

# LibreOffice

The Document Foundation

## The Document Foundation: The open, transparent and meritocratic future of free office software

- **Florian Effenberger**

- OSCAL

May 19, 2018

# Who's waking me up?!

- **free software enthusiast**  
for over fourteen years
- executive director of  
**The Document Foundation**

# Terminology

# Double meaning

- **LibreOffice** is
  - 1. the leading free **office productivity suite**  
*installed by millions of users worldwide*
  - 2. a wonderful worldwide **community** (“project”)  
*with hundreds of friends and contributors around the globe*
- **The Document Foundation (TDF)** as legal entity is
  - a nonprofit **”Stiftung”** (foundation) based in Berlin  
*”The objective of the foundation is the **promotion** and **development** of **office software** available for use by **anyone free of charge**”*
  - does **not contain a product name** on purpose

# Our philosophy

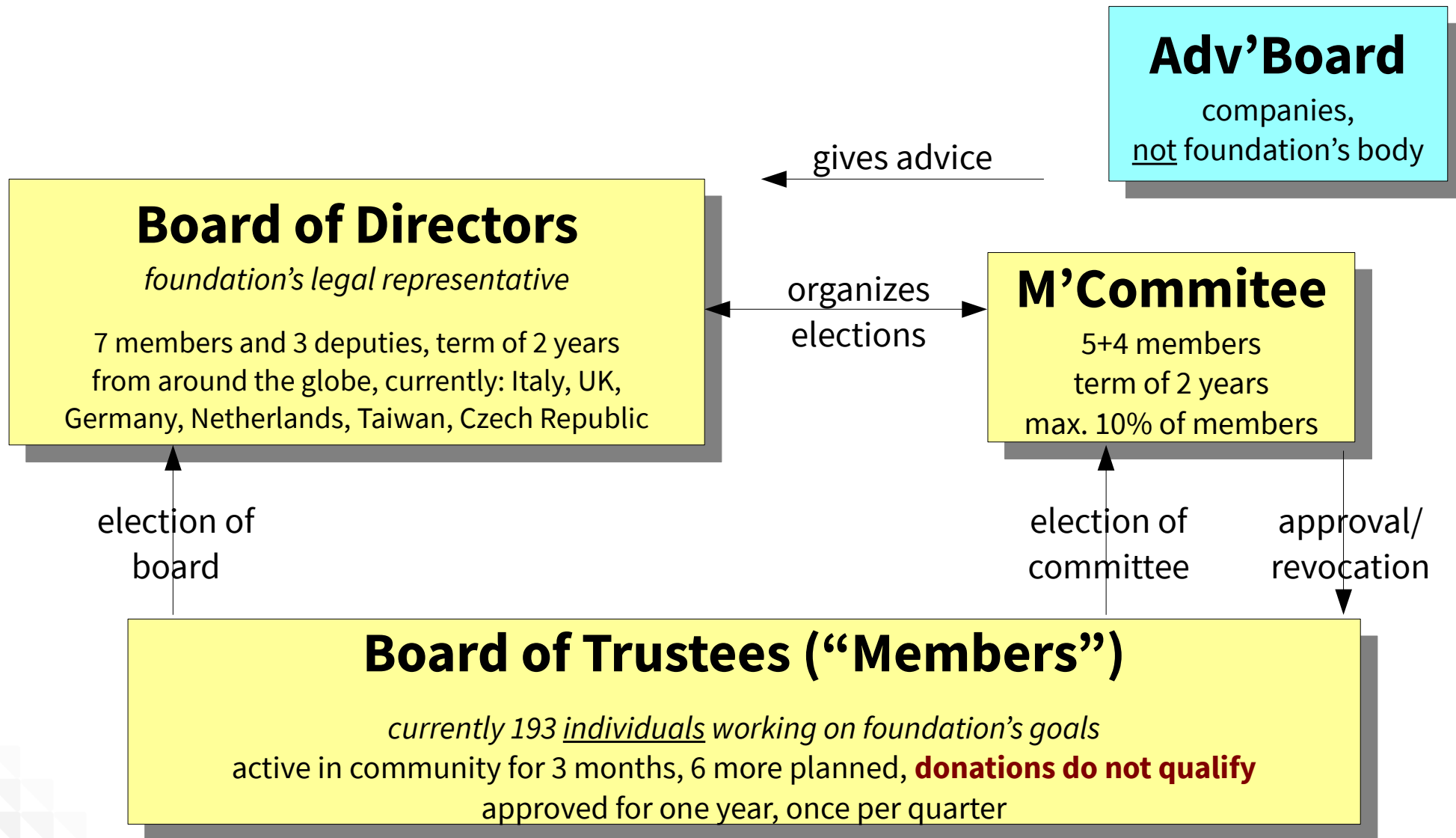
- ▶ supporting the **development** of both product **and** community  
*events, knowledge sharing, mentoring*
- ▶ built on the community's **values** and **ideals**  
*through statutes that enforce openness and transparency*
- ▶ **independent** from one **single** sponsor  
*70.000+ individual donations per year*
- ▶ **ecosystem** for contributors and commercial stakeholders  
*certification, joint development efforts*
- ▶ lower **entry barriers**  
*Easy Hacks, Hackfests, GSoC mentoring, workshops*
- ▶ **cooperations** with other entities  
*e.g. OASIS, OSI, KDE, GNOME, FSFE, FSF*
- ▶ → "by the community, **for the community**"

