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<https://www.frogans.org/en/main.html>

OP3FT 中国

OP3FT in China

Building an Internet standard in China thanks to the Frogans project

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With almost 700 million Internet users in China, or one in five worldwide, there are legitimate reasons for China to help to shape the Internet of tomorrow.

This is why the OP3FT, which is developing a new layer of the Internet alongside the Web and E-mail, wishes to associate China in this development.

1. Context

1.1 The Frogans technology: a global technology, a new layer on the Internet

The Internet is not just the Web and E-mail. The flexibility of this “network of networks” (literally “INTERconnected NETworks”) allows it to grow by building other software layers on it. This is the case of the Frogans layer, the first new software layer developed on the Internet since the arrival of the Web in 1990.

The Frogans layer takes the form of an open Internet standard, that can be used free of charge by Internet users the whole world over, in compliance with national legislation. It allows the creation and distribution of content and on-line services in a simple and secure manner, regardless of the user's device, and in a manner that is natively multilingual.

1.2. The Frogans layer: an innovation developed independently by the OP3FT

The Frogans layer is developed in the general interest of all Internet users by the OP3FT (Organization for the Promotion, Protection and Progress of Frogans Technology) a non-profit technological endowment fund (*fonds de dotation*). Founded in 2012 and based in Paris (France), the OP3FT is a financially and politically independent organization. Its Bylaws safeguard it from falling under the control of a private corporation, so that the future development of the Frogans technology can continue its course irrevocably in a neutral, open, and transparent manner, and so that the Frogans technology remains available to all.

The OP3FT team counts about thirty members, including a Chinese project manager in the software development team.

1.3 The Frogans project: a neutrally-led project

The Bylaws of the OP3FT state that “the Frogans technology shall be developed by exchanging ideas and opinions with Internet users who represent various user groups or who are experts in their field, without giving preference to one group over another, notably on an international level”.

They also state that “the Frogans technology shall be developed by seeking to achieve the broadest possible consensus whilst favoring the most neutral solution, notably whenever Internet users have diverging opinions on an issue (‘rough consensus’ principle); the choices made shall be accompanied by a clear statement presenting the underlying reasoning (‘rationale’); opinions expressed by Internet users in order to promote political agendas or specific commercial interests shall not be taken into account”

1.4 OP3FT 中国: the OP3FT's first permanent presence abroad

To comply with its driving philosophy and with its Bylaws, in 2013 the OP3FT began to actively study the special characteristics of the Internet in China. The OP3FT seeks to understand Internet issues in China, so as to include the authorities and Chinese users in its mission in the most intelligent way possible.

First and foremost, the mission of the OP3FT is to promote, protect and ensure the progress of the Frogans technology in the form of an open standard, available to all, free of charge; it is also to contribute to the development of a secure and stable Internet that is open to innovation.

Studies carried out since 2013 as well as discussions between the OP3FT and the Internet Society of China and other actors in the Chinese Internet ecosystem (W3C Beijing, ICANN Beijing Engagement Center, CONAC, etc.) have led the OP3FT to the conclusion that a presence in the country would be very advantageous for the harmonious development the Frogans technology, hence OP3FT 中国

This presence will contribute to the development, promotion, and progress of the Frogans technology, ensuring that it is well-suited to the needs of Chinese Internet users. It will also serve to further invigorate the Chinese entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Internet domain, a source of economic growth.

Within this framework, the OP3FT is determined to make a sizable investment with the aim of opening a long-term presence in China, in the general interest of all Internet users, and in a manner that is beneficial for the Chinese Internet ecosystem.

1.5 OP3FT 中国: the continuation of existing links with the Chinese Internet ecosystem

The opening of OP3FT 中国 is part of a long term program of cooperation between the OP3FT and the main players in the Chinese Internet ecosystem.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed on October 12, 2014 by the OP3FT and the ADNDRC (Asian Domain Name Dispute Resolution Center), whose Beijing office is the CIETAC (China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission)¹. This memorandum of understanding establishes the ADNDRC as an approved dispute-resolution service provider for Frogans addresses².

1 The memorandum of understanding between the ADNDRC and the OP3FT is on-line at the following permanent URL:
<https://www.frogans.org/en/resources/udrpf/udrpf-mou-adndrc-en.pdf>

2 For more information about the role of the ADNDRC in resolving disputes concerning Frogans addresses:
https://www.adndrc.org/mten/bjen/DRPs_udrpf.php

2. Mission of OP3FT 中国

2.1 Being attentive, and making resources available

OP3FT 中国 will, as its primary mission, be attentive to the Chinese Internet ecosystem. It will strive to completely understand the specific technological, social, and cultural characteristics of the Internet in China, with the help of local partners (ISC, CNNIC, etc.).

It will make a series of resources and tools (specifications, software libraries, the organization of events...) available to developers, universities, standardization bodies, and Chinese users free of charge, so that they can get a good understanding of the Frogans technology and provide feedback and suggestions.

2.2 Production of technology

The mission of OP3FT 中国 will also be to contribute, within the country, to the production of the Frogans technology. This production will take the form, notably, of:

- research and development
- writing technical specifications
- producing source code
- carrying out tests
- writing documentation
- writing policies and contracts
- etc.

3. Practicalities of opening OP3FT 中国

The OP3FT plans to open OP3FT 中国 through the creation of a WFOE (*Wholly Foreign Owned Enterprise*).

OP3FT 中国 will be financed exclusively through sales to the OP3FT of its production of Frogans technology elements.

OP3FT 中国 will comprise a Chinese team of 15 to 20 people, serving the Chinese communities, with a degree of local autonomy. In order to ensure proximity with Internet standardization bodies and with major technological universities, this team will be based in Beijing.

The OP3FT foresees the opening of OP3FT 中国 in June 2017, subject to meeting the prerequisites detailed in part 4 of this document.

4. Prerequisites to the opening of OP3FT 中国

Prerequisites to the opening of OP3FT 中国 are of two kinds: financial and human.

On the financial side, the OP3FT must be able to provision set-up costs and the cost of running OP3FT 中国 for 3 years, estimated at one million euros.

On the human side, it is mainly a question for the OP3FT of having, in China, a network of correspondents able to help set up and develop OP3FT 中国, whether in the matter of administrative or legal issues, of the recruitment of personnel, or of purely practical considerations.