

Software Freedom Podcast

How to do a podcast with Free Software?

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Software Freedom Podcast



- Since: October 2019
- Focus: Free Software, EU & Policy
- Interview-style
- **Host & Editor(s): Bonnie Mehring & Øjvind Fritjof Arnfred**
- Published on: fsfe.org/podcast



Software Freedom Podcast



Recording a Podcast and editing a Podcast can be a bit of a religion. And you will find many people that have a different approach than us.



Software Freedom Podcast: Hardware



- Microphones
 - Dynamic vs. condenser mic
 - Strict pickup vs. very sensitive
 - Unidirectional microphones
 - Omnidirectional microphones



Software Freedom Podcast: Hardware



- Recording device
 - many of them are compliant with Linux or other Free Operation Systems
- Headset / headphones



Software Freedom Podcast: Recording



Tips & Tricks:

- 5 seconds of silence
- Do not drink coffee or tea
- Think about what you want to say
- Outline & storytelling
- Go with the flow
 - vs. direct the conversation
- -12 to -6 dB



Software Freedom Podcast: Recording



- Topic of the Podcast
 - It should be interesting for you....
...something you like and have a passion for



Software Freedom Podcast: Recording



**Podcast is not a type or a style
but rather the medium to
transfer your message.**



Software Freedom Podcast: Recording



- Type of the podcast:
 - Interview
 - Conversation
 - Monologue / one person show
 - Storytelling / investigative Podcasts
 - Art (Theater, sound experiments)
 - Ada and Zangemann for example
 -



Software Freedom Podcast: Recording



- Categories of the podcast:
 - Comedy
 - Lifestyle
 - Technology
 - Educational
 -



Software Freedom Podcast: Recording



Intro:

Welcome back to ...

...our discussion about digital
sovereignty through Free
Software.



Software Freedom Podcast: Recording



Intro + ...

...Podcast type and category
+....guest

Then you are all set!

1 2 3...press record!



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing/Mixing



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



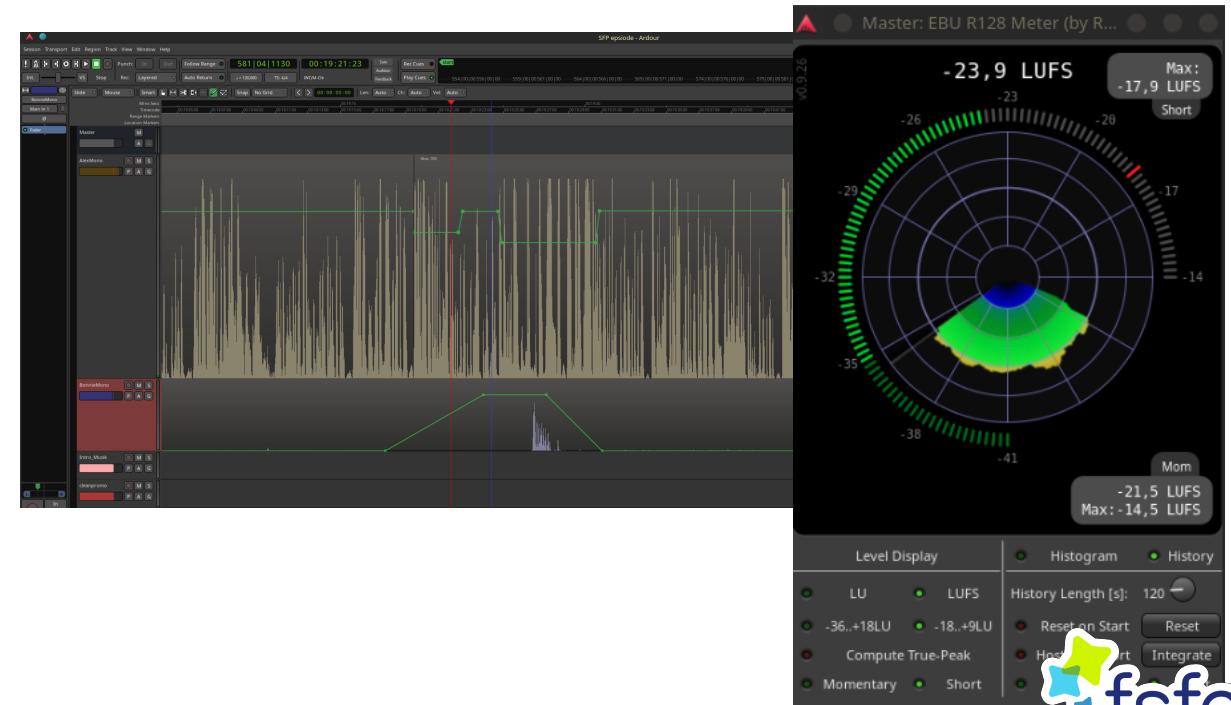
1. Non-destructive editing in DAW
 - Most DAW's do this.



