DI.DAY

FEDIMEDIA ITALIA

Liberate your Desktop
Liberate your Documents

Italo Vignoli

ODF

Breakdown of Europe Desktop Operating System Share

- Windows: 77.13%
- OS X / macOS: 16.55%
- Linux: 4.96%
- Chrome OS: 1.34%
- FreeBSD: 0.01

Big Tech outspends top 10 companies in pharma, finance and automotive industries combined

source: EU Transparency Register, own calculation, as of 9/2025

Top 10 tech companies:

48 Mio. €



Top 10 pharmaceuticals, finance and car companies combined:

42,75 Mio. €



Corporate Europe Observatory

LOBBY CONTROL

Top 10 digital industry lobbyists

Digital lobby actors ranked by how much they spend lobbying the EU Institutions.

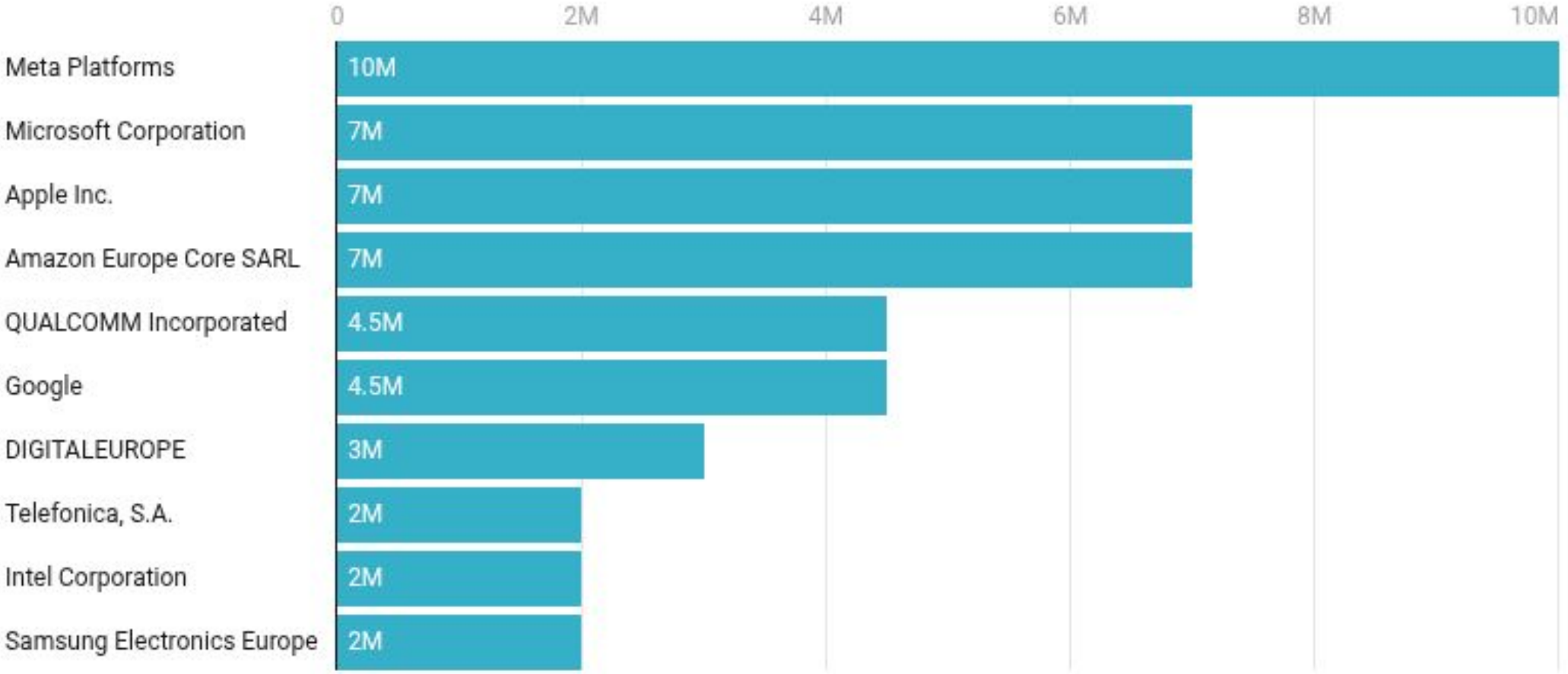


Chart: Corporate Europe Observatory and LobbyControl • Source: EU Transparency Register • Get the data • Embed • Created with Datawrapper

Impact of Lobby Budgets

- These huge lobbying budgets have a significant impact on EU policy-makers, who find digital lobbyists knocking on their door on a regular basis (more than 140 lobbyists work for the largest ten digital firms in Brussels and spend more than € 48 million on making their voice heard)
- Big Tech companies don't just lobby on their own behalf, but they also employ an extensive network of lobby groups, consultancies, and law firms representing their interests, not to mention a large number of think tanks and other groups financed by them

