

The HZDR Software Policy Draft – A Teaser

How does it help me as a researcher / software developer?

The HZDR Software Policy

What is it there for?

- Define handling of software development at the HZDR.
- Establish legal compliance, especially with regard to the publication of software.
- Making a statement for the release of software as open source.
- Recognize the importance of software for gaining scientific knowledge.
- Definition of support services for software development at the HZDR.

The HZDR Software Policy

The Genesis

- Built on top of work done at the Helmholtz Open Science Office, the FZ Jülich and DLR.
- Customized for the requirements at HZDR.
- Discussed by a working group consisting of players in many HZDR departments.
- Final draft now available.
- Preview available at <https://cloud.hzdr.de/s/dDdEpSe65ZQn2k9> (PW: *policy2023*)



PW: *policy2023*

The HZDR Software Policy

Publication of research software

- The HZDR is committed to making research software available primarily as open source.
- The decision about publication is still with the project owners, department heads.
- Institute directors or department heads will be given the authority to make the decision about the publication and the choice of the Open Source license.
 - There will be a default set of Open Source Licenses which are approved.
 - In case of uncertainties, there will be support by FWCC or the legal department/tech transfer (e.g. Copyleft licensed dependencies, etc.)
 - Non-standard cases still need approval by legal department (e.g. dual licensing, proprietary licensing, dual use, etc.)
 - Checklists will be provided.

So far: The board of directors
has to approve the license
decision!

The HZDR Software Policy

Application Classes

- Not all software needs to apply the full software engineering toolbox.
- Software Development in research is very diverse: ranges from small scripts, PhD software projects, prototypes that develop into big software projects, etc.
- Introduction of 4 application classes
 - **Class 0:** Personal use in conjunction with a small scope. The distribution of the software within and outside HZDR is not planned.
 - **Class 1:** This application class is recommended if the software does not offer a wide range of functions or if the facility only develops it within a narrow scope.
 - **Class 2:** This application class is recommended if the software offers a wide range of functions and the facility develops it long-term.
 - **Class 3:** This application class is recommended if the development entails high risks for the facility.

The HZDR Software Policy

Application Classes

- The project decides which application class it is aiming for.
- The decision can and should be reconsidered regularly.
- The decision could help to plan project resources accordingly and help argue to include software engineering expertise.

**Let's define the requirements
together.**

Good starting point:
<https://rse.dlr.de/>

The HZDR Software Policy

Support Services

- The research center provides consulting, support, training and infrastructure.
- Important information will be made available in a software engineering portal (to be created).
- Individual guidance from FWC, Legal and Technology Transfer.
- Preview available at <https://cloud.hzdr.de/s/dDdEpSe65ZQn2k9> (PW: *policy2023*)

What else do you need?
We want to learn from you!



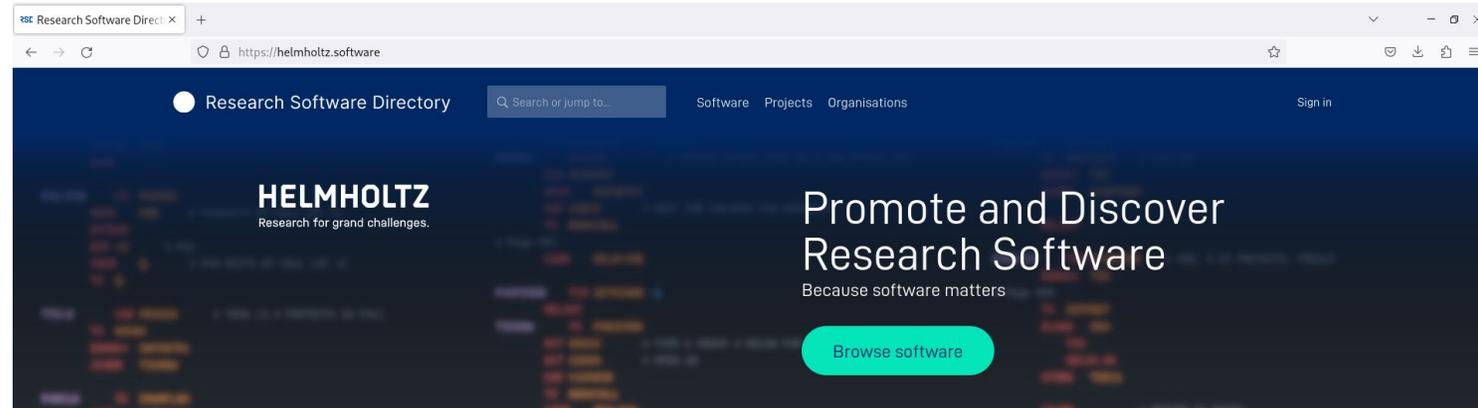
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Helmholtz RSD

Research Software Directory

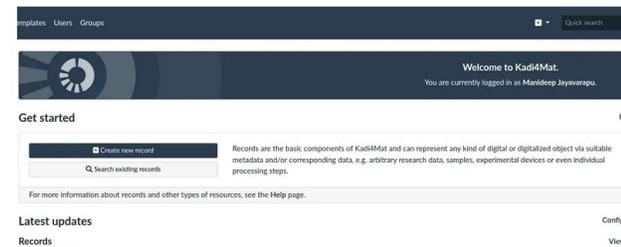


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