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



2. Even out the levels (-23):



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



1. Non-destructive editing in DAW
2. Even out levels (target -23, for space)
3. Noise reduction, if needed



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



- 1. Non-destructive editing in DAW**
- 2. Even out levels (target -23, for space)**
- 3. Noise reduction, if needed**
- 4. Listen across cuts.**
 - Trust your ears! (Listen to the cut without looking at the screen)**



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



- 1. Non-destructive editing in DAW**
- 2. Even out levels (target -23, for space)**
- 3. Noise reduction, if needed**
- 4. Listen across cuts.**
- 5. How to improve audio?**
**Bad audio will never be good,
but it can sometimes be okay.**



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



- 1. Non-destructive editing in DAW**
- 2. Even out levels (target -23, for space)**
- 3. Noise reduction, if needed**
- 4. Listen across cuts.**
- 5. How to improve audio?**
- 6. Compression &/or EQ.**



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



1. Non-destructive editing in DAW
2. Even out levels (target -23, for space)
3. Noise reduction, if needed
4. Listen across cuts.
5. How to improve audio?
6. Compression &/or EQ.
7. “The Rock’n’roll mixing trick”



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



1. Non-destructive editing in DAW
2. Even out levels (target -23, for space)
3. Noise reduction, if needed
4. Listen across cuts.
5. How to improve audio?
6. Compression &/or EQ.
7. “Rock’n’roll mixing trick”
8. Normalize on export to -16 LUFS



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



9. Export

- Opus (48 kHz and 32 kbps)
- Mp3 (~41 kHz)



Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



Done

....now off to find FOSS distribution
to a podcast player near your
listener



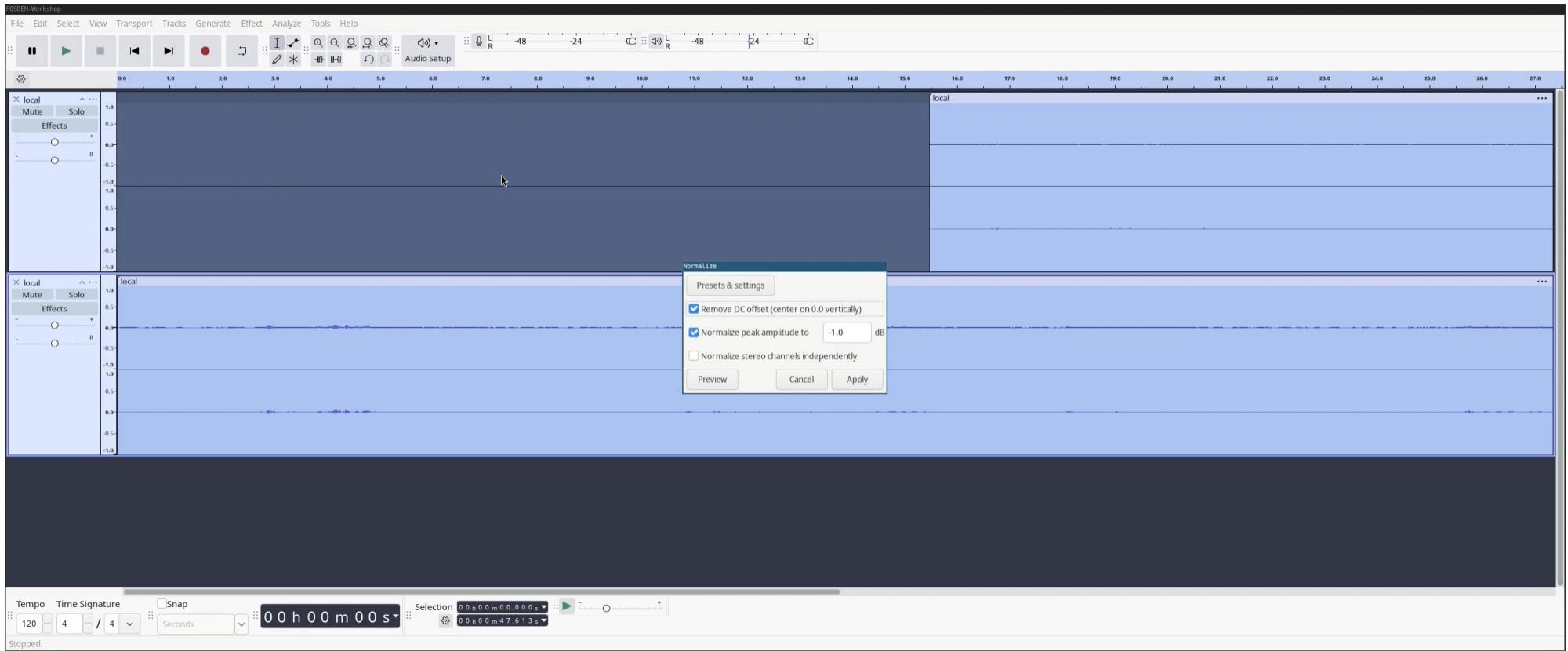
Software Freedom Podcast: Editing



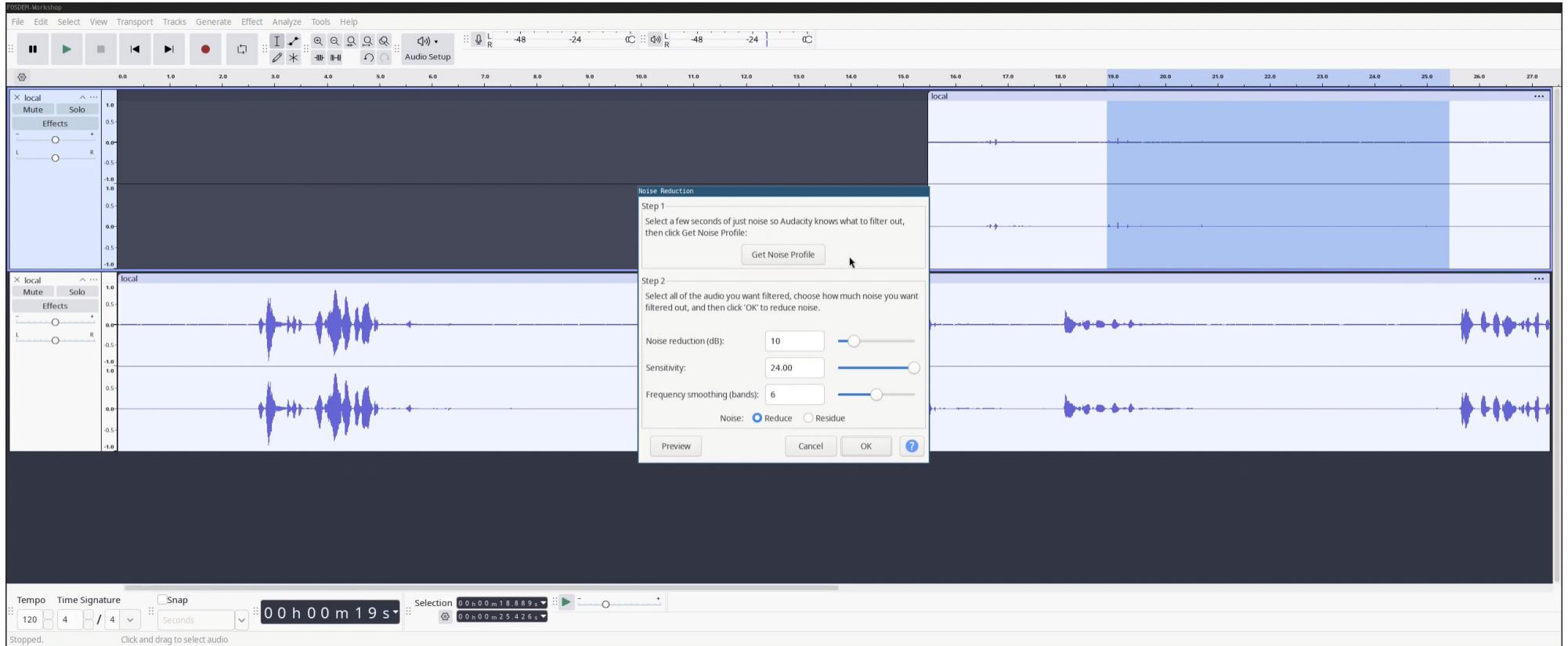
Audacity Demo



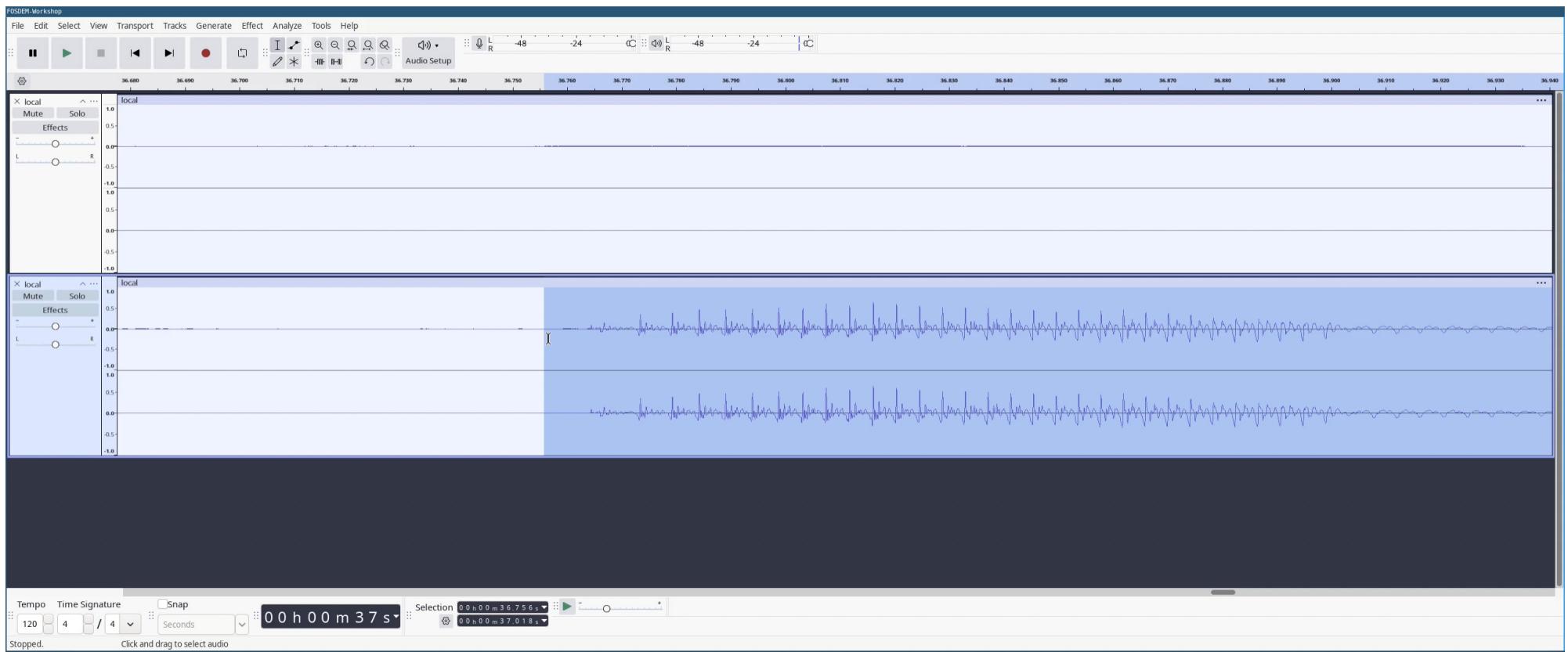
SFP: Normalize



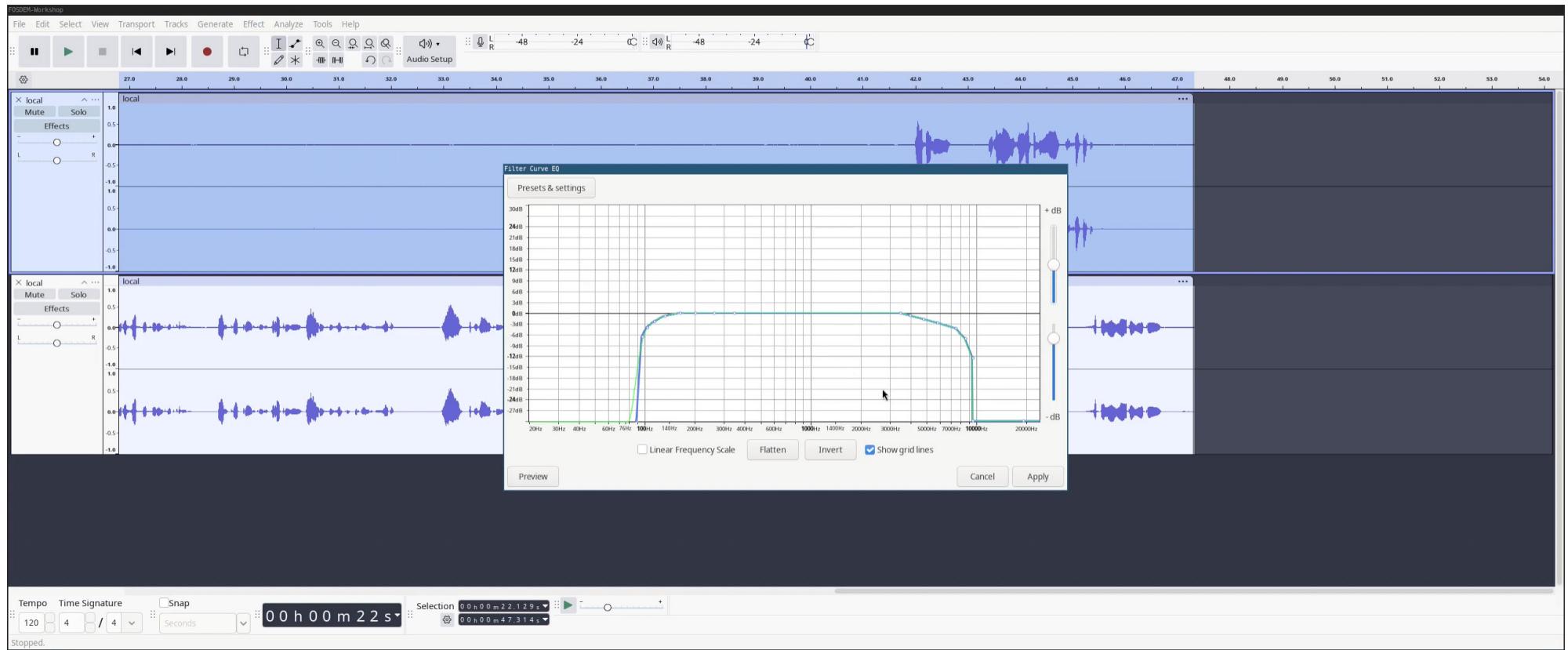
SFP: Noise Reduction



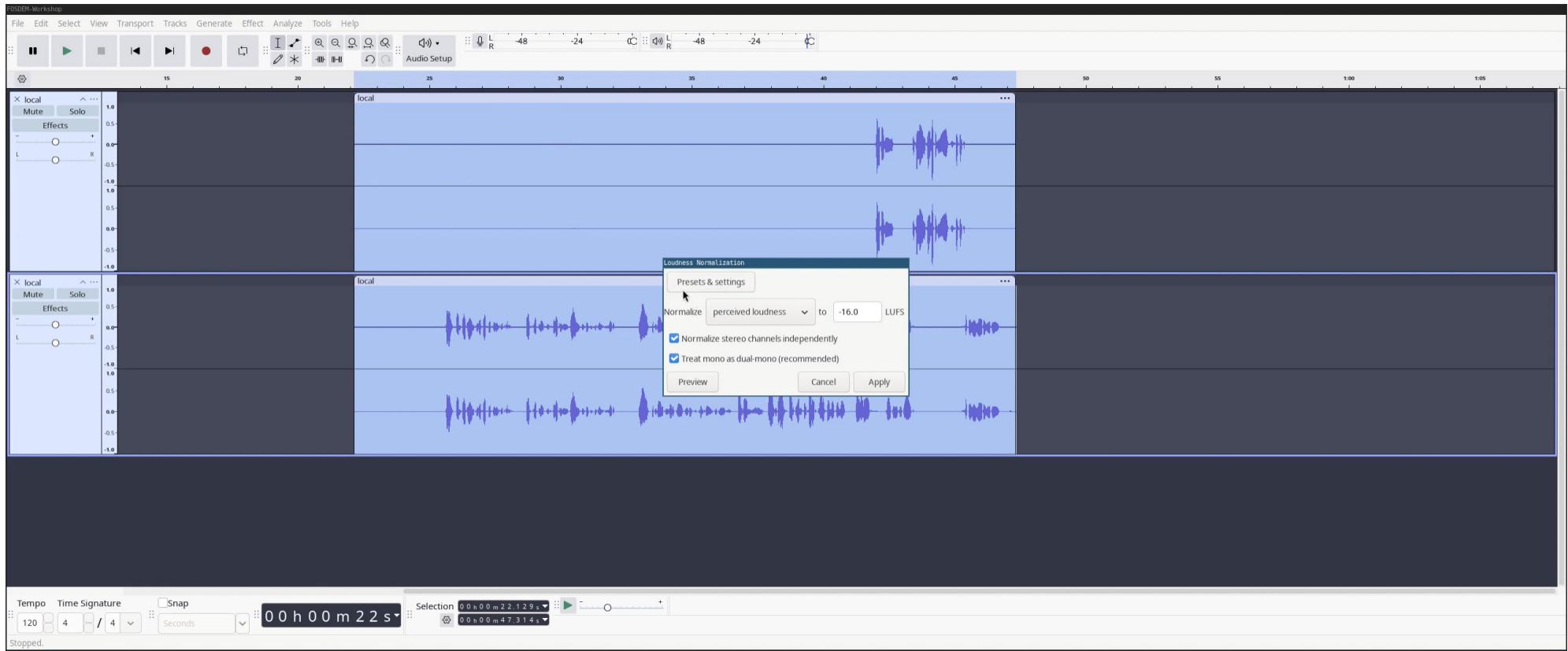