ODF

Big Tech funding of think tanks

think tanks	Google	Amazon	Meta	Apple	Microsoft
CERRE	+	+	+	+	+
EPC	+	+	+	+	–
CEPS	+	+	+	+	+
CER	+	+	+	+	+
Bruegel	+	+	+	+	+
Friends of Europe	+	–	–	+	+
CDI/ITIF	+	+	+	+	+
Lisbon Council	+	+	+	+	–
ECIPE	+	+	–	–	+
CIPL	+	+	+	+	+
Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies	+	–	–	+	–
Transatlantic Policy Network (TPN)	+	+	+	+	+
German Marshall Fund	+	+	–	+	+
European Internet Forum	+	+	+	+	+
Chamber of Progress	+	+	–	+	–

source: EU Transparency Register/think tank websites, as of 9/2025

Corporate Europe Observatory

LOBBY CONTROL

Consequences of Lobbying

Academic and Big Tech critic Shoshana Zuboff affirms that lobbying – establishing relationships with elected politicians, and a campaign for cultural and academic influence – has acted as the fortification that has allowed a business model built on violating people's privacy and unfairly dominating the market, to flourish without being challenged

Subservience to Microsoft

Is that true? Is that real? Unbelievable, Microsoft rules

Human Genes Renamed To Please Excel

Written by Janet Swift

Friday, 07 August 2020

More than two dozen human genes have been renamed so that they can be typed into a spreadsheet without being formatted as dates. New guidelines for standardized gene naming explicitly allow for renaming genes to avoid problems with data handling.

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Analogic Documents (Past)



Digital Documents (Future)



a digital document is not paper
but a piece of software
what you see is not the file but the result of a program that run
the XML code



Code without Decoder

- Our ancestors inscribed on a hard stone, hoping to preserve their expression for posterity
- In fact, they managed to preserve the code, but not the decoder (because the scribe died)
- Proprietary document formats are like inscriptions, because the decoder can change at the developer's will (and the developer may still be alive, so changes may happen many times, making the document even more obscure than inscriptions on hard stone)

