



HL7 Europe Volunteer Program – draft for discussion

Tuesday July 15, 2026

Version 0.3

HL7 Europe achievements are driven by volunteers. Volunteers that believe in the vision of HL7 and HL7 Europe, how we meet in HL7 Europe Working Group meetings but also in HL7 Affiliate meetings and HL7 International WGs. It is through these volunteers that HL7 Europe has grown substantially over the last decade and has been recognised as the driving force behind EHDS and myHealth@EU as well as initiatives like Hospitals-on-FHIR, PHOENIX, and more recently StartUp-on-FHIR. So far, Volunteers have received little recognition from HL7 Europe.

Moving forward, we would like to recognize and celebrate our volunteers, expanding at the same time the ways we offer for engagement and personal growth. HL7 Europe's Volunteer Community Program is a simple, way to be recognized for one's contribution, while having a stronger voice in terms of new initiatives, activities, and community events.

The program has seven tracks. Volunteers join the track (or tracks) that fit their skills and interests and contribute to a level that suits their availability.

The Seven Tracks

Track 1 — HL7 FHIR Implementation Guides (IGs)

Help build and maintain HL7 Europe's FHIR Implementation Guides.

Volunteers can contribute to the development, review, publication, and adoption of European HL7 FHIR Implementation Guides, supporting the work of project teams and helping ensure high-quality, sustainable European specifications.

Possible volunteer activities include:

- Facilitating the work of project teams
- Actively contributing to HL7 FHIR IG specification authoring
- Helping manage Jira issues received during feedback collection and ballot processes
- Supporting the organization of hands-on events, such as FHIR Connectathons
- Assisting with IG publication and version management processes
- Coaching other EU FHIR IG meeting participants and contributors
- Supporting EU FHIR IG adoption and solution validation
- Follow the work of the Technical Coordination Team.

Good fit for: *HL7 FHIR developers, HL7 FHIR profilers, architects, integration engineers, terminologists, implementers.*

Track 2 — Community Events

Help plan, run, and support HL7 Europe's Working Group Meeting and other community events.

You might:

- Help organise and plan the event programme and agenda
- Support logistics, registration, and session coordination on-site
- Chair or facilitate sessions and capture actions/minutes
- Run or support different types of testing events like hackathons, EU-a-thons, etc.
- Welcome and orient newcomers and first-time attendees
- Support hybrid/remote participation and session documentation

Good fit for: *organisers, facilitators, project managers, and community-minded members who enjoy events.*

Track 3 — HL7 Europe Initiatives

Engage in one of the initiatives aiming at enabling the community of providers, disease areas, and vendors: Hospitals-on-FHIR, PHOENIX, and the newest one StartupOnFHIR.

You might:

- Share lessons learned and implementation experience
- Write or present case studies from your hospital or project
- Contribute to webinars, meetups, and connectathon sessions
- Mentor hospitals that are just starting their FHIR journey
- Help curate practical resources and FAQs for the community
- Lead or participate in working groups or task forces on topics of interest to the community
- Serve as ambassador contributing to the growth of the community
- Help startups and innovators build on FHIR and navigate the European Health Data Space, engaging in StartuponFHIR
- Support providers in their FHIR journey, trackling issues with AI use, and cybersecurity participating in HOF WGs.

Good fit for: *hospital IT and informatics staff, vendors working with hospitals, project leads, mentors, startups; people with experience in startup ecosystems, incubators, or digital health entrepreneurship. FHIR expertise is a plus but not required — passion for lowering the barrier to entry is what matters most.*

Track 4 — Communications & Marketing

Help HL7 Europe's work reach and engage the wider community.

You might:

- Create and schedule social media posts (LinkedIn, X/Bluesky, etc.)
- Review and coordinate on marcom activities
- Help run and improve the HL7 Europe website and community pages
- Write newsletters, blog posts, and announcements
- Turn IG releases, WGM news, and community stories into shareable content
- Produce simple graphics, slides, or short videos

- Support event promotion and outreach campaigns
- Cover events live and capture highlights
- Grow and engage the audience and track what resonates
- Participate or follow the **Marketing and Communications committee** of HL7 Europe
- Support the HL7 communications team with content and promotion

Good fit for: *communications and marketing people, writers, designers, and anyone who enjoys storytelling and community building, patient advocates*

Track 5 — Tooling & Infrastructure – HL7 Europe Facility and Innovation Space

Maintain the technical backbone that keeps HL7 Europe's work running and published.