SFP: Cut



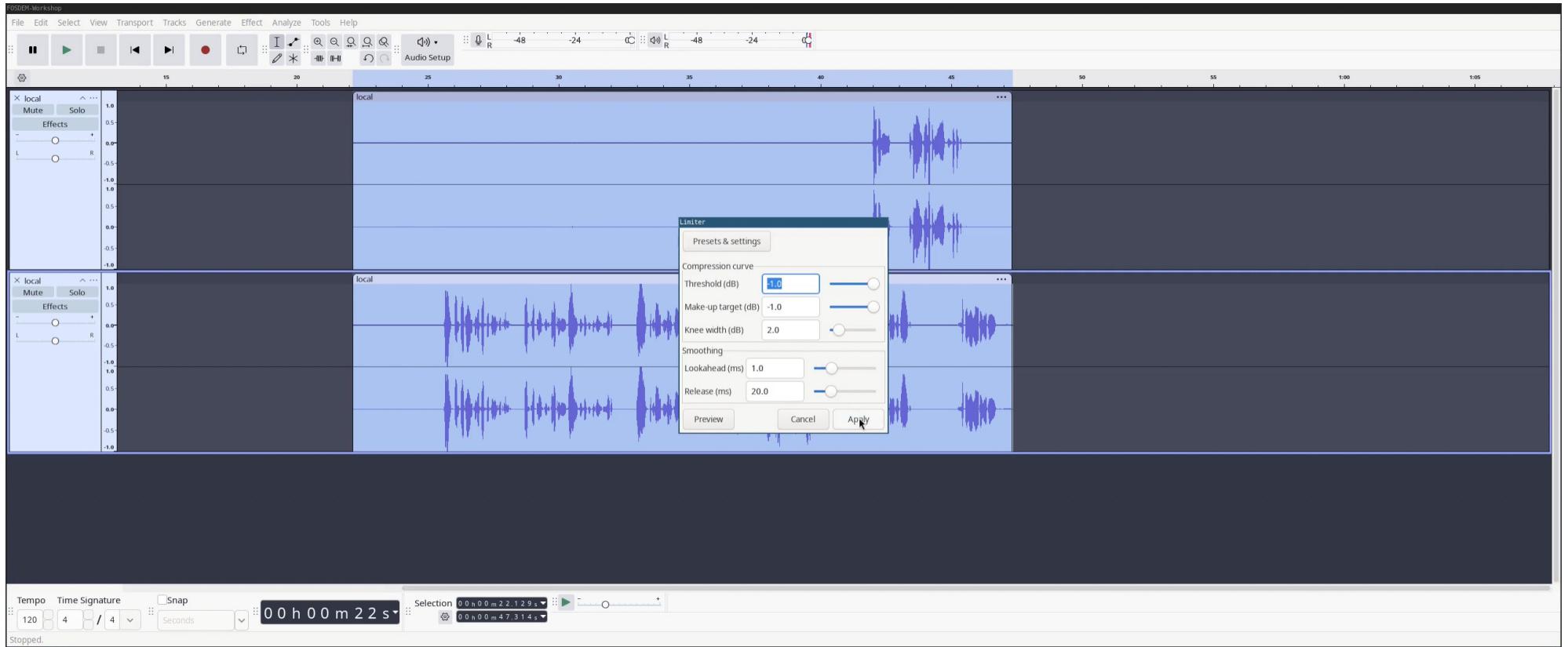
SFP: EQ



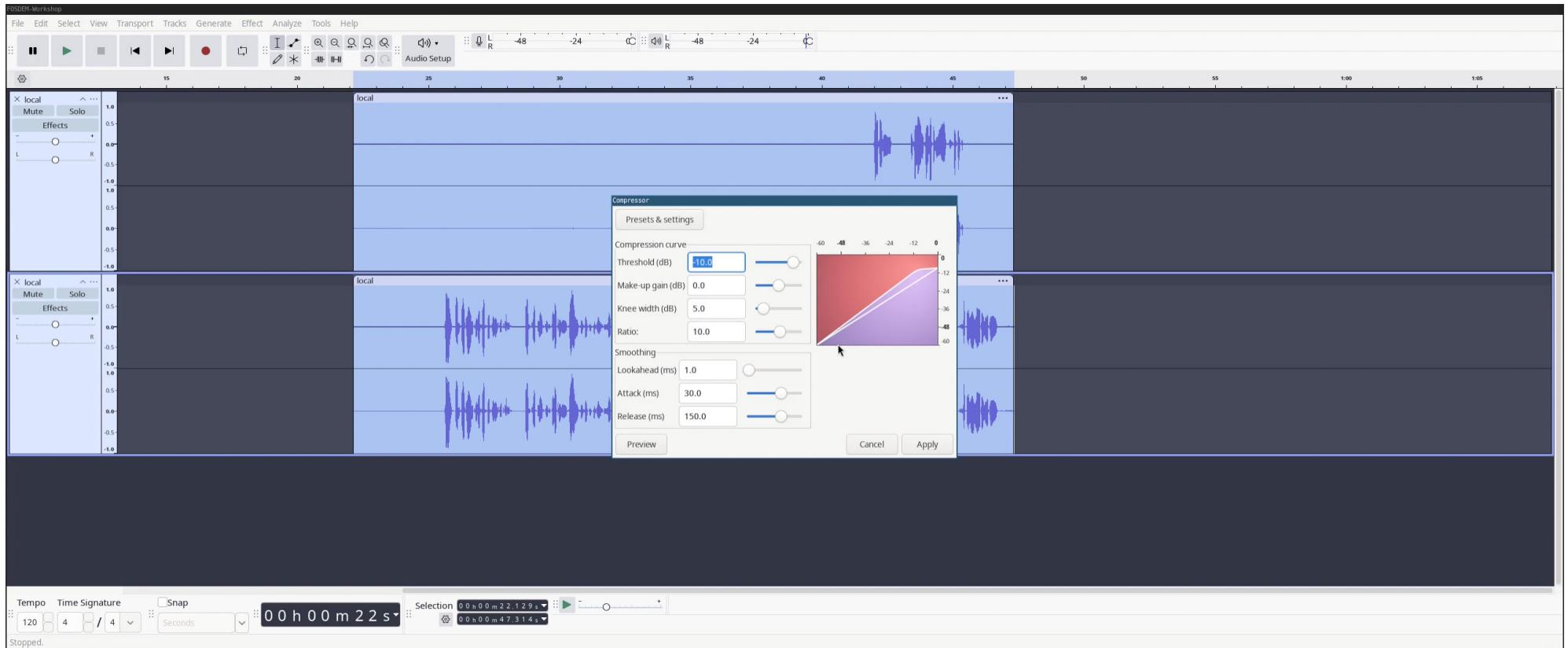
SFP: LUFS Normalize



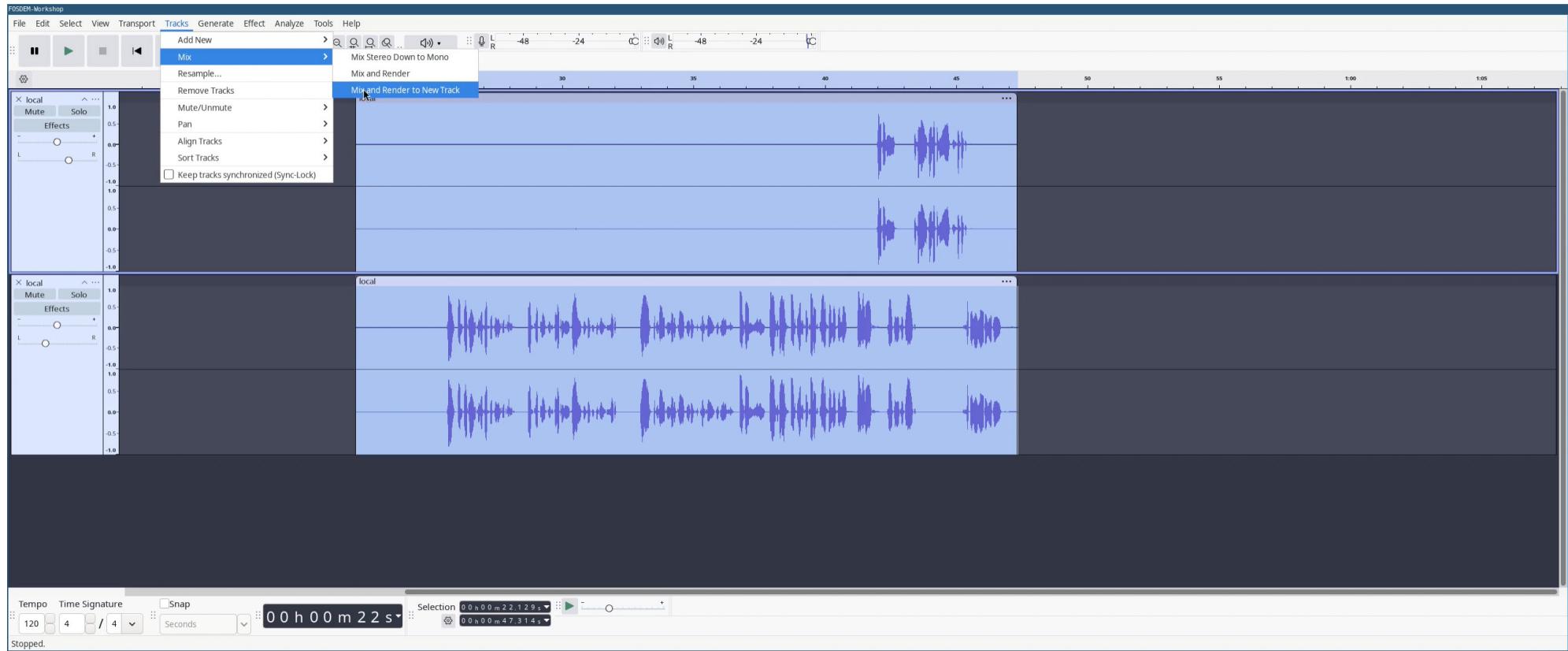
SFP: Limiter



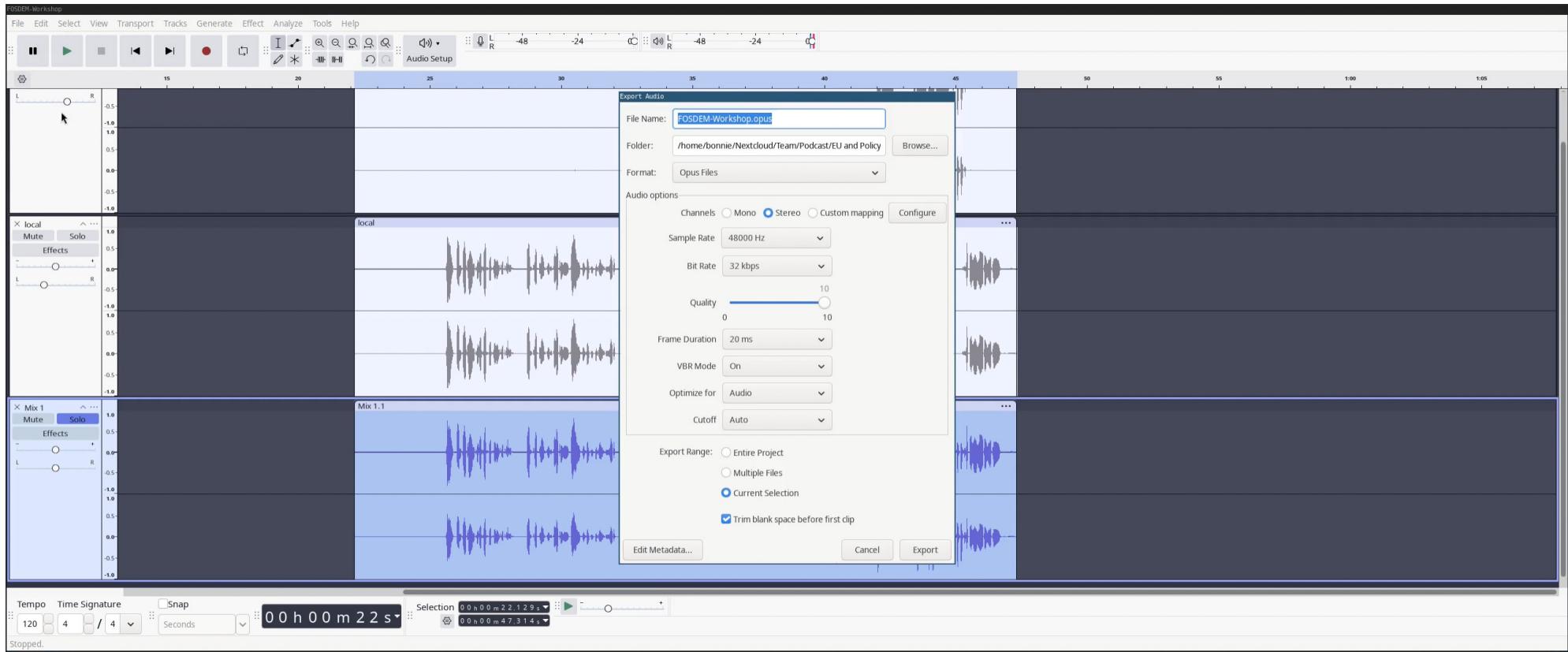
SFP: Compressor



SFP: Mix and Render



SFP: Export



Software Freedom Podcast: Resources

<https://forum.audacityteam.org/>

<https://freesound.org/>

<https://transom.org/topics/tools/>

<https://discourse.ardour.org/>

