



Working Group Reports



KDE e.V. Fundraising working group report

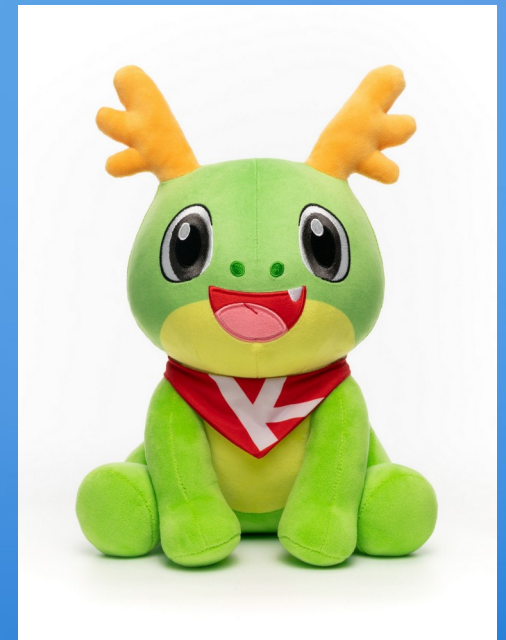


What did we do?

- End of the year campaign
- Fundraising drive with 30 years of KDE
- Konqi flushie

2025: 600 000€ in donation

2026: 340 000€ in donation (so far)





Join us!

- We need help!



Community Working Group: The Year in Review

- Strengthened resilience of our Matrix communications
- Worked on 3 high-profile cases
- Supported moderation of online channels
- Helped with security at Akademy



Changes to the CWG

- 3 members left the Community Working Group
- 2 new members joined us
- We are continuing to look for suitable candidates
- Broader membership helps distribute workload and responsibilities



Priorities for the Coming Year

- Pursue training / certification in Community Management
- Continue recruiting new CWG members
- Make the CWG itself more resilient
- Revamping the Code of Conduct



Revamping the Code of Conduct

- Probably the biggest task next to our daily work
- Make the Code of Conduct clearer and more practical
- Explain whom to contact and how reports are handled
- Provide clearer guidance on confidentiality and anonymity



Report of KDE Free Qt Working Group + Foundation

Akademy and KDE e.V.
AGM 2026



Who we are and what we do

- Advise and assist KDE's elected board members in the KDE Free Qt Foundation.
 - Albert Astals Cid
 - Olaf Schmidt-Wischhöfer
 - Chris Rizzitello
 - David Redondo
 - Eike Hein
 - Frederik Gladhorn
 - Martin Konold
 - Victoria Fischer

Our work of the past year

- WG discussions on the Matrix group when more immediateness is needed. Live calls on meet.kde.org when appropriate
- The Foundation met on June 5 2026.
 - Volker Hilsheimer has replaced Juhapekka Niemi.
 - The Board thanks Juhapekka Niemi for their service to the foundation.

Lessons learned and success stories

- If possible do not change the Foundation members around the time taxes have to be filed.
- Good relations with the TQC Foundation members
- „No news is good news“
- WG continues to be of lot of help to the 2 Foundation members
- Increased collaboration at a technical level between KDE and Qt developers

Where we need help

- Continue building good relationships with TQC in general (i.e. outside this WG/Free Qt Foundation work)
- We are starting to think on an updated agreement, if you have suggestions they are very welcome.

Our key goals and plans for the coming year

- Approve new statuses with at least the name change (we have to add „Sti“ that is short for Foundation in Norwegian in the name)
- Keep good working relationship with the TQC members in the Foundation
- Continue talking with TQC to more clearly define what is Qt and what is not
- Collect possible improvements to the agreement

Talk to us!

- Our focus points
 - Qt licensing
 - Qt Community
 - Anything Qt!
- kde-ev-free-qt-wg@kde.org
- Ping us (any of us) on Matrix/IRC/e-mail/Akademy

Report of Sysadmin WG

Akademy 2026



Our work of the past year

- Migrated networkcheck.kde.org to Fastly – improving service reliability for online status checks in Plasma
- Retired kdetalk.net Jabber services
- Assisted with the rebuild of docs.kde.org, which is now built by a native Gitlab pipeline
- Rebuild of our existing fleet of CI builders, updating them from Debian Bookworm to AlmaLinux 10, which delivered a newer kernel that is more stable on that hardware.
- Deployed 3 additional CI build nodes to provide additional capacity during peak EU working hours.
- Renewal of our Windows code signing certificate
 - Previously this had been a standard code signing certificate, but now has to be an Extended Validation (EV) certificate in order to support
 - As part of this we also had to transition to using a HSM (Hardware Security Module) for storing the private key of our certificate.
 - This also required reworking the Windows Notary service to be able to work with the HSM.
 - Thanks to improvements in native Linux signing tools, we were able to drop the use of a Windows VM for signing windows code. This had previously been required as *.appx bundles could only be signed using Microsoft's `codesign` utility.

