gov4git
practical, secure, programmable governance for open-source communities

Petar Maymounkov
Protocol Labs, Microsoft Research, RadicalXChange

Problem: Effective communities need formal, transparent, secure, evolvable governance

- referendums for code changes
- polls for prioritizing work
- modern voting systems (quadratic voting, diversity discounting)
- community-scoped tokens to reflect contributions (voting credits, badges, SBTs)
- member account services
- member roles

Market: Needs for governance automation are largely unserved

- early stage pre-funding projects
- poorly funded initiatives (labor unions)
- non-technical communities (journalists, activists, authors, artists)
- developing world
- authoritarian and censored regions
- disaster and war zones
- infrastructurally autonomous communities

Value: Practical blockchain-level transparency, trust and security at a fraction of cost

- commodity hardware (phone, raspberry pi)
- zero financial cost
- no connection to public Internet required
- deployable by non-technical users
- easy policy and mechanism development

Technology: Architecture for building decentralized applications over git as infrastructure

- building blocks
    - identity (DNS → git → public keys)
    - communication (write to git, read from git)
    - trusted computation (Byzantine consensus across git repos)
- infra
    - git as backend
    - computation on the client

Economics: A decentralized public protocol

- gov4git foundation, steward of protocol and implementation
- token representing voting rights in gov4git development
    - planning and roadmapping
    - feature and product proposals
    - specifications
    - work prioritization

Ask: What we are looking for

- $3M funding
- 2 year runway
- engineering / product / pr / customer support / community relations

Thank you!

- Email petar@protocol.ai
- Github https://github.com/gov4git/gov4git
- Twitter https://twitter.com/gov4git

- [Whitepaper](#)
- In the media
    - https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/?post_type=msr-blog-post&p=928248
    - https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/group/decentralized-social-technology-collaboratory/
    - https://protocol.ai/blog/protocol-labs-and-plurality-book/