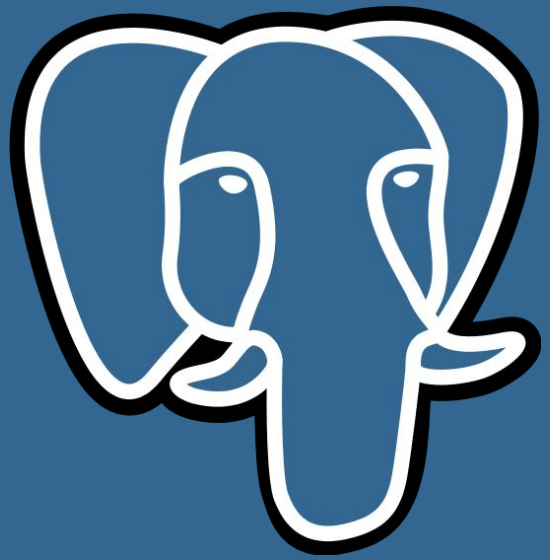
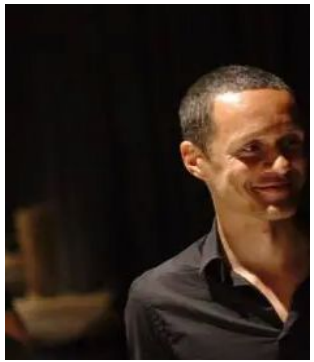
Promoting PostgreSQL through a Cross-Enterprise Workgroup



PGConf.eu - October 2022 - Berlin

About us



Anthony Nowocien

PG FR secretary

COC member

Damien Clochard

PG FR president

Product Owner @ Dalibo

Flavio Gurgel

Staff Engineer

@leboncoin

Agenda

How it started

How it works

Achievements

Projects

How it started

Origin

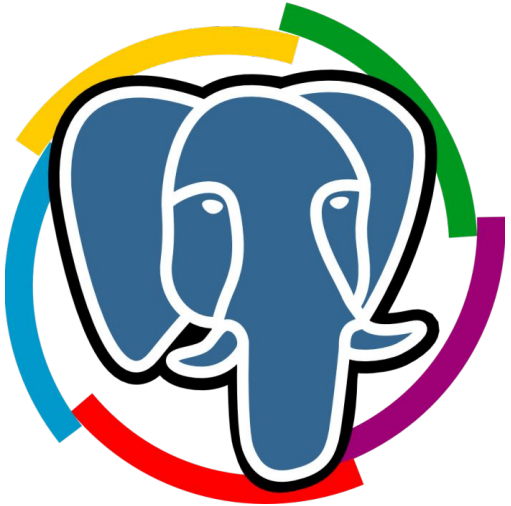
The problem

First steps

Where we are now

Members

Origin



The PostgreSQL FR association was created in 2004

Members were mostly individuals

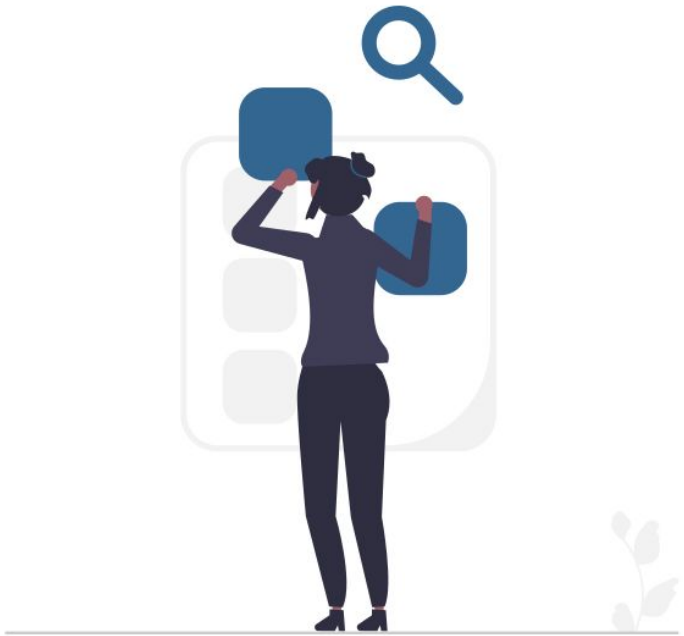
In 2017, Simon Clavier (SNCF) initiated a movement to gather French companies around PostgreSQL.