Our work of the past year

- Established a Google Cloud Identity instance
 - This will allow Sysadmin to manage Google accounts registered under KDE.org.
 - While currently only used for our Cloud HSM, in the future we will be able to use this to better manage who has access to Google services related to KDE projects (such as API tokens for interfacing with Google Workspace) or data held by Google (Webmaster Tools and our Google Play presence).
- Significant work on our Ansible deployment setup, which is now largely capable of managing:
 - CI build nodes
 - Caddy based load balancers.
 - Notary Service instances such as those used to sign Windows binaries
 - Servers capable of hosting our Mediawiki, Indico, Bugzilla, Matomo, Limesurvey, Wordpress, Static sites, Listmonk and Mirrorbits (download.kde.org/files.kde.org) deployments
 - Together these represent the bulk of workloads hosted on and traffic handled by KDE.org infrastructure, with the notable exception of Gitlab
 - Remaining to implement includes maps.kde.org, Discourse, Sentry, NextCloud, OnlyOffice, Mailman 3 and a mail server.
- Final validation on the above, including deployment of a Ceph instance to provide bulk storage to the cluster and S3 compatible services more generally to our infrastructure is expected to take place over the next few months with most expected to be migrated prior to Christmas if not earlier.

Our work of the past year

- Development of the Caddy load balancer rulesets was particularly complicated due to:
 - Needing to ensure that we would be able to automatically issue wildcard SSL certificates to accomodate incoming CA/B Forum rules that are reducing maximum SSL certificate lifetimes.
 - Needing for the load balancers to be aware of each other to allow them to use HTTP-01 / TLS-01 challenges for issuing SSL certificates using Lets Encrypt as well as facilitating sharing of rate limiting information between them for protecting more vulnerable services.
 - This is needed for domains that we do not have DNS control over such as qtcon.org and simplifies deployment for domains that do not require a wildcard (basically everything apart from KDE.org).
 - KDE.org needs to use a wildcard due to the number of subdomains we host (between 150-200 subdomains) which exceeds LetsEncrypt certificate issuance limits.
 - Most prior art related to Caddy deployment using Ansible involves the use of the Caddy project build services, which is not ideal from a reliability perspective as there is no SLA associated with those. We therefore needed a custom approach that allowed us to build Caddy ourselves using xcaddy.

Complications this year

- Last year Sysadmin deployed an instance of Minio to operate storage.kde.org as part of provisioning VM based CI.
- The first indications of trouble were seen in late May 2025, when Minio upstream removed the admin user interface along with some functionality such as OAuth, requiring all changes subsequent to that to be made using a CLI client that is somewhat clunky and has unusual syntax.
- Subsequent to that, in October 2025, the Minio project ceased distributing pre-built binaries, and required users to build their own from source.
- This escalated further in December 2026, with the project officially being placed in `Maintenance Mode` by its maintainers
- Finally resulting in the project being formally declared unmaintained in February 2026.
- Minio as a project had largely been developed in Minio LLC, which sells (extremely expensive) licenses to a commercial product offering known as AIStor which was based on Minio. Minio is essentially still maintained – just as proprietary software now.
- This offers a cautionary tale about FOSS licensed software (Minio was AGPL v3) that is largely maintained by a single company that does not readily accept contributions from outside.

Complications this year

- Finding a replacement to Minio has not been easy and has been one of several items that has occupied quite a bit of Sysadmin time this past year.
- Most smaller organisations and individuals self-hosting services are making use of Garage, a community developed FOSS project that is receiving grants from NLnet to make further improvements.
 - Unfortunately it's access control support is very minimal and does not meet our needs
 - It is also vulnerable to data corruption on power failure / system crash when not distributed across multiple servers due to it's use of LMDB, and our datasets are not large enough to justify this setup arrangement.
- Other potential options that are relatively easily eliminated are:
 - Seaweed FS: Largely developed by a single individual
 - RustFS: Little in the way of documented deployments
- This has led Sysadmin to the decision that a deployment of Ceph is the only realistic option forward, as it provides one of the best self-hostable implementations of S3 through it's RADOS Gateway functionality.
- Our only other option would be to rely on outside cloud hosting providers such as OVH for this (they hired the developers behind Open IO several years ago).

