



Wikimedia Movement Charter Conversations in Tbilisi

CEE Meeting 2023

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A satellite-style map of Europe and Africa, showing terrain and coastlines. The map is centered on the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, with the landmasses appearing in shades of brown and green against a dark blue background.

Movement Charter

The **Movement Charter** is a proposed document to define roles and responsibilities for all the members and entities of the Wikimedia movement, including to lay out a new Global Council for movement governance.

The Movement Charter Drafting Committee



An historic effort

2005 - Purpose of the **WikiCouncil** proposal was to act as a representative body for all Wikimedia projects and work alongside the WMF's Board of Trustees.

2010- **Movement Roles** project aimed to define various roles within the Movement.

2012 - **Wikimedia Chapters Association** was established. It was intended to further support knowledge exchange and participation of the affiliates.

2014 - **Chapter's Dialogue** was a major effort to listen to the needs, goals, and experiences of Wikimedia chapters.

2017 - A strategic direction was created to guide our movement into the future: *By 2030, Wikimedia will become the essential infrastructure of the ecosystem of free knowledge, and anyone who shares our vision will be able to join us.*

An aerial photograph of a landscape featuring a large, irregularly shaped body of water in shades of cyan and teal. The surrounding land is a patchwork of brown and green, indicating agricultural fields and some natural vegetation. The water body is situated in the upper right and lower left portions of the frame.

Recommendation 4: Ensure Equity in Decision-Making

Our Movement will make decisions that are contextualized because solutions to common challenges can substantially differ from one part to another. We aim for shared responsibilities and inclusion.

To make this work, we will establish a Movement Charter to provide a sense of belonging, as well as clearly defining roles and responsibilities for current and future members of our Movement.



Recap of the Preamble and Values & Principles

- "The Wikimedia Movement Charter exists to define the Wikimedia Movement, its fundamental values, and its principles. It is a formal agreement explaining the relationships between all stakeholders in the movement, and their rights and responsibilities. This applies equally to both existing entities and others created in the future."
- The values and principles the Movement Charter builds on are: free and open knowledge; independence; inclusivity; subsidiarity; equity; accountability; and resilience.

The Global Council draft

A satellite-style map of Europe and the Mediterranean region, showing land in brown and green tones and water in dark blue. The map is the background for the text.

The Global Council is a governance body responsible for development and implementation of movement strategy, including an annual report on global strategic priorities for the Wikimedia movement. The Global Council improves accountability and transparency for movement-wide decision-making. It simplifies access to Movement resources and empowers individuals and communities, in hopes of nurturing trust between stakeholders.

Discussion questions

- What are the pros and cons of different Global Council structures?
- What is the difference between the Global Council and the Wikimedia Foundation / Board of Trustees?

Hubs draft

An aerial photograph of a coastal region. On the left, there is a large, shallow lagoon with turquoise water. The right side of the image shows a dense grid of green agricultural fields, likely rice paddies, separated by narrow paths or canals. The overall scene is a mix of natural water bodies and human-made agricultural structures.

Regional and thematic hubs are structures for mutual support. They empower existing and future Wikimedia communities to have the capacity and resources to make and implement their own decisions to meet their differing needs. Hubs form a mutual support structure for the hub members and others within the Wikimedia movement to learn, share knowledge, develop best practices, and provide guidance and assistance to other hub members and communities.

Discussion questions

- Why start a hub? What's the purpose of a hub? What's the advantages of a hub vs. not being a part of a hub?
- What role should the hubs play (both regional and thematic) in fundraising?

