition agreement for Free Software. The 'open, unless' policy of 2020 is starting to pay off and it is important that it gets a follow up.

We provide the following points as an example that can be included in the coalition agreement or can serve as inspiration:

- The government improves the transparency and digital sovereignty of the Netherlands by adopting Free Software. The government continues this and encourages citizens and companies to do the same.
- Governments are being encouraged to publish their own software as Free Software. Legal uncertainties will be removed and collaboration with national and international governments will be encouraged.
- Algorithms will be published as Free Software for greater transparency.
- Materials will be provided to help educational institutions with digital skills, information literacy and improving the privacy of students and personnel. Schools will be supported in the use of Free Software to prevent vendor lock-in and to encourage independent digital skills.
- The central government encourages knowledge on Free Software and associated advantaged by a wide-spread campaign targeted to citizens, governments, education, start-ups, SMB and multi-nationals.

The FSFE is willing to further explain these points.

Kind regards,

Nico Rikken
Coordinator Free Software Foundation Europe Nederland