# The Foundation

# Why all this fuss?

- **enduring** and **stable**  
(*“foundations are for eternity“*)
- **foundation’s objective** can **not be changed**
- **safety** for community, end-users and the ecosystem
- acts as **”trustee“** for trademarks and domains
- handles **donations** and manages budgets
- is not part of the commercial ecosystem itself
- **guarantees rights** for all participants

# How we are structured





# Public by default

# In the statutes

- ▶ Board of Trustees with currently **193 individuals**
  - ▶ is updated **each quarter**
  - ▶ doers decide (**meritocracy**)
- ▶ “**one-third rule**” to prevent conflict of interest
- ▶ **openness** and **transparency**
  - ▶ all **board meetings** are public  
[https://wiki.documentfoundation.org/TDF/BoD\\_Meetings](https://wiki.documentfoundation.org/TDF/BoD_Meetings)
  - ▶ all **decisions** of the bodies are public  
[https://wiki.documentfoundation.org/TDF/BoD\\_Decisions](https://wiki.documentfoundation.org/TDF/BoD_Decisions)
  - ▶ the **accounting** is public  
<https://wiki.documentfoundation.org/TDF/Ledgers>
  - ▶ the **board’s mailing list** is public  
*private decisions are made public as soon as the confidentiality is resolved*



Want to know more?

# Our annual report

- ▶ **jointly** written with the community
- ▶ **in English and German**
- ▶ overview on foundation, community, project, software, events, budget
- ▶ English version:  
<https://tdf.io/ar2016low>
- ▶ German version:  
<https://tdf.io/bericht2016>
- ▶ 2017 report available around late Q2 written and approved, currently being laid out



# The future

**YOU DECIDE!**

# What's going on?

- ▼ **new Membership Committee** - *election during summer* -
- ▼ **accessibility improvements** - *just published* -  
<https://blog.documentfoundation.org/blog/2018/05/07/welcome-gla11y-the-user-interface-accessibility-checker/>
- ▼ **a new help system** - *since LibreOffice 6.0* -  
<https://help.libreoffice.org>
- ▼ **LibreOffice Conference in Tirana** - *in September* -  
<https://conference.libreoffice.org>
- ▼ Check out the **Document Liberation Project**:  
<https://www.documentliberation.org>
- ▼ Have a proposal? **Let us know!**  
<https://www.documentfoundation.org/foundation/grant-request/>  
or: [board-discuss@documentfoundation.org](mailto:board-discuss@documentfoundation.org)



A wonderful community of friends



# Faleminderit! ;-)

## Getting in touch

- ▼ e-mail: [floeff@documentfoundation.org](mailto:floeff@documentfoundation.org)
- ▼ Twitter: [@floeff](https://twitter.com/floeff)
- ▼ private blog: <https://blog.effenberger.org>



All text and image content in this document, unless otherwise specified, is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/). This does not include the LibreOffice name, logo, or icon.