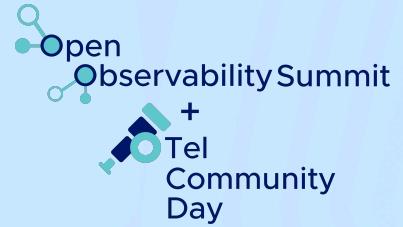


# From 0 to my one year serendipity journey with OpenTelemetry

Diana Todea - Technical Advocate @Aircall



Diana Todea  
Developer Advocate, Observability  
SME, OTEL contributor | Keynote & In...



[github@didiviking/Conferences\\_Talks](https://github.com/didiviking/Conferences_Talks)

# Journeys start with a grain of curiosity

Linux Foundation community call for observability SMEs

Creating first ever certification and exam for OpenTelemetry

Great first contribution to the  
OTel project as an exam  
developer

CERTIFICATION

## OpenTelemetry Certified Associate (OTCA)



As cloud native systems grow more complex, the demand for professionals who can leverage telemetry data is growing rapidly. Open new career paths – prove your expertise in OpenTelemetry – the industry standard for tracing, metrics & logs.

OTCA includes:

- ✓ 12-months to schedule & take the exam
- ✓ Two exam attempts

Now Available! You can bundle OTCA with an [annual THRIVE subscription](#) to get access to more than 100 educational products and [SkillCreds](#) for only \$495!



# Continue with practice

Create a proof of concept

Develop SWEs and SREs collaboration

Explain the OTel framework to an entire organization

Extract pros and cons

Validating OTel in medium sized companies with a fragmented observability turns into a struggle

OTel considers profiling and instrumenting as a different scope

## I played with OTEL and I liked it



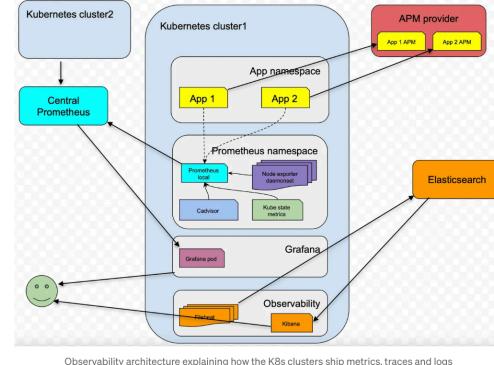
Diana Todea  
4 min read · Jan 7, 2025

25 1

As mentioned in my previous [article](#), in 2024 I had the opportunity to work on an observability project where I wrote a proof of concept on [OpenTelemetry](#). As an SRE I saw the window to experiment with one of the most popular CNCF projects on distributed tracing and provide an open source alternative to monitor the performance of my client's applications. I had the chance to give a more in depth talk on this topic at [KCD Accra Ghana](#) as well as at [QSMC 2024](#). You can access my presentations directly on my [Github repo](#).

### Architecture

This particular observability architecture was mainly composed of [Prometheus metrics](#), [Victoria Metrics](#), [Grafana](#) for visualizations and alerting, [ELK](#) for logging and a commercial APM vendor. A fragmented observability architecture leads to a confusing developer and user experience, working in observability for almost 5 years now it's easy to say that most people prefer having a unified monitoring pane of glass, which is easier to onboard and manage.



