



## NGI POINTER closes its first open call with more than 150 applications submitted

The NGI POINTER's first open call closed on the 1st of June, 2020, with 159 applications submitted attracting researchers, developers, Internet activists, SMEs, and start-ups, in the development of a more human-centric Internet — one that supports values of openness, inclusiveness, and protection of privacy. The evaluation period has already begun, and the final results will be available by mid-July.

"We received a massive 159 proposals to renovate the Internet Architecture. This is a fantastic result for the Project and for the Internet. It shows how many people care about maintaining and improving the Internet.", explains Mirko Presser, Programme Chair and Professor at Aarhus Universitet.

The open call closed with a total of more than 400 applications started, from 30 different countries attracting both individuals and established entities experienced in building, on top of state-of-the-art research, scalable protocols, and tools.

**"NGI Pointer is one of the biggest opportunities world wide for Open Source Developers to get visibility, support and funding for their project",** says Mirko Ross, CEO digital worx, one of the partners of NGI POINTER. **"With the support of NGI Pointer the selected projects and teams are getting a powerful funding to work on their projects and set focus on developing solutions to boost europe's next generation internet environment."**, stated Ross.

Selected projects will be invited to join a 12-month support programme and they will receive business and technical assistance. The project has a total of 5.6 million euros of budget and selected individuals or established entities reaching the last one can get from 50.000 € to 200.000 € respectively.

## About NGI

The Next Generation Internet (NGI) initiative, launched by the European Commission in the autumn of 2016, aims to shape the future internet as an interoperable platform ecosystem that embodies the values that Europe holds dear: openness, inclusivity, transparency, privacy, cooperation, and protection of data. The NGI will drive this technological revolution and ensure the progressive adoption of advanced concepts and methodologies spanning the domains of artificial intelligence, Internet of Things, interactive technologies and more, while contributing to making the future internet more human-centric.

## About NGI-Pointer

NGI-POINTER is a project coordinated by Aarhus Universitet, where the open calls are managed by FundingBox with additional partners including digital worx and linkovate, funded by the European Commission under Grant Agreement no 871528. The project aims to find ambitious “NGI architects” to change the underlying fabric of the internet and the web, by supporting promising bottom-up projects that are able to build, on top of state-of-the-art research, scalable protocols and tools to assist in the practical transition or migration to new or updated technologies, whilst keeping European Values at the core.

The open call of NGI-POINTER will distribute 5.6M€ and targets “NGI architects” who will be supported in developing and providing new marketable solutions. The selected bottom-up projects will join a 12-month Support Programme to accelerate the execution of their projects. Those reaching the end of the programme can get up to 200,000€ equity-free funding. This call will launch on the 1st of April 2020 and will have a first cut-off date on the 1st of June 2020 at 13:00 (CEST). Additional cut-off dates will follow.

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POINTER

Open Call closed on 1st of June of 2020  
at 13:00 (CEST).



**159**

applications submitted



**30**

from different  
countries

Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria  
Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia,  
Finland, France, Georgia, Germany,  
Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland  
Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden,  
Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom



**401**

applications started

**Thank you**  
to all applicants

We are currently running the  
evaluation process

**Results will be available from mid-July!**

NGI POINTER (NGI Program for Open Internet Renovation) has received funding from the European Commission, as part of the Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, under Grant Agreement N° 871528.



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**NEXT  
GENERATION  
INTERNET**