The problem

Several large companies were looking for **PostgreSQL** knowledge and information to get rid of proprietary databases.

No single entry point available (no single supplier of Postgres services).

The community communication channels are open & public.



First steps

A workgroup was created in 2017, moderated by Simon Clavier and Flavio Gurgel.

No PostgreSQL support company involved.

Monthly online gatherings with all the group, some extra workshops when a common subject was found.

Where we are now

Around 30 members

Private and **public** sectors represented

New joiners every year

Members

RETRAITE COMPLEMENTAIRE
agirc-arrco

AIRFRANCE

A-SIS
A SAVOYE BRAND

leboncoin

casden
BANQUE POPULAIRE

SNCF

EDF

TSG
TECHNICAL
SERVICES & SOLUTIONS

SOCIETE
GENERALE

cnes
CENTRE NATIONAL
D'ÉTUDES SPATIALES

isa

METEO
FRANCE

ENEDIS
L'ELECTRICITE EN RESEAU

ciril
GROUP

MAIF

Code
Lutin

people
doc

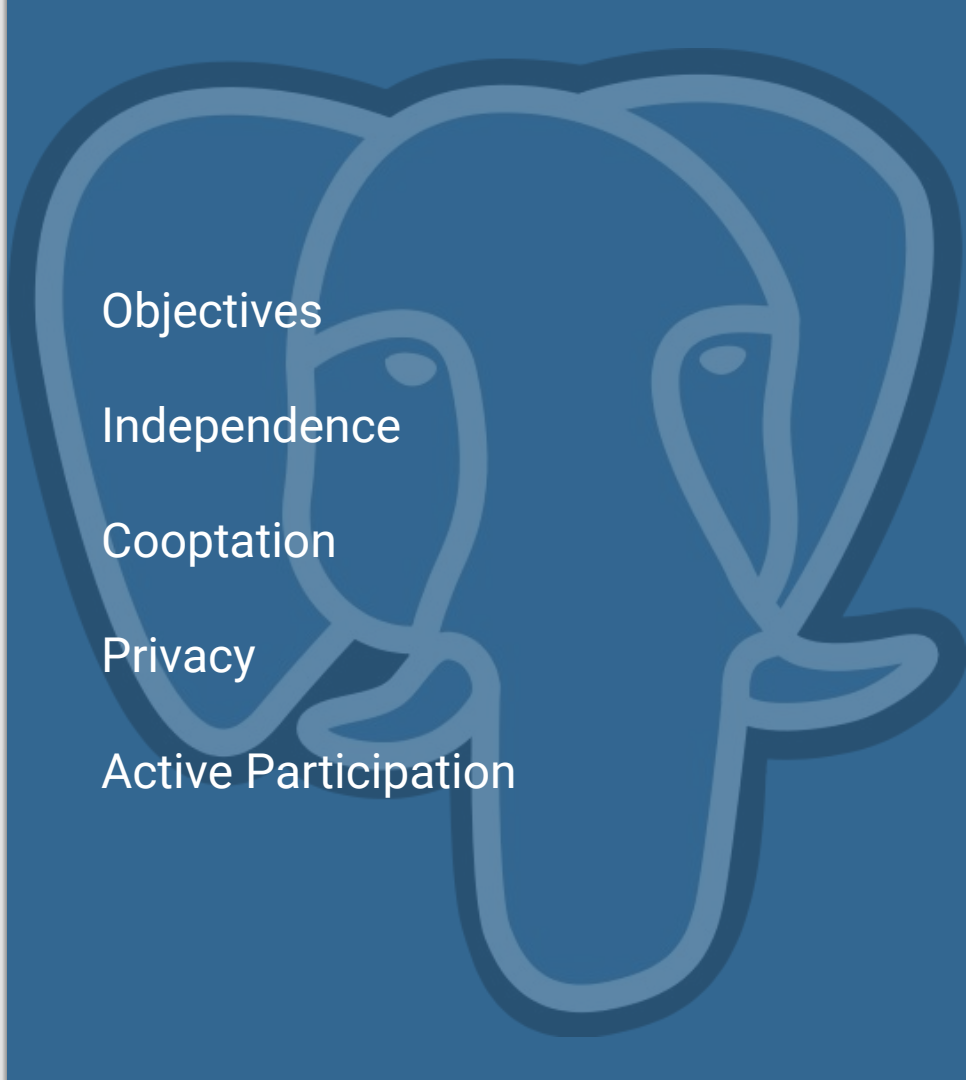
IGN
INSTITUT NATIONAL
DE L'INFORMATION
GÉOGRAPHIQUE
ET FORESTIÈRE

Isoce

orange™

Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
MINISTÈRE
DE L'ÉDUCATION
NATIONALE ET
DE LA JEUNESSE

How it Works



Objectives

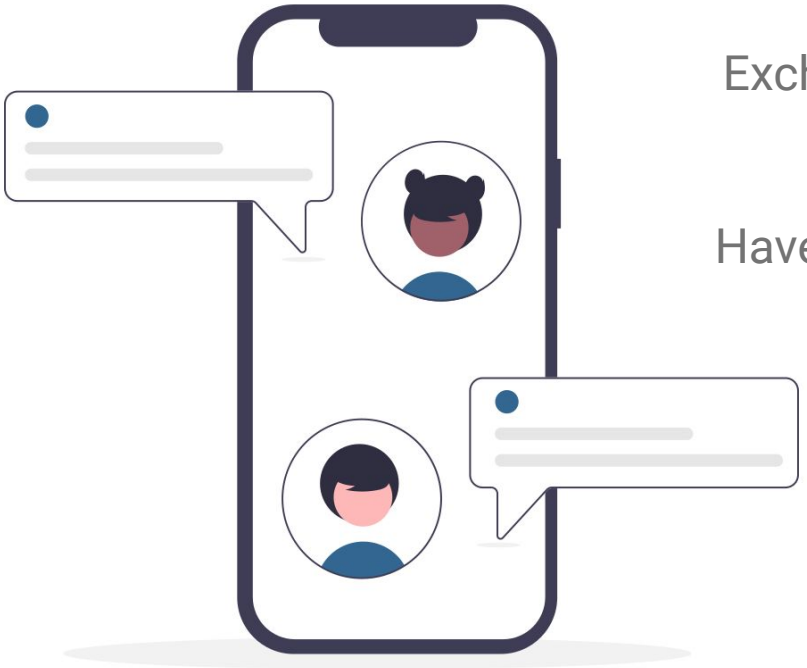
Independence

Cooptation

Privacy

Active Participation

Objectives



Exchanges on what is working fine (and not so fine) with our Postgres deployments

Have a discussion platform (video calls, file sharing, git…)

Independance

PostgreSQL service vendors cannot participate:

- they are invited to dedicated meetings
- when the participants agree

Current participants check new joiners for independence

All public actions are approved

Cooptation

- Companies apply for admission
- Check acceptance
- No fees

New comers are encouraged to join PostgreSQL-FR

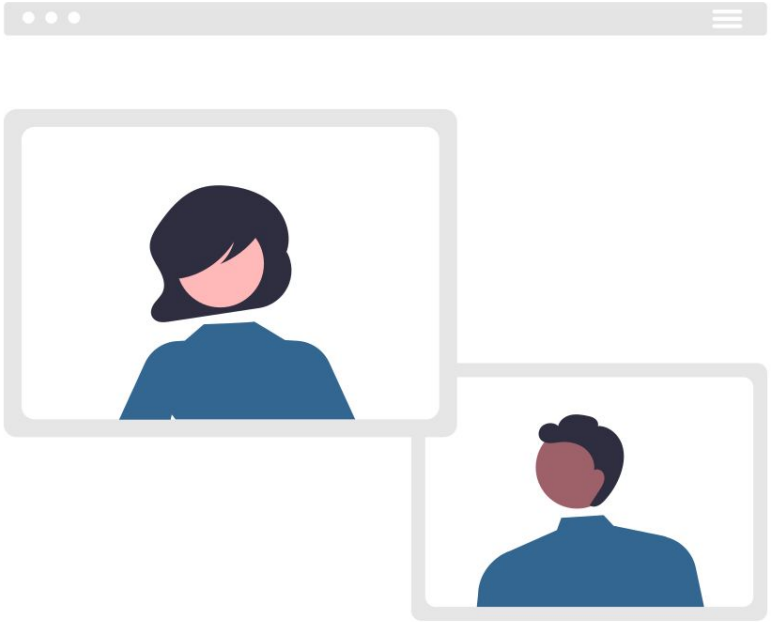
Privacy

Participation can be anonymous to the public

Communication channels are private

Gatherings are optional
(but you only vote on decisions when present)

Active participation



Contribution means:

- (video) calls
- file sharing
- script sharing
- presentation

Have a person responsible for maintaining the **agenda** and **animating** the meetings themselves

There will be ups and downs in participation

Achievements

Monthly Meetups

Press Releases

Transition Guide

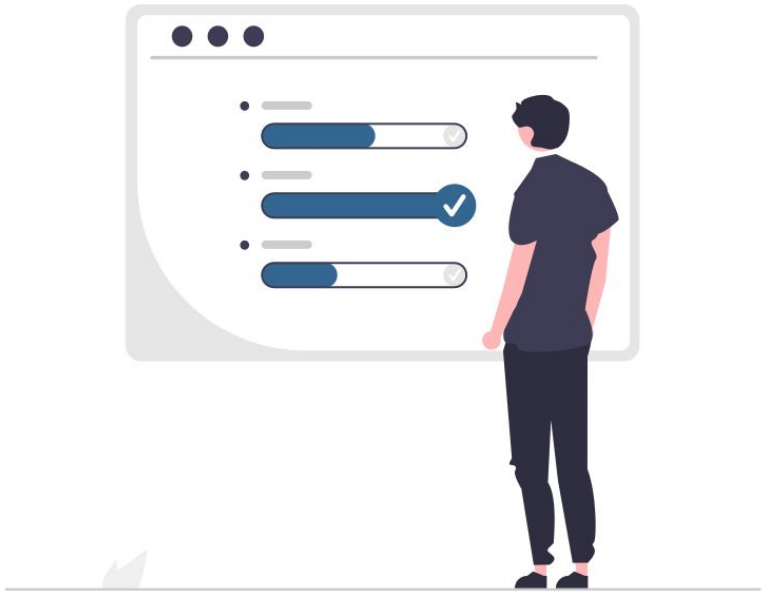
Conferences

Monthly meetups

General meetups once a month

Dedicated workgroups:

- Migration
- NoSQL
- Monitoring
- High Availability
- Cloud …



Press releases

Open letter : call to software vendors for an enterprise-grade support of PostgreSQL Database

https://www.postgresql.fr/entreprises/20171206_open_letter_to_software_vendors

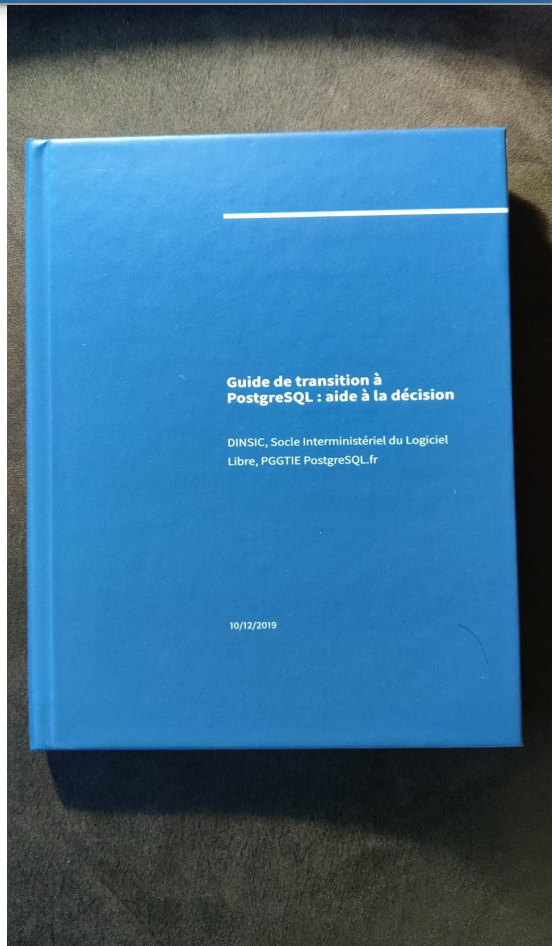
- Large coverage in the press
- Useful when facing a software editor that refuses to migrate to Postgres