# Provide your feedback to the community

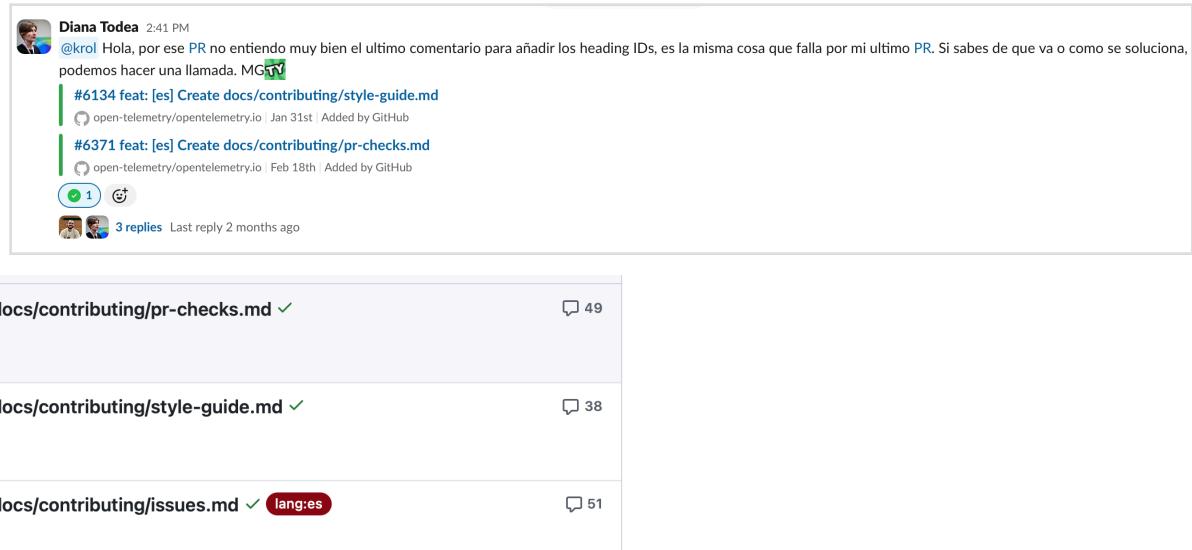
<https://github.com/open-telemetry/opentelemetry-specification/issues/4255>

The screenshot shows a GitHub issue page for issue #4255 titled "Truly auto instrumentation". The issue was opened by [ostrolucky](#) on Oct 11, 2024. The description discusses the current state of OpenTelemetry auto-instrumentation, mentioning the need to specify functions to instrument and the lack of support for random sampling. It proposes a new concept where spans are identified by parent spans, allowing for more dynamic tracing. The issue has 587 comments.

[#otel-ebpf-instrumentation](https://github.com/open-telemetry/community/issues/2406)

The screenshot shows a GitHub issue page for issue #2406 titled "[Donation Proposal]: Belya, eBPF auto-instrumentation tool for metrics and traces". The issue was opened by [grcevski](#) on Oct 23, 2024. The description explains that Grafana Labs would like to offer the donation of Belya to the OpenTelemetry project. Belya is described as a mature eBPF-based auto-instrumentation tool for OpenTelemetry metrics and traces across multiple languages and protocols. The issue has 105 comments. A yellow arrow points from the left screenshot to this one.

# Don't minimize no code contributions



The screenshot shows a GitHub interface with three main sections: a pull request comment at the top, a pull request history in the middle, and a pull request list at the bottom.

**Pull Request Comment:**

Diana Todea 2:41 PM  
@krol Hola, por ese PR no entiendo muy bien el ultimo comentario para añadir los heading IDs, es la misma cosa que falla por mi ultimo PR. Si sabes de que va o como se soluciona, podemos hacer una llamada. MGW

#6134 feat: [es] Create docs/contributing/style-guide.md  
open-telemetry/opentelemetry.io · Jan 31st · Added by GitHub

#6371 feat: [es] Create docs/contributing/pr-checks.md  
open-telemetry/opentelemetry.io · Feb 18th · Added by GitHub

1 reply · Last reply 2 months ago

**Pull Request History:**

- open-telemetry/opentelemetry.io feat: [es] Create docs/contributing/pr-checks.md ✓ lang:es 49
- open-telemetry/opentelemetry.io feat: [es] Create docs/contributing/style-guide.md ✓ lang:es 38
- open-telemetry/opentelemetry.io feat: [es] Create docs/contributing/issues.md ✓ lang:es 51

**Pull Requests:**

- #6371 by didiViking was merged yesterday · Approved
- #6134 by didiViking was merged on Feb 19 · Approved
- #6088 by didiViking was merged on Feb 14 · Approved

