Tue, Mar 19, 2024 • 20:44

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]@redhat.com to: vaxry@vaxry.net + 1 ▼

Concerns regarding hyprland moderation

Hi, I'm [REDACTED] from X.org/Freedesktop.org's code of conduct team. The main reason that I'm contacting you is because of some concerns we have regarding hyprland's community moderation. Before going further into this, I'd like to point out that as far as I can tell - behavior on this server seems to have improved recently. I can also see that a CoC has since been introduced to the server, and looking through more recent conversation logs it seems clear that this behavior has become less common. Thanks for that!

...however, considering the publicity of a lot of these incidents has been enough for people to bring this to our attention along with the fact that most of these statements were not just made by community members, but you in particular - we feel that it needs to be made explicitly clear that pretty much all of the aforementioned behavior is very much against freedesktop's code of conduct - which does extend outside of our infrastructure to a reasonable extent, as explained further down. This point is also not open for discussion.

Considering that you're one of the lead developers for hyprland, combined with the fact this is a publicly accessible discord that is directly associated with and promoted by your project, your behavior not only influences people's impressions of your community - but it also reflects on communities like ours when we interact with and accept contributions from hyprland. We don't want to argue or try to convince you to change your CoC or how you enforce it, but if more bad and more recent behavior ends up coming to our attention - it can be damaging to freedesktop's reputation as well, and we would have to consider steps to protect our community's reputation.

We've already received comments from trans members of our community stating that they feel unwelcome as a result of past hyprland incidents. And to be clear - trans contributors on <u>freedesktop.org</u> are not really that uncommon.

I'd like to take a moment to specifically point out some of the examples that

were brought to our attention of this behavior:

* Hazing someone in your discord because they have pronouns in their bio

* Speaking pretty bluntly against queer people and minorities at large

- "at 15 he doesnt even know what he will be studying at uni and he already wanna go get AIDS?"

- "I think this server's motto should be 'love guns, hate damn minorities'"

I do want to speak a bit more about the first point regarding hazing that I listed here as well. In one of the blog posts you made talking about your response to one of drew's blog posts, you mentioned "Let's be real, this isn't like, calling someone the N-word or something". The reality of interactions like this is that there isn't much meaning in trying to compare different kinds of offensive behavior. Bad behavior is bad behavior, and it pushes people out of communities who don't want to be around that. Just because it might not feel like the behavior you displayed was serious, the reality is it still painted a pretty poor image of your community - and the worst part is the people who are most likely to be affected negatively by such behavior also happen to be the people who are the most likely to just leave without another word when it happens simply because they didn't expect anything to happen if they complained about it.

So, please consider this a formal warning that the CoC team expects not to run into future examples of this kind of behavior from hyprland. If this comes up again in the future, we will have to consider further action.

Cheers, [REDACTED]

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vaxry@vaxry.net to: [REDACTED]@redhat.com

Wed, Mar 20, 2024 • 21:51

Re: Concerns regarding hyprland moderation

Dear [REDACTED],

Your interest in and concerns towards Hypr Development is noted, and appreciated... that would be if there was any sign of good faith or credibility in Your statements.

If this is how Red Hat approaches their Code of Conduct enforcement, I am deeply disappointed by both Your, and by extension Red Hat's ways of operation.

To me, Your entire e-mail reads off as a poorly reviewed letter that is written solely to intimidate rather than to actually do anything constructive: You thank me for improving moderation, however, then claim it is bad because of incidents that have occurred 2 years ago, all for which I have put out official statements where I explicitly claim it was my fault, and such incidents have not happened again, *on the same blog you cite further down*.

Citing a small portion of a 3-page blog post, just because it suits Your case, and ignoring the rest is highly manipulative and quite unprofessional.

While on the topic of manipulative, You quote an obvious joke, completely without context, and frame it as hate speech. This does not reflect well on Your reason for reaching out, which to me, appears nothing beyond a threat.

This relates to the 4th quote you gave. For what it is worth, that is a direct quote from a comedy.