Transition guide

Started as a collaborative document in the **French administration**

- 2015: v1, DINSIC
- 2019: v2, PGGTIE
- 2021: English translation *(thanks Michael :))*

https://github.com/postgresql-transition-guide/guide



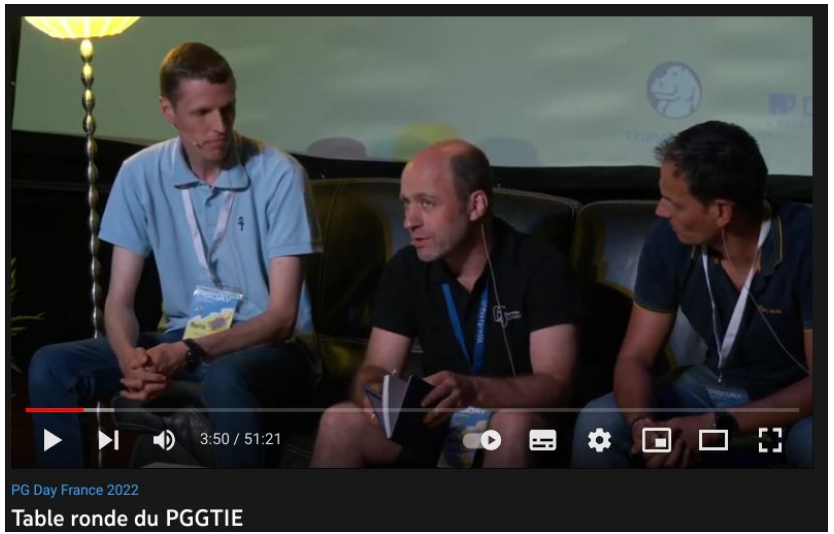
Conferences

Several group interventions in various events.

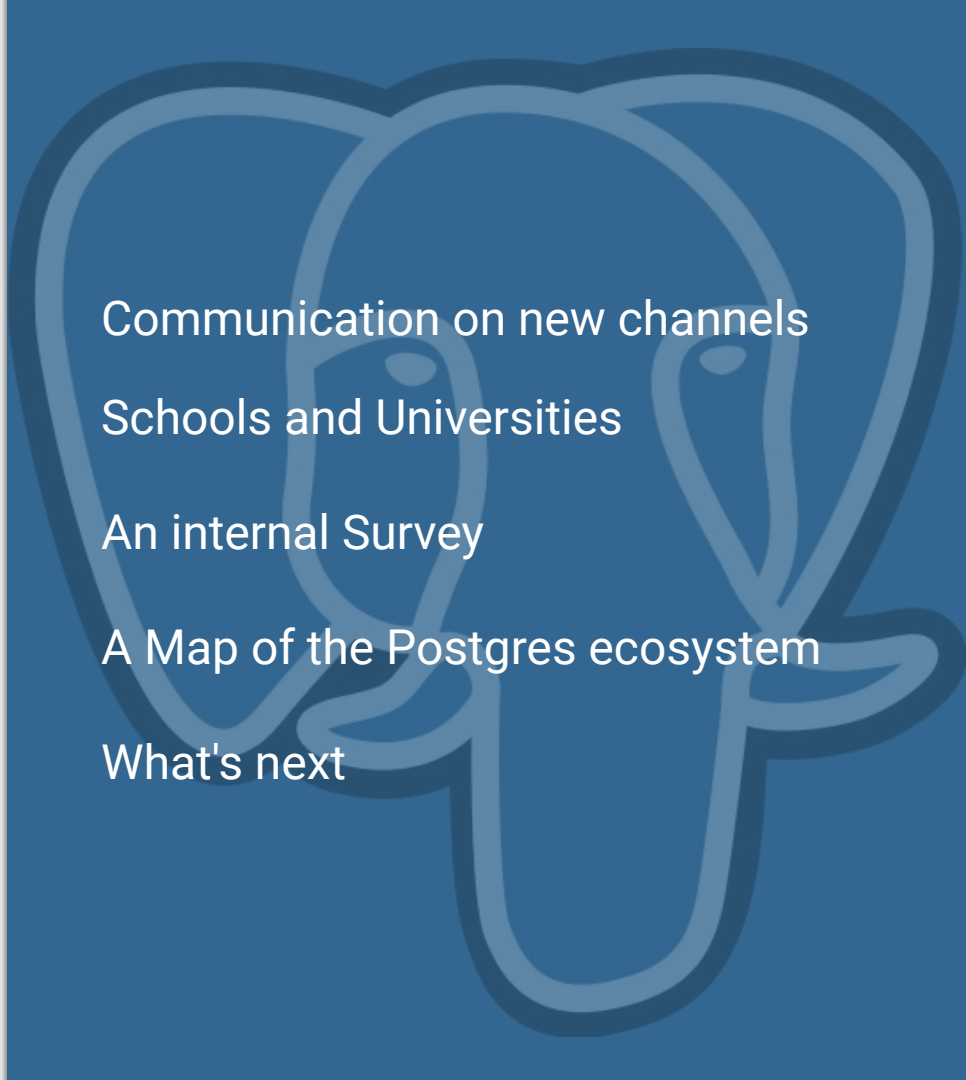
We are stronger together !