# Nurture local communities



CLOUD NATIVE  
— COMMUNITY GROUPS —

Upcoming KCDs ▾ Chapters Events Apply ▾ Log in

Europe

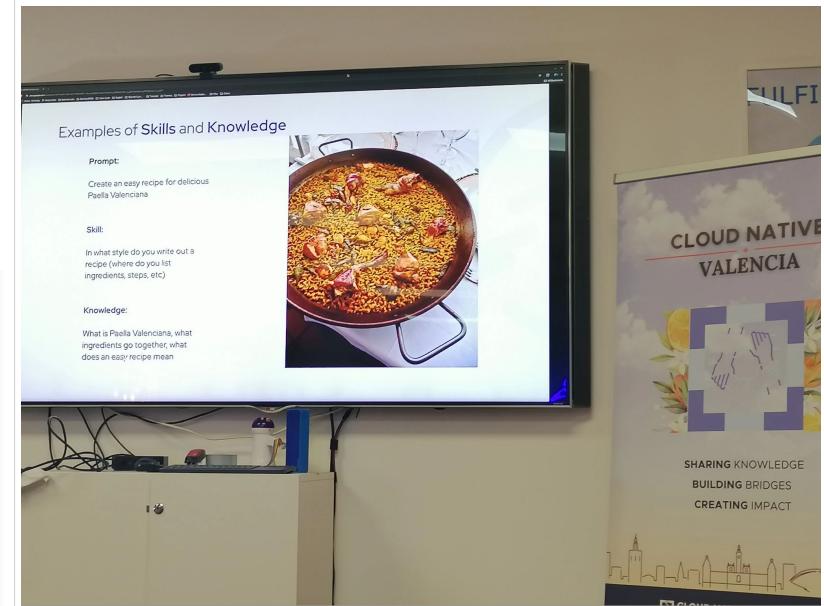
Cloud Native Valencia

Join 54 members

A screenshot of the Cloud Native Valencia community group page on the Cloud Native website. It features the group's logo, navigation links for upcoming events, chapters, and applications, and a log-in button. Below the header is a large image of the City of Arts and Sciences in Valencia, Spain, at night. At the bottom, it shows the group is part of the Europe region, has 54 members, and a 'Join' button.

- otel-docs-localization
- otel-localization-es

<https://community.cncf.io/cloud-native-valencia/>



# Pay it forward



Docs   Ecosystem   Status   Community

Docs / Contributing

## Contributing

Thanks for your interest in contributing to the OpenTelemetry docs and website.

### Jump right in!

What do you want to do?

- Correct a [typo or other quick fixes](#), see [Submitting content using GitHub](#)
- For more significant contributions, read the pages in this section starting with:
  - [Prerequisites](#)
  - [Issues](#)
  - [Submitting content](#)

**⚠ First time contributing?**

Eager first-time contributors, see [Fixing an existing issue](#) for important guidance.

### What can I contribute to?

OpenTelemetry documentation contributors:

- Improve existing or create new content
- [Submit a blog post](#) or case study
- Add to or update the [OpenTelemetry Registry](#)
- Improve the code that builds the site

The pages in this section describe how to contribute to OpenTelemetry **documentation**.

For guidance on how to contribute to the OpenTelemetry project in general, see the community [OpenTelemetry New Contributor Guide](#). Every [OTel repository](#) for language implementations, the Collector, and conventions have their own project-specific contributing guides.

# Share with communities

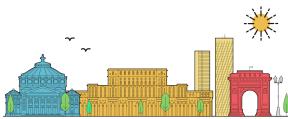


Romania

5-6 MAY 2025

## Cloud Native Days Romania

The Kubernetes & Cloud Native community will gather at the Radisson Blu in Bucharest, Romania. Join us for one day technical event loaded with exciting talks and networking opportunities. Cloud Native Days Romania is aimed at developers, platform people, and other IT professionals with an interest in cloud native technologies.



United States



June 26  
Denver, Colorado  
#OpenOttCon #OTelDay



Germany

OSMC

SUBMIT A TALK

### FROM ZERO TO DEVELOPER: MY ONE YEAR SERENDIPITY JOURNEY WITH OPENTELEMETRY

Becoming a contributor to an open-source project is a transformative step in any developer's career. This session explores the journey from first-time contributor to active developer, covering best practices for navigating project communities, understanding codebases, and making meaningful contributions. Learn strategies for selecting the right project, mastering collaboration tools, and embracing the culture of open-source development. The audience will be inspired about my one year journey with the open source project OpenTelemetry, how I have built a proof of concept for it and achieved developer status for this project. By the end of this talk, the public will gain insights into the tools to become a better developer and how to build more engagement with the community.

**SPEAKER**



Diana Todea  
Aircall



The Netherlands



Schedule Sessions Speakers

From zero to developer: my one year serendipity journey with OpenTelemetry ⭐

2025-06-19 15:05–15:30, Grote Zaal

Becoming a contributor to an open-source project is a transformative step in any developer's career. This session explores the journey from first-time contributor to active developer, covering best practices for navigating project communities, understanding codebases, and making meaningful contributions. Learn strategies for selecting the right project, mastering collaboration tools, and embracing the culture of open-source development. The audience will be inspired about my one year journey with the open source project OpenTelemetry and how I have built a proof of concept for it and achieved developer status for this project. By the end of this talk, the public will gain insights into the tools to become a better developer and how to build more engagement with the community.