Furthermore, You are reaching out to me in order to, what I assume is, scare me enough to play by Your ideals and values, however, was not Red Hat involved in that extensive lawsuit in America over racism and discrimination being forced internally among employees in late 2023? Maybe it is more appropriate to first get Your own company straight before attacking others?

Since You have already gone so far as to threaten me with "further action", let me reply to those threats. Hyprland, Hyprland Development and Hypr^{*} is not associated in any way, shape, or form with Freedesktop/X.org and nor are you with us. Claims that we are "damaging the reputation" of Red Hat are baseless and preposterous. What further action are You going to exert? Ban me from Your GitLab instance? Your way of talking sounds like you feel a bit too important for who You actually are. Linux's desktop is not Your property and nor is Hyprland, Hyprland Development or Hypr^{*}.

As per Your own values, or at least the ones You preach, "diversity and inclusivity", so people with different beliefs should not be marginalized. Although, according to the leaked internal documents, it seems that only includes non-white, non-right-wing, non-religious people. Everyone else is not invited.

Lastly, I would also like to remind You that "Hyprland" and "Drew" are names and should be capitalized. It is quite unprofessional of You to capitalize Your own name, but not the name of Drew DeVault.

Yours truly, vaxry.

> See my website at: <u>https://vaxry.net/</u>
> My Github: https://github.com/vaxerski

Mar 19, 2024, 20:44 by [REDACTED]@redhat.com:

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[REDACTED] [REDACTED]@redhat.com to: vaxry@vaxry.net + 1

🕞 Fri, Apr 5, 2024 • 20:21

Re: Concerns regarding hyprland moderation

responses inline, added back conduct@ to the cc

On Wed, 2024-03-20 at 22:51 +0100, vaxry wrote: Dear [REDACTED],

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It appears there's been a misunderstanding on your end. This email has nothing to do with Red Hat

https://www.freedesktop.org/wiki/CodeOfConduct/

You can find my name there.

Anyway, one more comment down below:

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To answer your question: Yes, actually. The code of conduct team absolutely has the right to remove you from <u>Freedesktop.org</u> and ban you from the gitlab instance.

Cheers!

As per Your own values, or at least the ones You preach, "diversity and inclusivity", so people with different beliefs should not be marginalized. Although, according to the leaked internal documents, it seems that only includes non-white, non-right-wing, non-religious people. Everyone else is not invited. Lastly, I would also like to remind You that "Hyprland" and "Drew" are names and should be capitalized. It is quite unprofessional of You to capitalize Your own name, but not the name of Drew DeVault.

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Cheers, [REDACTED]

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Cheers, [REDACTED] Software Engineer at Red Hat

Re: Concerns regarding hyprland moderation

Dear [REDACTED],

it seems obvious by now to us that Your intentions are not to seek improvement or discuss any past matters, but to try and enforce Your (non-existent) authority over the Hyprland community. I would like to remind You that no matter what You (as a team) may think or say, <u>freedesktop.org</u>'s Code of Conduct

will *not* be enforced under Hyprland Development, Hyprland or the hypr* umbrella.

Regardless of any threats You may feel are appropriate to this situation, we will be sticking to our own Code of Conduct available under https://github.com/hyprwm/Hyprland/blob/main/CODE_OF_CONDUCT.md.

Should You wish to discuss the validity or the effectiveness of the active Code of Conduct, in a matter that is appropriate to Your position as an outside party, we will be open to any and all communication that respects Your position in this dialogue.

As such, we will be ceasing any and all further communication with <u>freedesktop.org</u>'s Code of Conduct team until we believe that an attempt of communication is done so in good faith, and with the intention of betterment, in lieu of threatening followed by ignoring the other party completely. In other words, further emails from the <u>freedesktop.org</u>'s Code of Conduct team will now be *ignored* unless You, as a team, decide to change Your attitude wrt. the issue at hand.

Should you instead resort to continuing sending purely threat-filled emails with no attempt at an actual discussion, I may be seeking legal action.

Kind regards, vaxry.

> See my website at: <u>https://vaxry.net/</u>

> My Github: <u>https://github.com/vaxerski</u>

Apr 5, 2024, 20:21 by [REDACTED]@redhat.com:

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