

# *Being Open about the ten Open Source myths*

## **Myth #2 is still alive!**

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# Ten myths about OSS

- In 1999, Tim O'Reilly gave a keynote speech “ten myths about open source software” ([www.oreillyn.net.com/lpt/a/2019](http://www.oreillyn.net.com/lpt/a/2019))
- Myth #2 concerns lack of reliability and support for OSS

*This lightning talk will show that myth #2 ...*

**Lack of support for OSS**

*... is still alive!*

## *There is **support** for **OSS** since ...*

- “most large scale projects do have companies that provide paid-for support, in a way similar to that of proprietary software companies.”
- “The availability of source code and the modification rights gives also the additional advantage that support can be obtained even for projects that are no longer active”

*The SME Guide to Open Source Software,  
Fourth Edition, 4 July 2009  
(FLOSS Metrics EU project, [flossmetrics.org](http://flossmetrics.org))*

## *The Swedish Government states ...*

“The main focus from the Swedish Government is that governmental agencies in the Swedish public sector shall use Open Standards and software that is based on Open Source Software, says press secretary Kenneth Hultgren at the Minister for Communications, Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications, Åsa Torstensson”

*DN.se – “Kriget om den öppna källkoden”, 22 July 2009*  
*[www.dn.se/kultur-noje/nyheter/kriget-om-den-oppna-kallkoden-1.915955](http://www.dn.se/kultur-noje/nyheter/kriget-om-den-oppna-kallkoden-1.915955)*

*In 2009, a Swedish Governmental agency decides ...*

“An e-mail system based on Open Source Software is currently not of current interest, since XXX requires support and regular updates from a supplier of the e-mail system.”

*This shows that myth #2 ...*

**about lack of support for OSS**

*... is still alive in Sweden!*

**How can decision makers be so misinformed?**