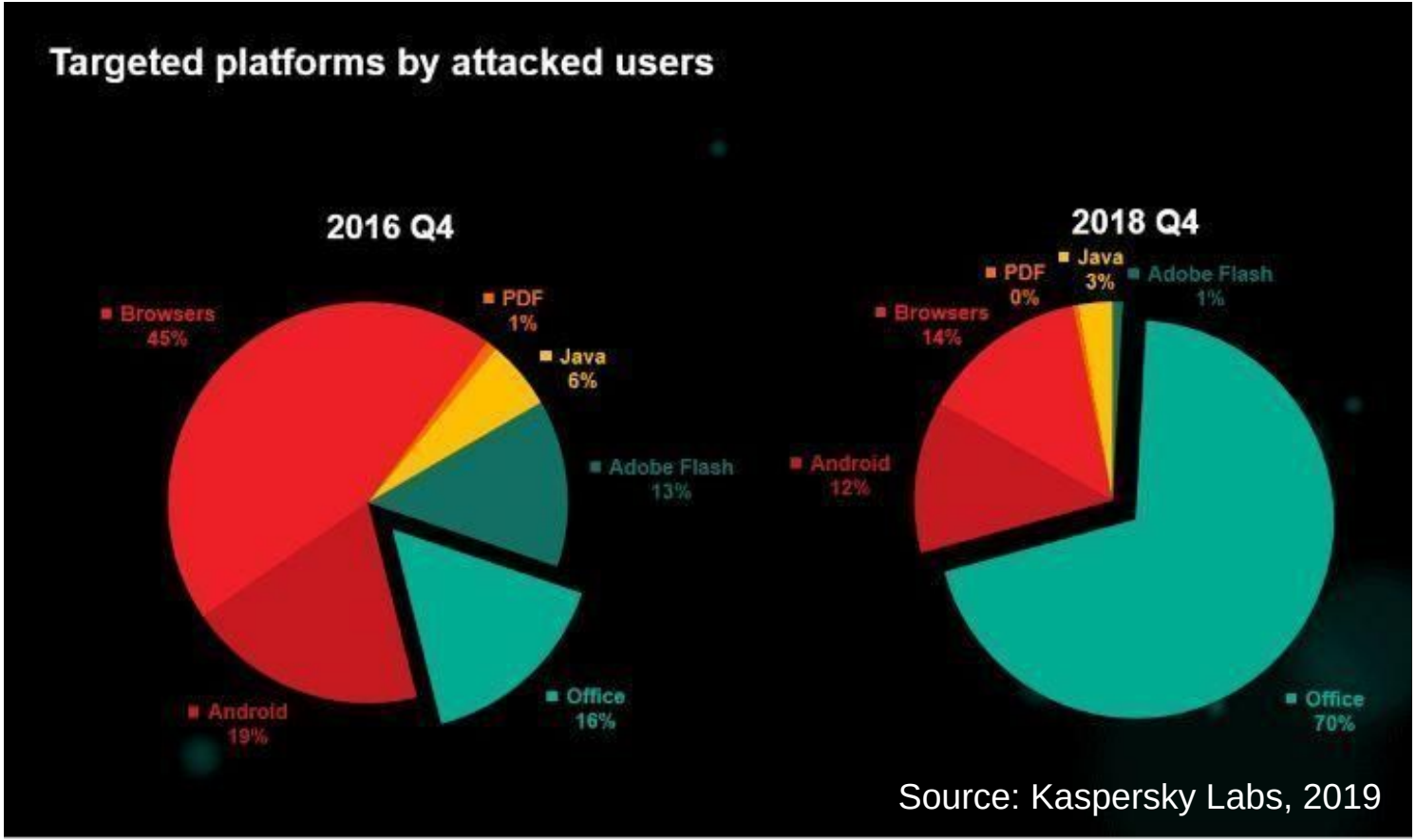


Microsoft 365 Screenshot



Inscription of Xerxes the Great near the Van Fortress, written in Old Persian, Elamite and Babylonian

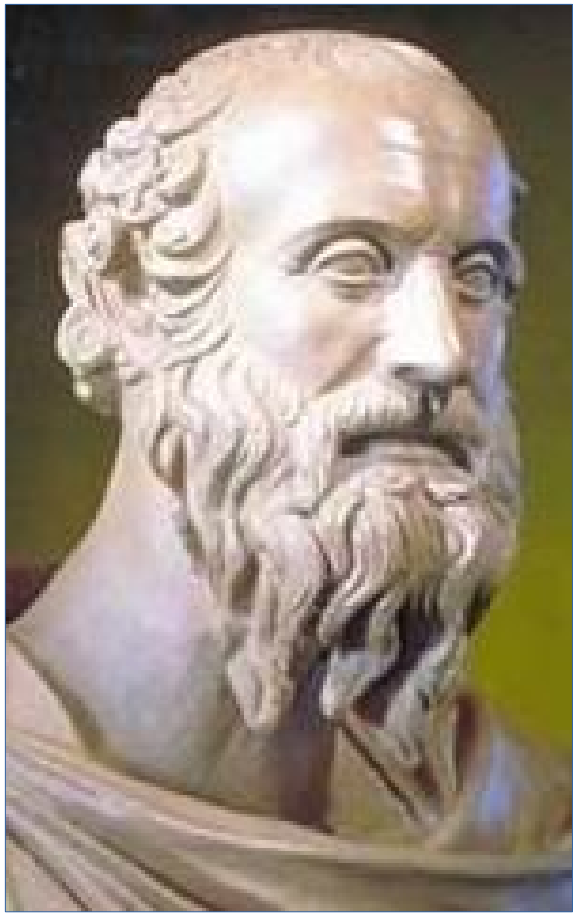
Document Vulnerabilities in 2018





man is an animal with two legs and no feathers

Plato



Plato's Man

Diogenes the Cynic

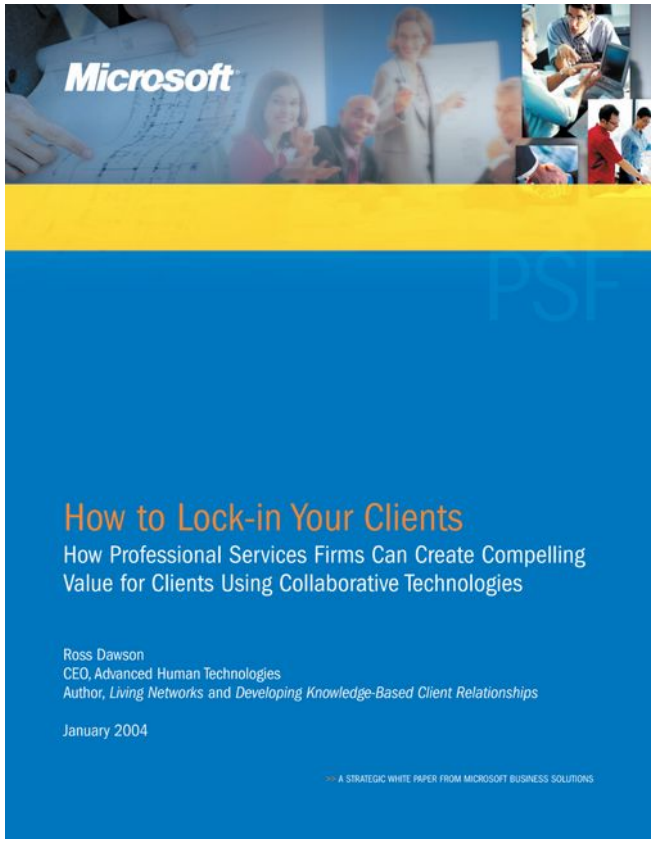


Microsoft OOXML is to an open standard format as Diogenes the Cynic's chicken is to Plato's man

Lock In

WE CANNOT READ YOUR DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENTFREEDOM.ORG



for everything else we recognise
as software we have learned
to demand openness
we should start to do the same
also for digital documents





Open Document Format

the true document standard which offers freedom of choice



Comments? Questions?

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