

# Costs, culture or communism? Why governments choose open source

By *srlinuxx*

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ZDNet UK has just concluded [an investigation](#) [2] into why some governments have embraced open source, while others have given it the cold-shoulder.

The special report, published on Tuesday, examines why some countries have an almost-zealous approach to open source which is driven by more than cold, hard economics - politics, culture and protectionism all have a part to play.

The UK public sector's hesitance to adopt open source is attributed by some to the lack of political support. "We've been pathetic as a nation in supporting and understanding open source. [Tony] Blair's Labour has dragged us away from it," said one analyst.

Despite leading the way in technology innovation, the United States government has hung back from adopting open source, compared with some countries in Europe.

[Full Story](#) [3].

[Europe and the US philosophically divided on open source?](#) [2].

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