Our key goals and plans for the coming year

- Complete the migration of a number of our services to the cluster including our static sites, Mediawiki, Matomo, Limesurvey, Wordpress, Bugzilla, Indico and Listmonk deployments (among others)
- Look to retire Subversion if possible
- Rework our email infrastructure to be better able to handle mail forwarding in a modern world that is increasingly hostile to sending email in general, let alone forwarding it.
- Deployment of an instance of OpenQA to support KDE Linux and Neon

Talk to us!

If you are looking at building application functionality that depends on server side actions please do reach out first – we can provide some guidance on how it may be best to implement it.

- Matrix: [#kde-sysadmin:kde.org](https://matrix.to/#/kde-sysadmin:kde.org)
- Email: sysadmin@kde.org



Financial Working Group

— Academy Report 2026 —

September 2026

Mission & Members

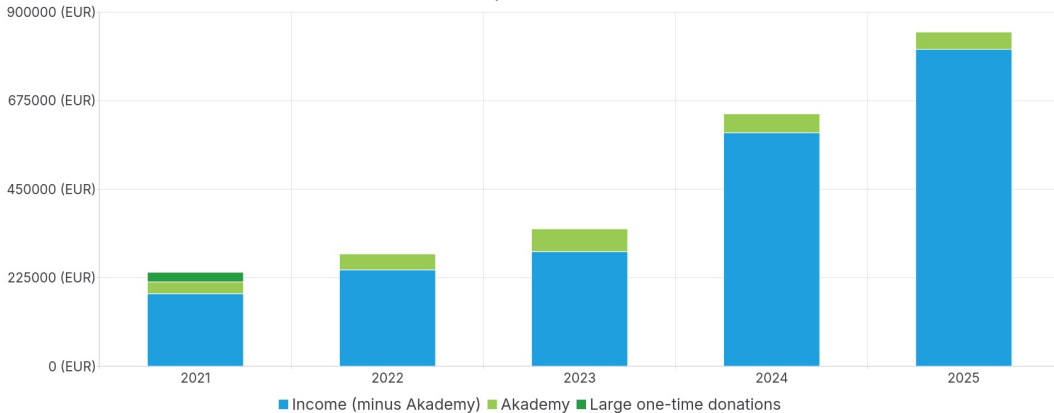
- Support the KDE e.V. Board and Treasurer in financial decisions, commercial activities and communication.
- Review financial reports and help the Community implement the annual Budget Plan.
- Active members: Marta Rybczynska, Till Adam and Eike Hein (Treasurer).
 - Members are elected for two-year terms; the active Treasurer is a member by default.

2025 Financial Review

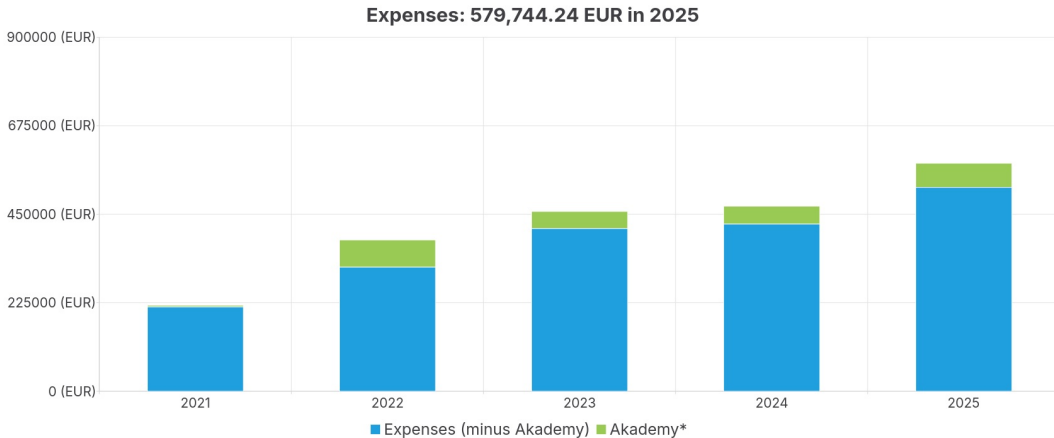
- Income grew from 642k to 850k (+32.4%), mostly on the continued strength of individual donations.
 - Big thanks to our donors and fundraisers!
- Corporate support also grew, from 67k to 97k.
- Expenses grew from 471k to 580k (+23.2%), closely matching our 595k budget plan.
 - We ended the year with a 270k surplus and our highest recorded financial reserve.
- Akademy did not break even: 44k income vs. 61k expenses.
- Summary: Two consecutive surpluses and reliable forecasting give us the confidence to scale again in 2026.

