



Bisoños Usuarios de GNU/Linux de Mallorca y Alrededores | Bergantells Usuaris de GNU/Linux de Mallorca i Afegitons

Resignation from ALS, Sklyarov affair... (5929 lectures)

Per **Ricardo Galli Granada**, [gallir](http://mnm.uib.es/gallir/) (<http://mnm.uib.es/gallir/>)

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El título era el contenido del subject del [mensaje de renuncia](#)⁽¹⁾ de Alan Cox a la conferencia ALS de USENIX en Estados Unidos por la detención del hacker ruso Dmitry Sklyarov. Jon 'maddog' Hall le [contesta](#)⁽²⁾ "molesto" por el anuncio de la renuncia.

***Actualización:** Respuesta de Jon "Maddog" al final del artículo. Muy simpática, sobre todo eso de enseñar la forma correcta de pintar coches en Singapur (hay que leer el mensaje para entenderlo). Al final de todo, en colorines, mi segunda respuesta.*

Creo que Alan tiene toda la razón y estuvo muy bien que haya renunciado. Que la administración norteamericana se dé cuenta que ese tipo de persecuciones, basadas en una ley basura, puede inclusive dañar el prestigio no sólo de su justicia, sino de las propias conferencias científicas-técnicas realizadas en ese país. Y además [lograr unir](#)⁽³⁾ a toda la comunidad *hacker*.

Y me parece que Maddog está equivocado en criticar a Alan Cox, y además defendiendo la actitud *democrática* de Estados Unidos por su apoyo a la caída del Muro de Berlín... así demostrando que la administración norteamericana en realidad *estima mucho a los rusos*. Je. Preguntemos lo que piensa Gorbachov... (que veranea por aquí cerca).

Yo no me aguanté cuando leí la respuesta y envié el siguiente mensaje (*rant* = pomposo).

Date: Sat, 21 Jul 2001 00:21:47 +0200 (MET)
 From: Ricardo Galli
 To: maddog@li.org
 Cc: editor@lwn.net, editors@newsforge.com, ellie@usenix.org
 Subject: Re: Your very public message

Dear Jon,

first of all, sorry by the intrusión. But some issues mentioned in Alan's and your messages are quite sensitive for me. I understand very well Alan's rejection.

Although it could be unfair to you, rejecting to go to ALS isn't against USENIX, but it was really a good opportunity to show publically (as is being made) that US laws are, at best, contradictory.

>From my point of view, Alan, who doesn't express his political attitude very often, has achieved what is necessary: to show that the threaten of DCMA, US administration (especially the current one) and huge "good" american corporations going after foreigner hackers can hurt even to important events as USENIX's.

OTH, your word defending your government because their "pressure to lower the Berlin wall" is actually unfair. What happened after US administration supported Yeltsin's "coup" against Gorbachov? Did they get more freedom and health? Don't think so. Neither with Thalibans (which were against Russian), or Irak, which was supported by US and later attacked when they infringed US economic interests Kuwait (which is known by "Gulf War" to hide that in reallity was a war against human beings, not against "something unanimated"). Administrations don't defend freedom in far and foreign countries. They defend their own interests.

What would happen if instead of the Russian hacker were an American that get jailed in Russia or even in a western european country because he/she



violated local laws? Would you go to a conference in that country?

I doubt it. But perhaps you will exploit such possibility to show publically your position, which surely can help a lot.

The same is happening, your administration is really threatening foreigner hackers. Don't deny the evidence.

So, don't drink the venome. It's not served for you, neither for USENIX, I think.

Sorry by the rant.

Kind regards,

--

Dr. Ricardo Galli
bulma.net/
m3d.uib.es/~gallir/

Respuesta de Jon Maddog Hall

Date: Fri, 20 Jul 2001 19:39:22 -0400
From: "Jon 'maddog' Hall, Executive Director, Linux International"
To: Ricardo Galli
Cc: maddog@li.org, editor@lwn.net, editors@newsforge.com,
ellie@usenix.org, maddog@linux.local
Subject: Re: Your very public message

Ricardo,

I can see that some clarification is needed, for yours was the second message along these lines sent to me.

First of all, I encourage you to read my message to Alan again, and carefully.