Ratification Methodology Proposal

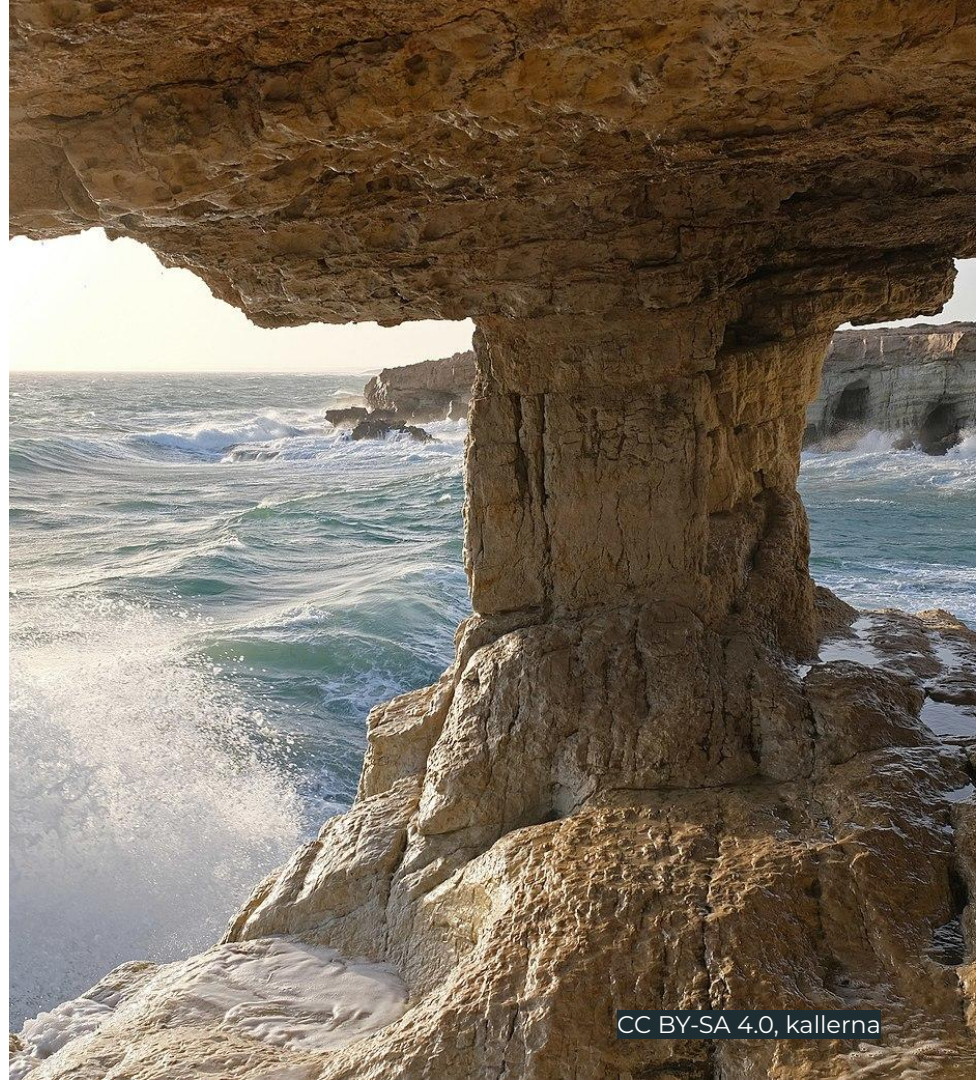
The Movement Charter must be ratified by four different voting groups: individual contributors, Wikimedia projects, affiliates and Wikimedia Foundation Board of Trustees. Individuals will vote on the voting platform (whether that will be SecurePoll or another tool), which will determine the votes by the total individual group and the project group. Each affiliate will have one vote, and their collective vote will determine the affiliate vote. The Wikimedia Foundation Board of Trustees will conduct their ratification vote last, if all three of the other groups vote to ratify the Movement Charter.

Discussion questions

- How do we balance transparency and privacy?
- How can we reassure the voters that the counts are accurate and fair, e.g. how do we make sure the votes are valid?

[FYI] Roles and Responsibilities

Entities and stakeholders within the Wikimedia movement distribute and decentralize roles and responsibilities as equitably as possible across the movement. According to the subsidiarity principle, responsibilities are delegated to the lowest possible level.



[FYI] Glossary

Detailed outline of key content and definitions of the key terms used in each chapter of the Movement Charter.

Breakout Sessions

- Global Council
- Hubs
- Optional: Ratification

Next steps

- Continue conversations at regional and thematic events
- MC ambassadors will keep us posted on conversations happening from September to November
- Consultation report will be shared end of September/October

"Swimming holes within volcanic rocks at Papafragas Beach on Milos Island, Greece", by dronepicr, CC BY 2.0.