

## OSCAL 2019, the 6th edition is coming

*18 & 19 May in Tirana, Albania*

**Open Source Conference Albania (OSCAL)**, the first annual international conference of its kind in Albania, will take place for the **sixth consecutive year** to promote software **freedom**, **open source software**, **online privacy**, **free culture** and **open knowledge** locally and in the region. OSCAL 2019 will take place between 18-19 May 2019 in Tirana. This year's OSCAL is expected to gather over 300 enthusiasts of open source technologies, developers, agencies and professionals of free/libre, open source culture troublemakers, cryptoanarchists and dreamers of a **decentralised world**. The participants will gather with a common belief in a world where information is open, free and decentralized. The conference not only provides everyone with the opportunity to share their knowledge and experience with the audience, but also **inspires** many others to act upon.

A wide variety of intriguing presentations and workshops will be held on both days of the conference. More specifically, **each day from 9AM to 6PM**, participants will have the chance to become acquainted with different topics, as well as explore **contribution** and **work opportunities**. In addition, community infoboosts will be present on both days. Mozilla, Fedora, LibreOffice, OpenStreetMap, Wikipedia, phpList, Nextcloud, openSUSE are only a few of the projects that OSCAL participants can get to know better.

OSCAL 2018 concluded with **64 presentations**, speakers **from many different countries** of the world and **more than 300 attendants** inspired to advance the free/libre open source movement even further. The best part were all the positive comments, that motivate the organizers to come up with something even more expanded.

Everyone who wishes to become part of OSCAL 2019 may reserve their ticket, **free of charge**, by visiting [oscal.openlabs.cc](http://oscal.openlabs.cc). Any financial contribution towards the development of the conference is certainly more than welcome.

## ETHICAL TECH

*will be the main theme of OSCAL 2019*

Self driving cars, artificial intelligence, personal assistants, algorithms, the gig economy empowered by apps and wars fought with drones and robots were and are presented as **tools to make our lives better**. **The opposite happens!** Social networks are now **influencing elections and democracies**, gadgets automate our homes by **spying on us** and our taxi-drive gives away every ride of ours! As if this as not enough, 'cool' platforms and apps have already created a generation of youngsters fighting for their financial survival as part of their participation in the **gig economy**.

This year we **reflect on what we really need our tech to be**. We decide and take a stand between 'the coolest tech' and the 'ethical tech' that works for us, **not against us!** And we can only have this new reality only by **using free and open source tools!**

In this edition of Open Source Conference Albania **let's reflect on what we really need**. Let's decide between 'the coolest tech' and the 'ethical tech' that works for us, not against us!

OSCAL is organized by Open Labs Hackerspace, the local community dedicated to empower free/libre open source culture in Albania **since 2012**.

### Important dates:

*Call for proposals:* opens 15.01.2019 - 01.04.2019

*Call for volunteers:* opens 01.03.2019 - 14.04.2019

*Call for info booths:* opens 01.02.2019 - 01.04.2019

*Registration for the conference:* 08.04.2019

*Call for sponsors:* <https://oscal.openlabs.cc/sponsors/>

Further information:



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