

4 Freedoms of FOSS

Free / Open Source Software (FOSS) is an essential part of the Internet, and more importantly, it is a very important for ensuring freedoms. All FOSS guarantees at least 4 freedoms, and these 4 freedoms help ensure a range of other freedoms, including the ability to run a system the protects your privacy, is free of surveillance technologies, furthers free speech through the ability to communicate anonymously with encryption, and not be restricted by digital locks ("DRMs"). It is also important that governments use FOSS, since it prevents vendor lock-in, allows greater configurability, makes localization easier, and lowers costs.

FOSS promotes

The freedom to run the program for any purpose.

The freedom to study how the program works, and change it to make it do what you wish. The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help your neighbor.

The
freedom to
improve the program,
and release your
improvements (and modified
versions in general) to the
public, so that the whole
community benefits.]

The Centre for Internet and Society hosted the first meeting that set up Fosscom (a loose network for FOSS advocacy in India), helped defeat software patents from being allowed in the Patent Manual, helped promote open standards through the National Open Standards Policy (which is a necessity for FOSS to be used in government), and is publishing a report on the state of FOSS policy and usage in the public sector in India.



BY 2016, APPROXIMATELY

86%
OF ALL* VIDEO
CONTENT WILL BE
INTERNET VIDEO

* TV, video on demand [VoD], Web, and P2P

However, most of this video is currently made using proprietary technologies, based on proprietary formats. The openness of the web has not come to video yet.

In a report prepared with funding from Open Video Alliance / iCommons, CIS argued that the prevelant models of viewing 'openness' of video only from a technological or copyright vantage point was limited, and that 'openness' could be seen from other perspectives as well.

- Openness as independence in creativity
- Openness as participatory creation: bringing Wiki-like culture to video
- Openness as open technology: open standards based filming, editing and distribution formats
- Openness as free/open source software: software that all can use
- Openness as access for all: including illiterate, persons with disabilities, poor, etc.
- Openness as openly-licensed content: with innovative models for rewarding artists
- Openness as freedom of speech: platforms must not be legally limited



Innovation and creativity are fostered through openness and collaboration. The advent of the Internet radically defined what it means to be open and collaborative. The Internet itself is built upon open standards and free/libre/open source software.