A good way to recruit new members.

Events: pgday.fr, OSSXP



Projects



Communication on new channels

Schools and Universities

An internal Survey

A Map of the Postgres ecosystem

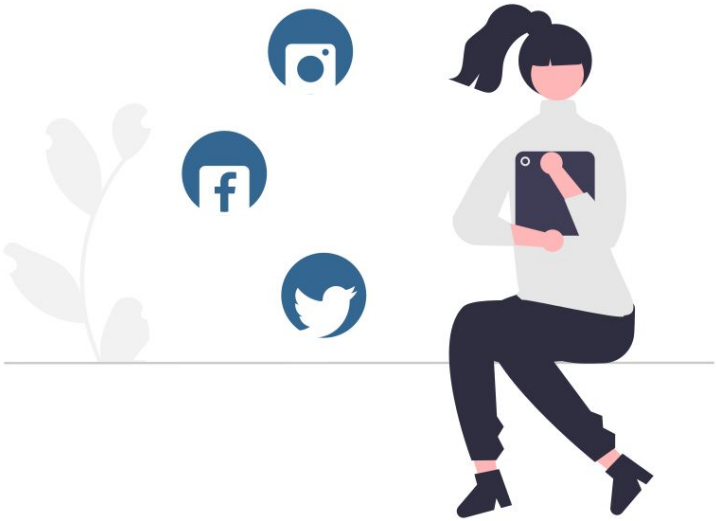
What's next

Communicating on new channels

Reaching a broader audience with short videos

Personal interview of each member

Focus on Linkedin



Collaborations with Schools and Universities

PostgreSQL is still underrated in most French IT schools and Universities

Most IT students do not consider it as valid career path

An intervention by a **professional DBA** can make a difference

Sharing teaching materials and contacts

A Map of the PostgreSQL Ecosystem ?

The Postgres community is very dynamic and prolific.
New projects come up every month.

For each domain (backup, monitoring, HA, …) there's an overload of options…

Keeping up is hard.

A simple visual representation could help.

An Internal Survey ?

