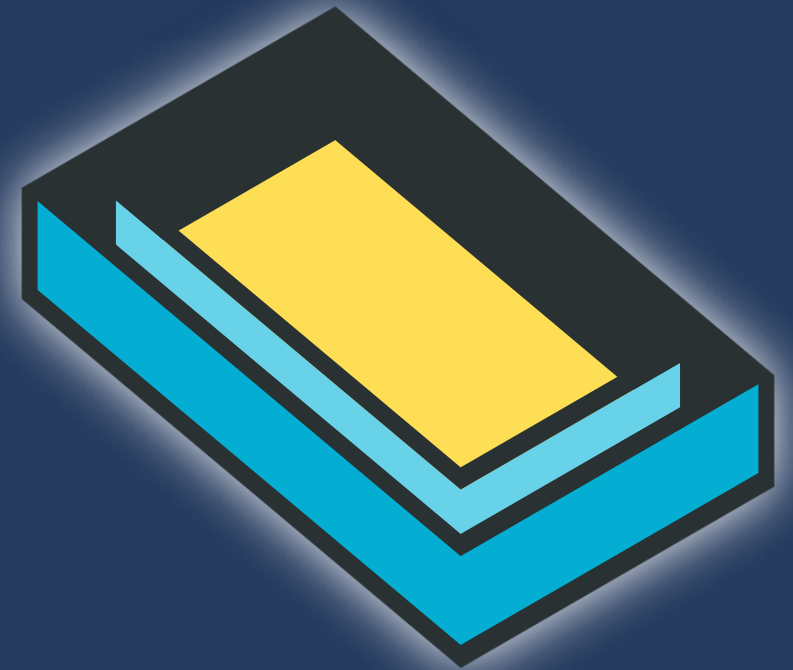


# Landlock Config

Linux Security Summit Europe

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# Sandboxing with Landlock

Sandboxing: “a **restricted**, controlled **execution environment** that prevents potentially malicious software [...] from accessing any system resources except those for which the software is authorized.”

Landlock: unprivileged sandboxing mechanism provided by the Linux kernel

# Landlock status

# Landlock helpers

Examples of sandbox tools:

- setpriv
- Minijail
- Firejail

Examples of sandbox libraries:

- Landlock Rust crate
- Landlock Go library
- Minijail
- Pledge for Linux

# Landlocked apps

Examples of various sandboxed apps:

- Zathura (document viewer)
- Pacman (package manager)
- Cloud Hypervisor (VM monitor)
- Suricata (network IDS)
- Polkadot (blockchain SDK)
- wireproxy (Wireguard client)
- GNOME LocalSearch (search engine)
- XZ Utils (archive manager)

# Landlock properties

## Use case #1

**Exploitable bugs in trusted applications:** protect from vulnerable code maintained by developers.

Candidates:

- Parsers: archive tools, file format conversion, renderers...
- Web browsers
- Network and system services

## Use case #2

**Untrusted applications:** protect from potentially malicious third-party code.

Candidates:

- Container runtimes
- Init systems
- Sandboxer tools



# Current access control

## Implicit restrictions

- Process impersonation (e.g., ptrace)
- Filesystem topology changes (e.g., mounts), when it makes sense

## Explicit access rights

- Filesystem
- Networking
- Signaling
- Abstract unix socket

# Landlock ABI versions

1. Linux 5.13: Initial set of FS access rights
2. Linux 5.19: Rename and link
3. Linux 6.2: Truncation
4. Linux 6.7: TCP connect and bind
5. Linux 6.10: IOCTL for devices
6. Linux 6.12: Signal and abstract UNIX socket
7. Linux 6.15: Log configuration

## How does Landlock work?

**Restrict ambient rights** according to the **kernel semantic** (e.g., global filesystem access) for a set of processes, thanks to **3 dedicated syscalls**.

Security policies are inherited by all new children processes.

A one-way set of restrictions: cannot be disabled once enabled.

