

# Inclusive Language Initiative

## Challenge

How does LFN assure that we are using language in our documentation and code that is inclusive and does not include any implicit or explicit bias?

## Goal

TAC working group to provide to LFN projects:

- terminology list with suggested replacements
- guidance on how to implement (docs, code, tooling, versions, etc)

LFN Projects to implement suggestions/guidance as appropriate for their projects

## Overall Plan

- gather additional guidelines from LF and relevant standards groups on their terminology list
- finalize a terminology list with recommended replacements
- suggest scope & processes to implement

## LFN Mailing List

[inclusive-lang-wg@lists.lfnetworking.org](mailto:inclusive-lang-wg@lists.lfnetworking.org)

[Join Mailing List](#)

## Action items

Description	Due date	Assignee	Task appears on
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Casey Cain</a> to fix the calendar invitation <b>01 Jan 2021</b>	01 Jan 2021	<a href="#">Casey Cain</a>	<a href="#">Minutes 9Dec2020</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Casey Cain</a> to add discussion to next TAC call on best way to handle various initiatives <b>01 Jan 2021</b>	01 Jan 2021	<a href="#">Casey Cain</a>	<a href="#">Minutes 9Dec2020</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Bob Monkman</a> will check on ONF's efforts		<a href="#">Bob Monkman</a>	<a href="#">Minutes 2Sept2020</a>

## Background Information Gathered

(thanks [Trevor Cooper](#) )

**Python** joins movement to dump 'offensive' master, slave terms - [https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/09/11/python\\_purges\\_master\\_and\\_slave\\_in\\_political\\_pogrom/](https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/09/11/python_purges_master_and_slave_in_political_pogrom/)

**Redis** replaces master/slave language - [https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/09/13/redis\\_master\\_slave/](https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/09/13/redis_master_slave/)

Salvatore Sanfilippo (aka Antirez), creator of Redis, ran an on-line Twitter poll of his followers, and found that 53% out of 6242 participants wanted to replace master-slave language; with 19% wanting to keep it and 28% that didn't care. <https://twitter.com/antirez/status/1038094104129937408>

**Microsoft** Style Guide advises alternatives to master/slave - <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/style-guide/a-z-word-list-term-collections/m/master-slave-master-subordinate>

**Google** told Employees to Delete Politically Incorrect Language From Code - <https://reason.com/2019/07/11/google-code-pc-master-slave-respectful/>

**Los Angeles, CA** asked manufactures, suppliers & contractors to stop using master/slave terminology, calling it unacceptable & offensive - <http://www.cnn.com/2003/TECH/ptech/11/26/master.term.reut/index.html>

**Drupal** - <https://www.drupal.org/project/drupal/issues/2275877>

**Django** - <https://github.com/django/django/pull/2692> . Lots of discussion on this thread from those on both sides of the issue.

**IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force)** - <https://tools.ietf.org/id/draft-knodel-terminology-00.html>. Proposal in process to replace master/slave and blacklist/whitelist language.

- IETF is working on Best Current Practice document. Here is version 4: <https://tools.ietf.org/id/draft-knodel-terminology-04.html>

**GitHub** – “Microsoft’s Github is removing coding terms like ‘master’ and ‘slave’”

**Washington Post** – “There’s an industry that talks daily about ‘masters’ and ‘slaves.’ It needs to stop.”

**ZDNET (7/11/20)** – “Linux team approves new terminology, bans terms like ‘blacklist’ and ‘slave’”

**Red Hat** blog from CTO (and LFN board member) Chris Wright <https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/making-open-source-more-inclusive-eradicating-problematic-language>

**ODPI** open source project discussion: <https://github.com/odpi/egeria/issues/3486>

**Linux Kernel:** Linux kernel community guidelines: <https://lkml.org/lkml/2020/7/4/229>

**CNCF:**

- Racially charged terminology: A Path Forward: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TTsAX1FL8lglGZM-o8AN8bgqWlYIx6F5\\_ZGDBVYx9U/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TTsAX1FL8lglGZM-o8AN8bgqWlYIx6F5_ZGDBVYx9U/edit)
- CNCF Naming Working Group: Using more Inclusive language brainstorm:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bnPvb6oE07Wg9rb7kBXcpHe6j85bbyltdc0h0\\_gil88/edit#](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bnPvb6oE07Wg9rb7kBXcpHe6j85bbyltdc0h0_gil88/edit#)

**Table of reference replacement terms from links above and other sources**

Project /Company	Term Option	Term Option	Term Option	Comments
DPDK.org	Master->Primary	Slave->Secondary	Blacklist/Blocklist Whitelist->Allowlist	
Drupal	Master->Primary	Slave->Replica		
Django	Master->Leader	Slave->Follower		
Python	Master->Parent	Slaveworker, helpers		
Redis	Master->Primary	Slave->Replica		
Microsoft	Master/Primary, Principal, Controller	Slave Replica, Secondary, Agent		
Google	Master->Primary	Slave Replica		
GitHub	Master->Main			
Red Hat	Master->Main		Whitelist Allowlist Blacklist Blocklist	
Intel	Master/Primary, Leader, Orchestrator, Host, Initiator	Slave Follower, Worker, Target, Responder	Whitelist Safelist, PassList Blacklist Blocklist	
IETF	Master/Primary, Leader, Active, Parent, Coordinator	Slave Secondary, Follower, Standby, Replica, Helper, Worker		
Twitter	Master Leader, Primary	Slave Follower, Replica, Standby	Whitelist Allowlist Blacklist Denylist	

**Team**

(to be confirmed)

Al Morton

Bob Monkman

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