As part of a research we are doing at the <<university>>, we are trying to explore how developers compare between multiple competing third party libraries. We believe that with your development experience, we could get valuable insight in this API comparison process.

To this end, we would like to invite you for a semi-structured interview.

Here is the basic information of the interview:

- Meeting Tool: Microsoft Teams
- Duration: approximately 45~60 minutes
- Discussion Language: English
- Recording: Audio ON, Video preferred

(Recording with MS Teams is needed for us for automated transcription which saves us a lot of manual work.)

The nature of the interview is exploratory and open-ended where we would follow the discussion path as you respond.

At the beginning of the discussion, we would like to know about you and your organizations (where you had to choose a library):

- Your primary role
- Your primary application domain
- Size of your company (total headcount, engineering headcount)
- Primary domain/industry of your organization

To facilitate the main discussion, we have few questions in mind just to help us navigate:

1. Can you tell us few libraries that you had to compare in your career?
2. What are the steps of this library comparison and selection process?
3. How the search (for available libraries) is performed internally and externally?
4. What external websites is most helpful for library comparison?
5. What are the factors and weights of the factors during the comparison?
6. Who influences the selection process?
7. What environmental (organizational/industry etc.) factors impact library selection?
8. Do you think whether your own personal traits can impact the library selection process or it is always objectively compared?
9. **Have you ever performed as a gatekeeper in this library integration process that you finally check the license or security issues before or during it runs in production? What is your experience there?**
10. **Since you primarily work in cyber security domain, do you think there is any special concern or consideration for external libraries?**

11. **Are you aware of any security tool that can check library license or monitor vulnerabilities continuously?**

At the end of the discussion, we would like to demonstrate a prototype of a comparison tool that we are envisioning to build and would highly appreciate your suggestion from a practitioners' perspective.

We cordially thank you for accepting our invitation and supporting us in this research.

Here is the link (<link>) to interview consent form (link will be expired in 7 days) that was approved by Research Ethics Board of the <<university>>. Please fill up the form with your information, and consent and reply back the PDF version.

Regards,