

SouJava Position Statement – 2013 JCP Executive Committee Elections

SouJava (the "Java Users Society") is an established non-profit organization and Java User Group focused on strengthening the Brazilian Java developer community. Founded in 1998 and based in São Paulo (Brazil's technology and business hub), SouJava congregates over 40 thousand members throughout the country. It has hosted activities and events in dozens of cities in Brazil and is committed to the Java technology ecosystem, actively promoting and defending the technology since its foundation. The group participated in many discussions about Java adoption inside companies and Government agencies and has facilitated Java standard and technology adoption for major enterprises in the public and private sectors.

Fulfilling its main role of vendor-independent Java evangelist, SouJava has created and organized some of the largest Java conferences and community gatherings in the country in any technology. These include all editions of JustJava (the major independent Java event in Brazil) and of the University-focused Abapuru, as well as two successful international developer conferences: Sou+Java and CaféBrasil.

SouJava has also acted as an independent evangelist of open source technology, having organized the influential "Java Livre" event, part of Latin America's major open source conference, FISL. By helping connect the Java and open source communities, the group has brought together major industry and community players and mediated discussions and controversies between vendors and open source organizations. SouJava had, thus, an important role in the open sourcing of Java.

SouJava was the first JUG to join the Program and has been a member of the JCP for 7 years. Having promoted the Java Community Process in Brazil for many years more, the group worked heavily to get the Brazilian Government to participate and recognize the importance of the JCP – and to add open source, standards and Java to the Government's agenda. SouJava also facilitated Brazilian developer participation in the JCP. Additionally, many of the group's directors are experts in JSRs, which worked to extend the group's experience. For the last two years, having been ratified to a seat in the Executive Committee, SouJava has consistently defended transparency and participation in the JCP. SouJava participates strongly on the Adopt-a-JSR program, with 80+ of the groups members involved in promoting and adopting JSRs and is a leading participant on the discussions that propose to facilitate and increase membership and participation from individuals and non-profits into the JCP.

SouJava considers the JCP a fundamental part of the Java ecosystem. The long-term success of Java depends on a process that encourages vendors, developers and users to contribute and innovate, and that gives everyone the necessary rights to implement the results. SouJava is committed to ensuring that the JCP is balanced and transparent, and that there is an equal standing among JCP members. The group intends to represent the main concerns of Java developers (individuals as well as companies), in order to help ensure the JCP is not a process dominated by vendors. From its good standing with many of the most active Java vendors and corporations, SouJava will help mediate disputes, while bolstering developers' best interests. Moreover, as an active participant in open-source efforts, the group will help ensure that FOSS projects and implementations of Java standards are able to both bring contributions, and also to share process results.

For the last two years, as member of the JCP EC, SouJava has strived to bring its passion for community, JUGs, open source, standards, and Java to the JCP, and thus foster transparency and

participation. After two years of strong involvement, we look forward to increase even more our relationship with the Java community, and we appreciate your support so we can continue to work towards a better JCP.