Collecting and aggregating usage data among the group

Based on a set of simple questions

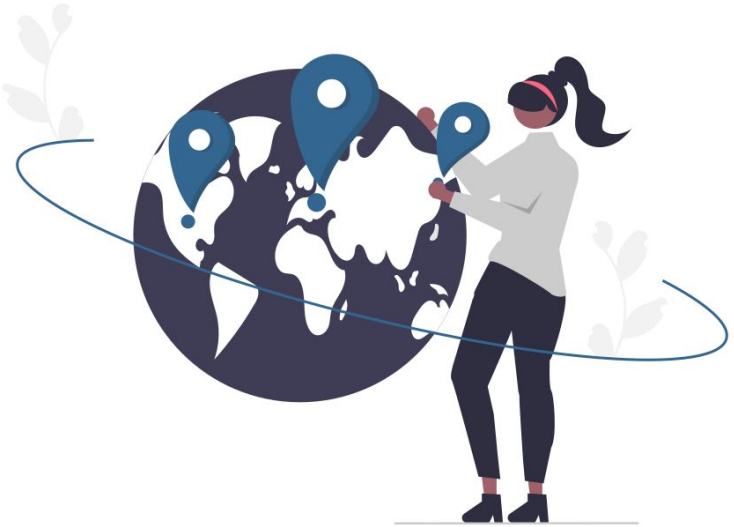
Publishing an anonymized report on a yearly basis

What about a European group ?

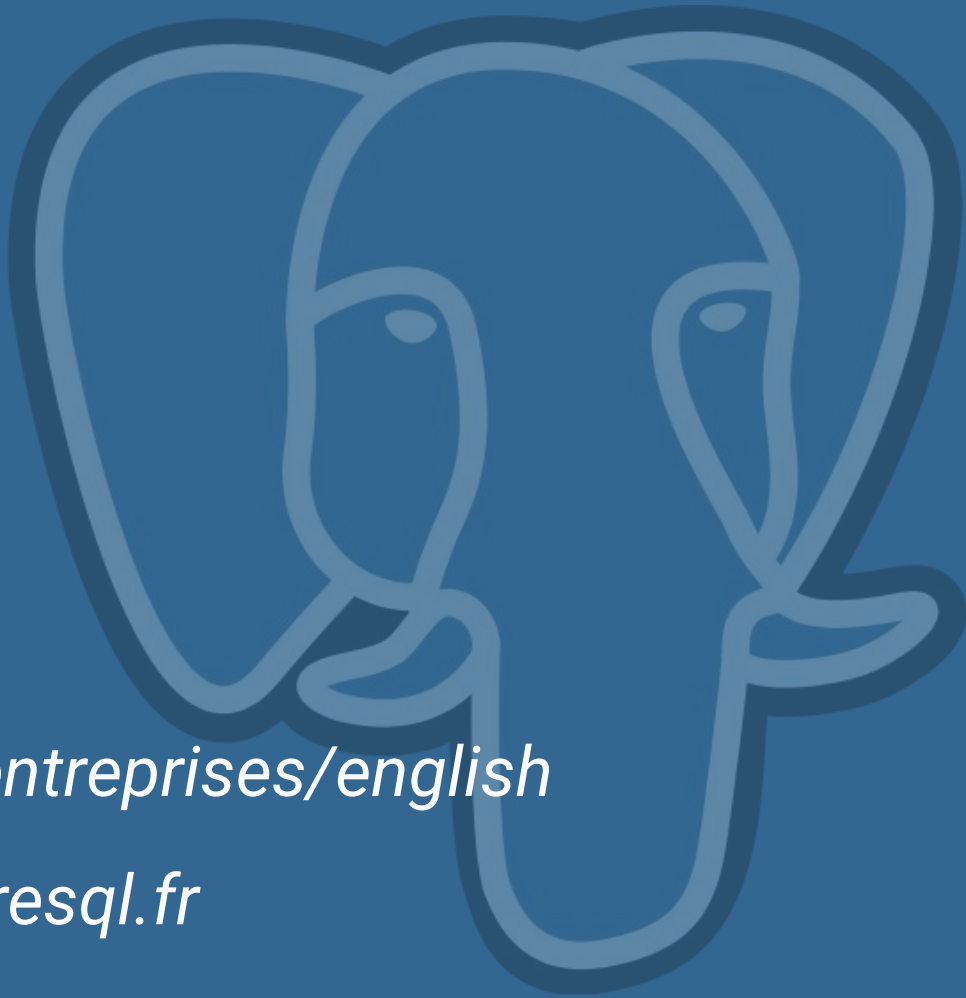
Open to discussion

Under postgresql.org ?

Under postgres.eu ?



Thanks !



https://www.postgresql.fr/entreprises/english

entreprises.contact@postgresql.fr