<https://www.npr.org/sections/npr-training/2025/05/31/g-s1-67902/the-producers-handbook-to-mixing-audio-stories>

<https://www.npr.org/sections/npr-training/g-s1-63507/audio>

<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/about/make-radio>



FSFE booth



Building K,
Level 2,
Stand 9



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fsfe initiatives

Die FSFE arbeitet jeden Tag daran, Freie Software in Europa voranzubringen. Wir schützen und stärken die Rechte von Nutzenden. Unsere Mission: Menschen im selbstbestimmten Umgang mit Technik unterstützen.



REUSE

REUSE provide recommendations to make licensing Free Software projects easy, comprehensive, unambiguous, and machine-readable.

Adopting REUSE software is as easy as one-two-three!



PMPC

Why is software created using taxpayers' money? If it is public money, it should be public code as well.

Code paid by the people should be available to the people!



YH4F

Young people, from all over Europe, compete to win cash prizes by creating programs of their choice licensed as Free Software.

If you like programming and tinkering, this challenge is for you!



Router Freedom

Some European ISPs are dictating which device their customers have to use or discriminating against owners of alternative devices.

Your Router, your rules!



iloveFS

The "I Love Free Software Day" on 14 February is the perfect opportunity to express your special gratitude to Free Software contributors.

Reach out and say "Thank you!"! ❤



Legal Questions

Do you need advice on Free Software licences or about your rights over a piece of Free Software? Questions about compliance?

Contact the FSFE's Licence Questions mailing list!



Find out more: <https://fsfe.org/activities/>