Virginia Diana Todea

Diana is a Developer Advocate and a Senior Site Reliability Engineer. She is passionate about observability, machine learning and open source projects. She is an OpenTelemetry contributor and loves sharing her knowledge with the community by participating in tech conferences and writing articles.



Spain



DIANA TODEA  
DEVELOPER ADVOCATE AT AIRCALL

Diana is a Developer Advocate at Aircall. She has worked as a Senior Site Reliability Engineer focused on Observability. She is passionate about serverless, SecOps and machine learning. She is an active contributor to the OpenTelemetry open source project and supports women in tech.

**Sessions**

▶ From zero to developer: my one year serendipity journey with OpenTelemetry

Dominican Republic

### From zero to developer: my one year serendipity journey with OpenTelemetry

Cloud Native Santo Domingo

Jul 12, 4:00 – 5:30 PM (GMT+2)

Virtual event

# Educate through written content

## Why feedback matters for open source



Diana Todea · 3 min read · Jan 7, 2025

My 2024 has been a year where I finally immersed myself in the open source realm. It has been on my mind for a while to start contributing to an open source project, however I wanted to pick the right project that resonated with my current on-going work.

Putting doubts aside, I was really impressed with [OpenTelemetry](#)'s popularity and the fact that so many organizations already adopted it into their production environments. When I started drafting my [GenerativeAI talk](#), I interacted with OpenTelemetry, APM and Elastic's Observability stack. Seeing how everything blended together was a great experience, so when the chance opened up to contribute to OpenTelemetry project, I jumped right into it.

[OTCA certification from Linux Foundation](#) has been released on the market just very recently. It is the first exam and certification covering the OpenTelemetry topic at its foundational level. I got the chance to contribute as a developer to OTCA exam, writing questions, double checking the documentation sources and putting myself in the shoes of a person who wants to get certified on OpenTelemetry. For me it has been the perfect opportunity to get closer to an open source project I admired from afar and interacting with the open source community.

## Document writing: a great way to contribute to Open Source projects



Diana Todea · 2 min read · Feb 20, 2025

This year I have started further contributing to Open Source projects, in my case this was [OpenTelemetry](#). OTel has a great need for documentation translation in various languages, you can check their announcement [here](#).

Since my favorite Open Source project needed help I decided to add my contribution helping translating documentation for the [Spanish website](#).

We are just getting started so the need for contributors is acute. It doesn't necessarily take to write code in order to contribute to an open source project, it can be a small step as helping translating a page.

All the steps to start contributing to site localization in different languages is explained in this [directory](#).

In this short article I wanted to share my experience so far as a first time contributor to OTel documentation. It was been an easy onboarding from the first moment and I received support from the maintainers and other contributors of this site via the Slack channel: [#otel-docs-localization](#). Each

# Take aways

- Diversify your contributions
- Distinguish between code and no code contributions
- Even the tiniest feedback can help the community
- Prioritize and nurture local communities and docs localization projects
- Crosspost your findings on different channels
- Pay it forward: keep the collaboration open between OSS projects

# Your journey matters!

#otel-profiles

#otel-system-metrics

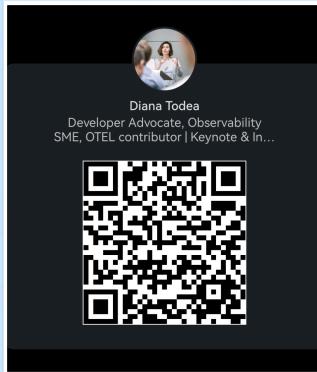
#otel-contributor-experience



Join CNCF Slack



#otel channels



I played with OTEL and I liked it  
Why feedback matters for Open Source  
Contribute to OTEL (OTel blog)

- @@ <https://opentelemetry.io/blog/2025/devex-survey>
- @@ <https://opentelemetry.io/blog/2025/contribex-survey-results/>
- @@ <https://training.linuxfoundation.org/certification/opentelemetry-certified-associate-otca/>
- @@ <https://www.cncf.io/people/ambassadors/application-process/>

# THANK YOU



Feedback