# Landlock interface (in C and Rust)

# Step 1: Check backward compatibility

---

```
int abi = landlock_create_ruleset(NULL, 0, LANDLOCK_CREATE_RULESET_VERSION);  
if (abi < 0)  
    return 0;
```

# Step 2: Create a ruleset

---

```
int ruleset_fd;

struct landlock_ruleset_attr ruleset_attr = {
    .handled_access_fs =
        LANDLOCK_ACCESS_FS_EXECUTE |
        LANDLOCK_ACCESS_FS_WRITE_FILE,
};

ruleset_fd = landlock_create_ruleset(&ruleset_attr,
                                     sizeof(ruleset_attr), 0);

if (ruleset_fd < 0)
    error_exit("Failed to create a ruleset");
```

```
Ruleset::default()
    .handle_access(make_bitflags!(
        AccessFs::{Execute | WriteFile}))?
    .create()?
```

# Step 3: Add rules

---

```
int err;

struct landlock_path_beneath_attr path_beneath = {
    .allowed_access = LANDLOCK_ACCESS_FS_EXECUTE,
};

path_beneath.parent_fd = open("/usr",
                             O_PATH | O_CLOEXEC);

if (path_beneath.parent_fd < 0)
    error_exit("Failed to open file");

err = landlock_add_rule(ruleset_fd,
                        LANDLOCK_RULE_PATH_BENEATH, &path_beneath, 0);
close(path_beneath.parent_fd);

if (err)
    error_exit("Failed to update ruleset");
```

```
Ruleset::default()
    .handle_access(make_bitflags!(
        AccessFs::{Execute | WriteFile}))?
    .create()?
    .add_rule(
        PathBeneath::new(PathFd::new("/usr")?)
        .allow_access(AccessFs::Execute)
    )?
```

# Step 4: Enforce the ruleset

---

```
if (prctl(PR_SET_NO_NEW_PRIVS, 1, 0, 0, 0))
    error_exit("Failed to restrict privileges");

if (landlock_restrict_self(ruleset_fd, 0))
    error_exit("Failed to enforce ruleset");

close(ruleset_fd);
```

```
Ruleset::default()
    .handle_access(make_bitflags!(
        AccessFs::{Execute | WriteFile}))?
    .create()?
    .add_rule(
        PathBeneath::new(PathFd::new("/")?)
        .allow_access(AccessFs::Execute)
    )?
    .restrict_self()?
```

[Full example in C](#)

[Full example in Rust](#)



**A new configuration format**

# Use cases

Developers:

- Ease sandboxing of their programs

Sysadmins:

- Sandbox scripts and system services

End users:

- Sandbox apps

## Two complementary formats

### JSON:

- Well known standard with schema validation
- Easy to include in other configurations
- Flexible for advanced users (e.g., jq)

### TOML:

- Designed for end users

# Configuration example in JSON

---

```
{
  "variable": [ {
    "name": "rw",
    "literal": [ "/tmp", "/var/tmp", "/home/user/tmp" ]
  } ],
  "pathBeneath": [ {
    "allowedAccess": [ "v4.read_execute" ],
    "parent": [ "/bin", "/lib", "/usr", "/dev", "/proc", "/etc", "/home/user/bin" ]
  },
  {
    "allowedAccess": [ "v4.read_write" ],
    "parent": [ "${rw}" ]
  } ]
}
```

# Configuration example in TOML

---

```
[[variable]]
```

```
name = "rw"
```

```
literal = ["/tmp", "/var/tmp", "/home/user/tmp"]
```

```
# Main system file hierarchies can be read and executed.
```

```
[[path_beneath]]
```

```
allowed_access = ["v4.read_execute"]
```

```
parent = ["/bin", "/lib", "/usr", "/dev", "/proc", "/etc", "/home/user/bin"]
```

```
# Only allow writing to temporary and home directories.
```

```
[[path_beneath]]
```

```
allowed_access = ["v4.read_write"]
```

```
parent = ["${rw}"]
```

# Properties

- Ease sharing and maintaining security policies
- Declarative and deterministic
- Customizable

# Shared policies

Requirements:

- Standalone snippets tailored to specific programs
- Handle different set of access rights

Several sources:

- Provided by upstream developers (independent from distros)
- Provided by distro packages
- Provided by end users, communities

# Policies composition



# Composition

**Backward and forward compatibilities:**  
because Landlock is gaining new features over time, using different snippets from different sources requires careful consideration.

