

Mr. Stallman,

We are from a non-official community that supports a GNU/Linux based distribution -Pardus- from Turkey. We have a club about Pardus Users, and this club has several web services whose addresses are www.pardus-linux.org

, wiki.pardus-linux.org

, sohbet.pardus-linux.org

, forum.pardus-linux.org

, www.pardus-edergi.org

etc. They are main community portal, our wiki, our irc support page, our forum and our e-magazine site, respectively and language is Turkish. We've about 11000 members in our forum and we take around 60000 hits per day. And we're trying to create some e-magazines per month.

So, we're asking you if it's possible to make an interview with you via e-mail or Skype or something else for 5th of our e-magazines. You can see our e-magazines from www.pardus-edergi.org

Regards,

I've heard of Pardus, but what I've heard (and what I see) is not very good. I've heard it contains and promotes non-free software. That goes against the whole purpose of GNU, which is to give users freedom; it leads users astray.

Perhaps your message illustrates the effects of this: you suggested that we talk via Skype. Skype is proprietary software, which does not respect the users' freedom. It is part of the injustice that we are trying to eliminate. Thus, suggesting the use of Skype is like saying to people "Don't treat your freedom as important". It's the opposite of the Free Software Movement.

Do the Pardus materials talk about free (Ã¶zgÃ¼n) software, or mainly about "open source"? Judging from this experience I would guess it is the latter.

The URLs you mentioned confirm something else I have heard: that the practice in Pardus is to call the system "Linux". Since your message called the system "GNU/Linux", I know you know what I'm talking about. But that message, being private, does not even start to compensate for the effect of publicly spreading the error.

I don't think I should do a general interview for a Pardus-related site unless these circumstances change. Perhaps it would make sense for me to do one that is narrowly focused on these two issues.

However, Ã 've already written about them, and those articles have the virtue of making those points more clearly than I could do on the spur of the moment.

Were you thinking of translating this into Turkish and publishing the translation? If so, maybe people could get involved in translating more of the articles on gnu.org

into Turkish. Only a few have been translated so far.

Firstly, we're Pardus users. We have learned Linux with Pardus. Then, we have learned that Linux is a kernel and we've learned that there are GNU and FSF. When we have learned GNU and GPL, we understood that we have been deceived. To be deceived and by an FSF member suprised us very much. Then we have started to investigate and learn, so we have realized that we were lover of free software. We have learned that Turks and American Indians have same rights, Obama has right to use GNU/Linux because he is human even if he is black. And we have continued to learn.

We have created a portal, we put Linux near Pardus and then we put GNU before Pardus. Then, we have founded an association against who has deceived us and we tried to tell while we were learning. Meanwhile, we have created an e-magazine. We made an interview with ceo of Microsoft Turkey about free software and GNU/Linux, and we have taken good replies. Then we have thought that why we didn't make an interview with prophet, angel and father of free software. And we wrote you about 20 days ago. And you said that you cannot make an interview because of the distribution we're using is not completely free. We're sorry because we couldn't understand your lofty thoughts completely. In spite of our thoughts say that you won't answer, we want to ask some questions because of possibility of any answer. We can find answers in that free software group's Internet share in any case.

We're living in the world that has stupid people who know that computers have only softwares of communication with sound and video. But there isn't any software to communicate. Could you tell me how much we betray to free software by wanting to communicate with you via Skype that is able to be used in free software medium?

What is the difference between you and us who are lover of free software and wait for nothing from anyone?

Does freedom put a ban on idiocity or be in love?

And finally, we hope a humanity that has welfare, happiness and freedom with Obama who is cute delegate of capitalists from New York and of rifles of imperialists.
Regards

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Which FSF member is that? And what did he say that was deceptive?

We have learned that Turks and American Indians have same rights, Obama has right to use GNU/Linux because he is human even if he is black.

I have a feeling you are being sarcastic, but if so, I do not understand the point. With free software, any user has the same freedoms; free software licenses do not discriminate between people based on their race or nationality.

We have created a portal, we put Linux near Pardus and then we put GNU before Pardus.

Could you show me what that means? I can imagine various possible interpretations, and I am not sure which is right.

When you first wrote to me, I thought you were supporters of Pardus. Maybe I was mistaken. Are you criticizing Pardus for its non-free software? If so, that changes things.

I need to understand the facts better.

We're living in the world that has stupid people who know that computers have only softwares of communication with sound and video. But there isn't any software to communicate.

There is Ekiga.

Could you tell me how much we betray to free software by wanting to communicate with you via Skype that is able to be used in free software medium?

Skype is non-free software. And Skype only works with Skype. So if you tell me, "Let's use Skype", in effect you are asking me to install some non-free software.

It does no harm when you say this to me, because there is no danger I will start using Skype. I will refuse. But if you say this to someone else, he might install Skype, a non-free program. That is exactly the opposite of what the free software movement aims to do.