You might:

- Maintain GitHub repositories, issues, and contribution workflows
- Support the FHIR IG publishing pipeline and CI/CD (e.g. IG Publisher, GitHub Actions)
- Manage access, permissions, and integrations across tools
- Document the tooling so contributors can self-serve
- Troubleshoot build and publishing issues for the IG and WGM teams

Good fit for: *developers, DevOps engineers, web maintainers, and technically minded volunteers who like keeping systems healthy.*

Track 6 — Education & Training

Build skills across the community so more people can use and contribute to HL7 Europe's standards. Shape HL7 Europe's educational offerings.

You might:

- Create tutorials, guides, and learning paths for FHIR and the HL7 Europe IGs
- Run or support webinars, workshops, and hands-on training sessions
- Develop onboarding and "getting started" materials for newcomers
- Help prepare people for connectathons and certification
- Mentor learners one-to-one or in small groups
- Curate and keep training resources up to date
- Participate in the **Education committee** of HL7 Europe
- Develop onboarding and "getting started" materials for newcomers
- Help prepare people for hackathons, testing events, and certifications
- Mentor learners one-to-one or in small groups
- Curate and maintain up-to-date training resources
- Support and grow the Startups on FHIR community of practice

Good fit for: *trainers, educators, experienced implementers, and anyone who enjoys explaining things clearly.*

Track 7 — Contribute to the development of EU funded proposals

Engage in the work HL7 Europe on European Union Funded Research to promote interoperability in the broad health sector.

- Help develop new proposals
- Contribute to the execution of EU funded projects

-
- Connect HL7 Europe to existing consortia and partners
 - Help promote the results of HL7 Europe with projects
 - Contribute to communicating results of EU projects within the HL7 community

Good fit for: *Knowledge of the EU funding scene, consultants, researchers, academics*

What We Offer Volunteers

- Hands-on FHIR and standards experience that maps directly to professional work
 - Named recognition for contribution to IGs, WG outputs, and community materials
 - Visibility in the European interoperability community
 - Free or discounted access to HL7 Europe events and connectathons
 - Mentorship and a direct line into HL7 International work
 - A certificate of contribution and a documented track record
-

How to Join (Onboarding)

1. **Express interest** — fill in a short form: skills, language(s), track(s) of interest, availability.
 2. **Quick chat** — a brief conversation to match you to a track and a first task.
 3. **Welcome pack** — code of conduct, contribution agreement to sign, and access to the tools you'll need (chat, GitHub, mailing lists, sharepoint, meeting calendars).
 4. **First task + buddy** — a small, scoped task and a buddy/mentor so you get an early win.
 5. **Get going** — join your track's calls and channels.
-

Time Commitment

Keep it flexible and tied to the work, not a fixed contract:

Track	Typical commitment
FHIR Implementation Guides	Per IG cycle (often 6–12 months), as little as a few hours a month
Working Group Meeting	Event-based — ramps up in the run-up to and during each WGM, then quiet between events
Hospitals on FHIR CoP	Light and event-based — contribute when you can, a few hours a month
Communications & Marketing	Flexible — a few hours a month, with peaks around releases and events

Track	Typical commitment
Tooling & Infrastructure	Mostly steady maintenance, with peaks around IG releases and the WGM
Education & Training	Flexible — project-based around courses, webinars, and training sessions
Startups on FHIR CoP	Light and event-based — contribute when you can, a few hours a month

Light check-ins at **3 and 6 months**. Stepping back is always fine — we keep the door open for you to return.

Running the Program (Light Governance)

- **A volunteer coordinator** owns onboarding, recognition, and support.
- Each track has a **track lead** (a senior volunteer or staff member) who guides newcomers and assigns work.
- All volunteers follow the **code of conduct** and sign the **contribution agreement** (consistent with HL7 IP policy).
- Volunteer personal data is handled per GDPR — see the separate privacy notice.

Next Steps to Launch

- Confirm a coordinator and a lead for each track
- Finalise the expression-of-interest form
- Prepare the welcome pack (code of conduct, contribution agreement, tool access guide)
- Set up channels and calendars for each track
- Announce the program through affiliates, events, and existing members

Version	Date	Author	Comment
0.1	26.6.2026	Catherine Chronaki	Initial version review