I did not condemn him for resigning from the ALS board, nor for boycotting the event. I said that in my first sentence.

Secondly, Alan could have made just as strong a statement by saying simply that he was "not going to any more conferences in the United States". Instead, he used his position on the ALS program team to make a bandstand play, a play that hurt an organization that has actively taken a part in defending against such atrocities in the past, and will probably continue to do so in the future. An organization that has stood from its inception for the antithesis of what the DMCA stands.

> What would happen if instead of the Russian hacker were an American
> that get jailed in Russia or even in a western European country
> because he/she violated local laws? Would you go to a conference in
> that country?

It depends on what laws that American broke. I went to Singapore after the American was caned for spray painting cars. I actually wanted him to receive more caning than what he finally received. I make it a habit not to spray paint cars in Singapore, so I travel in Singapore relatively worry-free.

I do not agree with the DMCA law. I would like to have it repealed. But it is a law, and the Russian broke it, then wanted to come to the US and talk about it.

> What happened after US administration supported Yeltsin's "coup"
> against Gorbachov? Did they get more freedom and health?

It swings back and forth. Some people would like the old government back, because they feel they were better off. Others say that they like it better the new way, despite the issues you mention. Odd though, the biggest issue is that they now have a choice.

> Administrations don't defend freedom in far and foreign countries.



> They defend their own interests.

Please tell that to the dead in Flanders Fields.

And while we are blaming the US for all of Eastern Europe's problems, I suppose no European or Asian country has ever invaded any of their neighbors in the last seventy years or so?

In short, I did not disagree with the stance that Alan took. I said that in my first sentence. But to bring in all that FUD about the US government "hating" eastern block countries, and this is why Adobe chose this Russian to pick on, cut me a break. They chose him because he ADVERTISED that he was breaking the law by coming to the conference and speaking on the topic.

Next time I am in Singapore at a conference, perhaps I will speak on the proper way to spray paint cars and see what happens. Or maybe I will just sit quietly in the audience and enjoy the event. I bet if I do the latter instead of the former, I will go home a happy camper.

> So, don't drink the venom. It's not served for you, neither for
> USENIX, I think.

USENIX and ALS did not have a chance to drink the venom or not. It was injected into them from afar. Whether or not the snake meant to bite, the strike was sudden and unexpected.

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Jon "maddog" Hall
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Board Member: Uniform Association, USENIX Association

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Respuesta a Jon Maddog Hall

On Fri, 20 Jul 2001, Jon 'maddog' Hall, Executive Director, Linux International wrote:

> It depends on what laws that American broke. I went to Singapore after the
> American was caned for spray painting cars. I actually wanted him to receive
> more caning than what he finally received. I make it a habit not to spray paint
> cars in Singapore, so I travel in Singapore relatively worry-free.

[A different case. It would be similar if the guy is canned by telling in Singapore how he sprayed car _in_ US, being car spraying legal in US.](#)

> Please tell that to the dead in Flanders Fields.

[Last century made it unrepeatable. For good and bad.](#)

> And while we are blaming the US for all of Eastern Europe's problems, I suppose

[Please, just read it in the context of:](#)

I seem to remember much pressure from the US to lower the Berlin wall

BULMA: Resignation from ALS, Skylarov affair...



> no European or Asian country has ever invaded any of their neighbors in the last
> seventy years or so?

Few. And the were also criticized, and canded. I don't mean US never defended freedom in foreign countries, but this is not the current situation.

And Spanish goverment is even worse, much worse. But they didn't jail (yet) a foreign hacker for violating a Spanish law in a foreign country to protect a giant company interests.

> Next time I am in Singapore at a conference, perhaps I will speak on the proper
> way to spray paint cars and see what happens. Or maybe I will just sit

Could be very interesting to see how your government react to the fact that an american is canded by _telling_ people how to paint a car ;-)

Regards,

--ricardo

Lista de enlaces de este artículo:

1. <http://lwn.net/daily/alan-quits-als.php3>
2. <http://lwn.net/daily/maddog-responds.php3>
3. http://www.eff.org/alerts/20010719_eff_sklyarov_alert.html

E-mail del autor: gallir_ARROBA_uib.es

Podrás encontrar este artículo e información adicional en: <http://bulma.net/body.phtml?nIdNoticia=746>