



Bachelor's Thesis / Master's Thesis

The Anti-discrimination Effect in Open Source Communities: Analyzing the Impact of the Code of Conduct

Anti-discrimination is an important issue in our society. For this reason, many organizations have introduced a Code of Conduct (CoC). A CoC is a set of rules outlining the norms, values, and responsibilities or proper practices of an individual party or an organization. The goal of a CoC is to provide guidance for the behavior and to avoid undesired actions. A particular aim of many CoCs is to foster an open and welcoming environment for everyone regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender identity, or sex.

In the area of open source development, which claims to be particularly open and diverse, various CoCs have also been introduced in different projects in recent years. It has not yet been shown how effective a CoC is to reduce discrimination in the open source development community. Thus the question arises whether the CoC is a suitable tool to foster an open and diverse community.

In order to answer this research question, a literature review should be carried out. The goal is to analyse social behavior in the open source development in general, the content of CoCs and the impact of the CoC on the open source community.

Recommended literature:

- Tourani P., Adams B., Serebrenik A. (2017). Code of conduct in open source projects. *IEEE 24th International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution and Reengineering (SANER)*, Klagenfurt, Austria. 2017, pp. 24-33. doi: 10.1109/SANER.2017.7884606.
- Gogoll, J., Zuber, N., Kacianka, S., Greger, T., Pretschner, A., & Nida-Rümelin, J. (2020). Ethics in the Software Development Process: From Codes of Conduct to Ethical Deliberation. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2011.03016*.
- Gotterbarn, D., Miller, K., Rogerson, S., Barber, S., Barnes, P., Burnstein, I., Werth, L. H. (2001). Software engineering code of ethics and professional practice. *Science and Engineering Ethics*, pp. 231-238.

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