

Press release

## **Hungarian companies send complaint to the European Commission on Microsoft's monopoly**

**Three Hungarian open source software (OSS) companies sent an official complaint to the European Commission on a public procurement process of 25 billion HUF (100 million EUR) completed in Hungary, which maintains a “government-granted” monopoly throughout the public sector for a single multinational software company, Microsoft.**

As a result of this public procurement process (20422/2007), the agreement for the next 4 years directly affects Hungary's public sector and the future of Hungary in general. Open SKM Agency, Multiráció and ULX stress that the Request for Proposal (RFP) of this public procurement process was composed in favour of Microsoft and contradicts the official guideline of European Union.

The three Hungarian companies emphasize that RFP and the public procurement process creates an anti-competitive situation: it makes the spread of open standard products almost impossible: **in the documents of the RFP the name of Microsoft is mentioned 1631 times.**

They also stress that this public software procurement maintains Microsoft's “government-granted” monopoly in Hungary utilising the Union's resources. This public procurement practice was established a decade ago and proceeds for the next 4 years.

The companies ask Neelie Kroes, EU Commissioner for competition to initiate proceedings and check the compliance of this RFP. In their view, the RFP is not in accordance with the EU directives in effect.

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