Because of denied-by-default policies, access rights are leveled down to be compatible together, but exceptions/rules are added together.

# Customization

Handle variables and compose them commutatively:

- Variables are a set of values
- Must be defined when using it, but can be empty

Individual access rights or groups:

- read\_execute
- read\_write
- all

## Good practice

- One snippet per minimal unit of update (e.g., package)
- End users can add their own snippets (e.g., defining custom values for variables)

# Example of composition: two files

---

## Snippet #1

```
[[variable]]  
name = "rw"  
literal = ["/tmp", "/var/tmp"]
```

```
[[path_beneath]]  
allowed_access = ["v5.read_execute"]  
parent = ["/bin", "/lib", "/usr", "/dev", "/proc", "/etc"]
```

```
[[path_beneath]]  
allowed_access = ["v5.read_write"]  
parent = ["${rw}"]
```

## Snippet #2

```
[[variable]]  
name = "rw"  
literal = ["/home/user/tmp"]
```

```
[[ruleset]]  
handled_access_fs = ["v4.all"]
```

```
[[path_beneath]]  
allowed_access = ["v4.read_execute"]  
parent = ["/home/user/bin"]
```

# Example of composition: one configuration

---

```
[[path_beneath]]
```

```
allowed_access = ["v4.read_execute"]
```

```
parent = ["/bin", "/lib", "/usr", "/dev", "/proc", "/etc", "/home/user/bin"]
```

```
[[path_beneath]]
```

```
allowed_access = ["v4.read_write"]
```

```
parent = ["/tmp", "/var/tmp", "/home/user/tmp"]
```

# Library

- Rust crate
- Shared object library with C binding
- JSON schema
- Well tested

Wrap-up

# Try Landlock Config

---

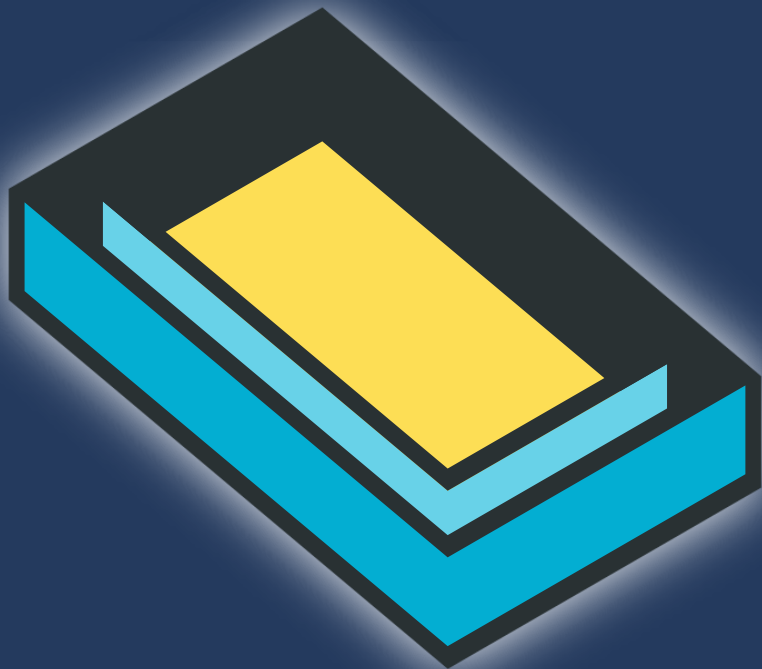
```
$ git clone https://github.com/landlock-lsm/landlockconfig
$ cd landlockconfig
$ cargo run --example sandboxer -- \
    --json examples/mini-write-tmp.json sh
```



# Contribute

- Develop new access types
- Improve libraries: [Rust](#), [Go](#)...
- Challenge the implementation
- Improve documentation or tests
- **Sandbox your applications** and others'
  - [Secure Open Source Rewards](#)
  - [Google Patch Rewards](#)





Questions?



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Thank you!