

# THE NON UPLOADING DD PROCESS

*(and a couple of tricks that saved my  
volunteer life)*

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*"What is this new devilry?"*

## *not so new...*

- General Resolution approved October 2010
- implemented by DAM in November 2010
- first non-uploading DD (mdz) in December 2010

## *...not so devilry!*

*The Debian project acknowledge that:*

- to pursue Debian goals package maintenance as well as a wide range of other technical and non-technical contributions are all valuable.*
- Active contributors of non-packaging work, who share Debian values and are ready to uphold Debian Foundation Documents, deserve the opportunity to become Debian Developers.*

*how many?*

9 non uploading DDs vs 998 uploading DDs

but there are many more people doing non packaging work in  
Debian

and there's an ongoing effort to map them: [Debian Contributors!](#)

# WHO?

- translators
- events organizers and volunteers
- graphic artists
- publicity people (DPN and press editors)
- wiki editors
- website contributors
- ...everyone who doesn't do packaging work!



# WHY?

I don't need to be a DD to do my debian contributions, why should I bother?

to have "citizenship rights" in the project!



# HOW?

Ok, you convinced me: how can I do it?

*contribute!*

there are many places where to start, it depends on what you like to do!

(debian-l10n-\$language, website, wiki, publicity team, Q&A, etc)

*find some advocates*

if you work in a team, it will be easier

# beersigning

come and meet us: at DebConf, mini DebConfs, etc. We're awesome!

(Also: beer. And signatures on your GPG key)

apply on nm.d.o

it's just [a click away!](#)

# Philosophy and Procedures, the standard first part

licenses (boring, but needed) and procedures  
also, agree to SC, DFSG, DMUP

# Tasks and Skills: a scaled down second part

there's not a template of questions here: it depends on what you do and how your AM will decide to test you



LIFE AS NON  
UPLOADING DD

*a survival guide*

ON COMMUNICATION

*assume good faith*

and never take it personally!

look at our (soon to be?) [code of conduct](#)

*be two times more polite than usual*

accounting for:

language/cultural gap

fallacies of non verbal communication

*go straight to the point*

time is a scarce resource for all of us, even more the time to read  
emails

remember the diversity paradox

...and its solution: from "yes, but" to "yes, and"

*...and in the more heated discussions?*

when the going gets tough, the tough send no more than a mail  
every 3-5 days on the same thread



This way, you'll be able to:

- give other people space to voice their opinion
- cool down
- think carefully about the content of it: that mail is your only chance for some days to make your point

*but what if it goes out of hand anyway?*

shut down the pc, go for a walk

try to clear the air via private mail



*"What can men do against such reckless hate?"*

contact the listmasters!

# ON COLLABORATION

documentation is your friend

...but with limits

if it takes you a day of googling and reading obscure manuals (and you're not enjoying it), it's either one of these:

*the instructions are not clear enough*

ask your teammates to not use technobabble when explaining  
what is your task



*you are being too shy*

asking is ok

you are not stupid for asking

you are not expected to know everything

# ON FEELING AN IMPOSTOR

*in Debian you are the scarce resource*

we have plenty of excellent packagers, what we need is people  
with other skills

*...like you!*

# ON OVERCOMMITMENT

no means no...

... but you have to say it!

don't let yourself or other people bully you into doing something



*"This task was appointed to you, and if you do not find a way no one will."*

*"... but if I don't do it, no one else will!"*

not true. also, not a good motivation for doing something especially if it involves being in charge or having responsibilities

# NOTHING IS FOREVER

do you need a break from Debian?

just take it! the world won't end without you

volunteering is not and should not be a life sentence

(also, there are lots of cool projects out there that could use  
another hand!)



...like:

- tails
- Organization for Transformative Works
- Global Voices
- ...

# NOTES FOR TEAMS

- spread the word about non-uploading DDship
- encourage your non-packaging contributors to apply
- keep your team non-packaging friendly:
  - no technobabble in documentation
  - remember that something trivial to you, may not be trivial for others
  - list the available tasks for non-packagers

Thank you for the attention!



**Good. The Buddha approves.**