Income 2021-2025

Income: 849,530.24 EUR in 2025

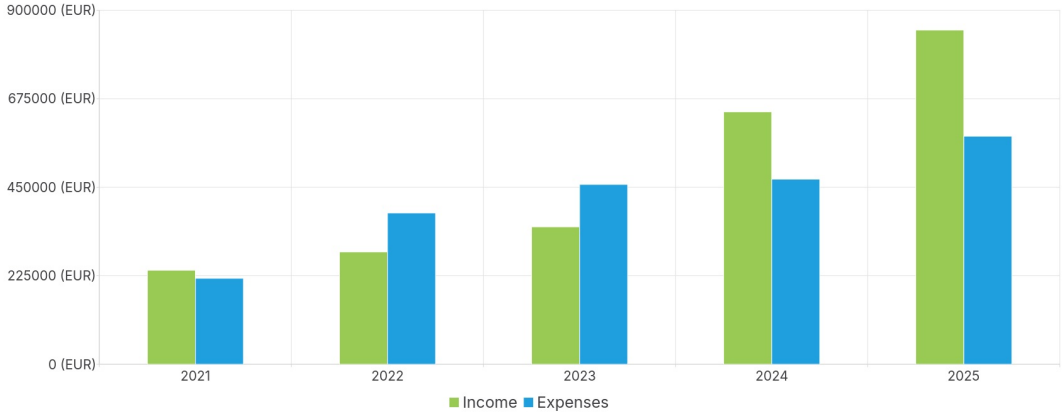


Expenses 2021-2025



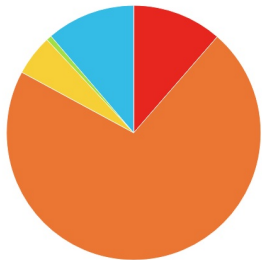
* = Akademy expenses do not include the compensation of our Event Organizer, who works on multiple events. It is accounted in our personnel expenses instead.

Income vs. Expenses 2021-2025



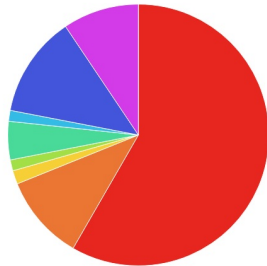
2025 in Detail

Income



- Patrons / Corporates
- Supporting members and donations
- Akademy
- Other events
- Other

Expenses



- Staff & contractors
- Akademy
- Sprints
- Other events
- Infrastructure
- Office
- Taxes & Insurances
- Other

2026 Budget Plan

- Our largest budget ever: 1.77M EUR income and 1.55M EUR expenses, with a planned 218k surplus.
 - 814k EUR on both sides comes from the new Sovereign Tech Agency contract, a one-time project running until 2027.
 - Excluding it, we plan 956k EUR income and 738k EUR expenses.
- Scaling regular activity: 430k for staff & contractors, a new Assistant Sysadmin opening, more sprints and promo
- Special items of note:
 - A 30th anniversary documentary!
 - The NS4NH project concluded successfully in Q2.
 - KDE e.V. received 84.5k from the dissolution of GnuPG e.V.

2026 Year-to-Date Review

- Income and expenses are on track with our budget plan so far.
 - This includes the STA project, which we are monitoring closely.
 - We thank our partners involved for the smooth-sailing so far.
- Individual donations remain strong: Jan-Aug is up 32.2% year-over-year (after removing the 84.5k GnuPG one-time transfer).
- Q4/26 will remain crucial:
 - The EOY fundraiser and resulting donation bump has been an outsized success the last two years.
 - The end-of-year campaign drove 44% of all 2025 individual donations in December alone.

Notes for the Future

- KDE e.V. has moved from reserve drawdown to controlled expansion.
 - Our reserve is at a record high, but so is the scale and activity of the organization.
 - We need a proportionally longer safety runway.
- After a few waning years, it's time to call it: Events no longer fund themselves reliably.
 - We need new fundraising ideas for Academy & co.
- We still need better tooling for our sub-projects.
 - The sub-project financial dashboards have not materialized yet. This will become a WG priority.
- Life at KDE is good: We are overall doing well.