

Continuous translation with Weblate

Michal Čihař
<https://weblate.org/>
michal@cihar.com

Contents

- **Translation process in general**
- **Integrating translators**
- **How Weblate can help you**

Translating (not only) software

- **Internationalization**
 - Preparing the software for localization.
- **Localization**
 - Writing the translations and local formats.
- **For i18n you need developers**
 - Ideally experienced with the topic.
- **For l10n you need translators**

Translators in software project

- **Separated from development**
- **No developer knowledge**
- **Good language knowledge**
- **They need proper context**
- **New translations for every release**
- **Need to submit translations**

Choices for handling translations

- **No translations**
 - Everybody speaks English, right?
- **Manually accepted patches/updates**
 - Just grab sources and send us updates
- **Web based solution**
 - We want to provide some comfort

Manual handling of translations

- **Translators send updated files**
 - What if the file has changed in the repository?
- **Translators send patch / pull request**
 - Usually too complex task.
- **Fits technically skilled translators**

Web based translation

- **Low entry barrier**
 - If we want, translations can be quite open.
- **Attract non technical people**
 - No need to checkout...
- **Need to synchronize translations**
 - How to get translations to our repository?

Synchronizing translations

- **Manually uploading files**
 - Easy to forget to update
- **Hook the tool into your VCS**
 - Automatic updates
- **Let the tool push to your VCS**
 - Translations appear automatically

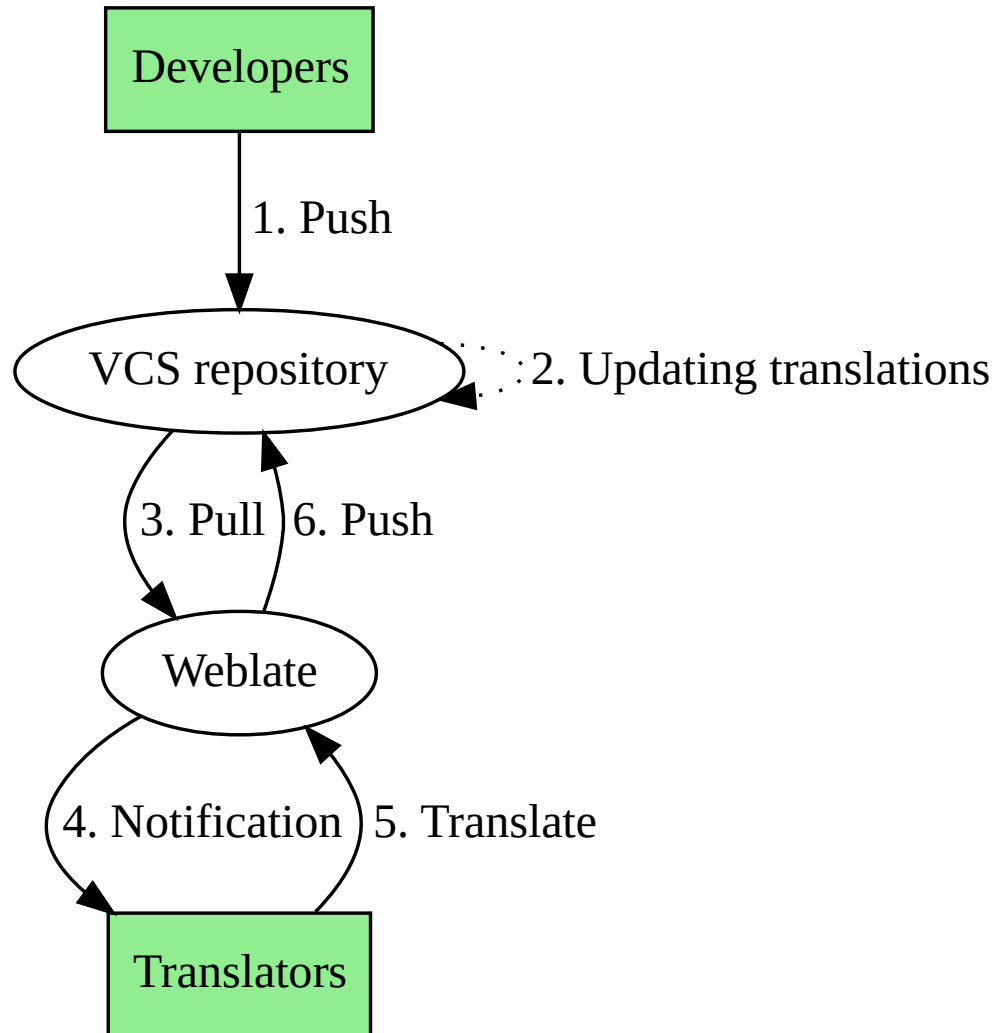
Easiest workflow for translations

- **Translation tool talks to VCS**
 - We want to automate it all
- **Get benefits of distributed VCS**
 - Translations as a separate branch
- **Still using centralized VCS?**
 - Consider switching to Git, it is way better

Introducing Weblate

- **Built to integrate with VCS**
 - VCS is not add-on, it's in the core
 - Supports Git, Mercurial and Subversion
- **Easy integration**
 - Supports GitHub, GitLab and Bitbucket
 - Anything else by URL hooks
- **Every commit is properly credited**
 - Translators are authors of commits

How does Weblate work?



But what about quality?

- **It all depends on people**
 - Managing people is always the hardest part
- **But it's easy to track authors**
 - Use git blame as with code
- **And tool can always help..**

Translations quality with Weblate

- **Translation approval**
 - Accepting translations after more approvals
- **Review tool**
 - Check what others have changed
- **Quality checks**
- **Access control**
- **Providing good context**

Quality checks in Weblate

- **Built in check for message correctness**
 - Thinks like spacing, format strings or XML
- **Include language specific rules**
 - Eg. colon spacing rules
- **Translator is notified of new violations**
 - Some are even automatically fixed
- **It is easy to add custom checks**
 - Few lines of Python code

Access control in Weblate

- **Choose what fits best your project**
- **Open translation**
 - Anybody can register and translate
- **Moderated translation**
 - Members approval
- **Closed translation**
 - Invite only

Translation context in Weblate

- **Source code context**
- **Nearby strings**
- **Translation memory**
- **Screenshots**
- **Glossary**

I want to use my offline editor

- **No problem, Weblate can help**
 - Export and import is there
- **Imported translations are rebased**
 - No more outdated translations files
- **You can still make any changes in VCS**
 - Once Weblate pulls VCS, all changes are visible in the interface

Supported formats in Weblate

- **Based on translate-toolkit**
 - Provides great base
- **Most frequently used formats**
 - Gettext, Android, iOS, Java, XLIFF, JSON, ...
- **Features slightly differ per format**
 - Plurals are not available in all formats
 - Source string location is not available

Time for demo

- **See Weblate in action...**

Options to run Weblate

- **Hosted Weblate for free software**
 - Free, but slightly limited features
- **Commercial Hosted Weblate**
 - Hosting plans starting at 19 EUR / month
- **Run your own instance**
 - It's free software

Thanks

- **More information is available:**
 - Website: <https://weblate.org/>
 - Demo: <https://demo.weblate.org/>
 - Documentation: <https://docs.weblate.org/>
 - Git: <https://github.com/WeblateOrg/weblate/>
 - Mailing list: weblate@lists.cihar.com
 - My mail: michal@cihar.com